



INDY READS
OPENING DOORS THROUGH LITERACY

Student to Student

A Newsletter for INDY READS Students by INDY READS Students

Volume 16, No.1

Spring 2010

A Library Visit

~Patrick Rainey

My tutor and I visited Central Library. Wow! I was surprised they had that much information at the library. I have continued to go on my own. Politics, religion, and history are subjects that I like. I use my library card to check out DVDs about social issues. To learn about yourself, you need to learn about history. The library to me is a source of new-found education.

The Butterfly

~Ora Leeper

Hello. My name is Ora and I would like to share this true story with all of you. One day, I was sitting on my front porch with my cat, whose name is Tuffy. Tuffy is a black and white tomcat. We were looking at a beautiful sunset when we saw this pretty butterfly. I got up to get a closer look at it, but it was gone. I looked around to see where it went, but it was no longer around. I guess it went back into that beautiful sunset. Thank you.

Essay Contest

The topic for the next Essay Contest is:

The most important thing I've learned is...

What has been the most important thing that you've ever learned? Why was it the most important thing you've learned? Write an essay describing the most important thing you've learned.

All Indy Reads students can send in an essay. They can be any length. You can mail your entries to us at:

Indy Reads
2450 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN. 46208

You can take your stories to your local library and ask them to send it to our office. Or, you can e-mail your story to us at: office@indyreads.org

Good Luck!

Student to Student

Life Long Bonding Three Day Retreat

~Jessie Johnson

I had been going on a three day retreat for three years with 20 ladies and no kids and no men. And for the first time my daughter came with us. We got on a bus to go to French Lick. It took two and a half hours to get there. We had so much fun getting there. Just for three days we get to know new people.

When we got there we stopped at a pizza place called Chicago Pizza. While we were eating the pizza the boss came to the table and said your meal is on him. We ate a little bit more pizzas. We thanked him and got on the bus.

Since we were so full I thought we were going to the lodge but we didn't. We went to a class on the lake called Patoka Lake Marina where there were two women that were mother and daughter. They own their own business of Licensed Massage & Bodywork Therapist. By teaching us to get rid of stress by touching our feet. But get this! The next thing they said to us women is to remove your socks and shoes for this job. We thought these women were crazy! Then we were doing it. It felt different at first. We walked outside barefoot and touched the grass and felt the ground. It was so different without having shoes on. We came back inside the meeting room. Then she said that we needed to pair up with two people to touch your feet so I got my daughter to help me. They passed us some toys to rub under our feet. She said the center part of your feet reduces stress from your body. You can do this yourself at home. It works well for stress relief.

As we were getting on the bus we looked out toward the lake and saw how pretty the water looked at night. We went to the lodge called Patoka Lodging. It's not a hotel it's cabins by the lake. We met two women that were sisters that run their own catering business. They made healthy food. The next day we ate breakfast and went back to the lake for arts and crafts. We painted face masks to take home with us.

Before we were getting ready to go we got a chance to ride the boat. My daughter and some of the women did the boat. Some of us went to the hotel called French Lick hotel. There are a lot of businesses in the hotel. The lobby of the hotel had on their ceilings designs of people's faces. I looked around the hotel and I came across some pictures on the wall of some presidents old and new. I saw famous stars, actors, and sports people all on the wall of the hotel.

We just didn't make it to the other hotel that we go to every year. It's called West Baden Hotel. Everybody was so tired that half of us were asleep on the bus. All of us were ready to go home. It was so wonderful getting to know people.

Miss Cecelia Whitfield runs a business to reunite families. It's called Use What You've Got Ministry. She takes people to visit family members and loved one in jails. For a little money you can see your loved ones up close and in person. And she had a survival skills class that we took to go on the retreat too. The class was for two days a week for six weeks. She is the boss of these programs. She is a person to meet.

Student to Student

How Babylonians Learned How to Make Bricks

~*Summary by Dena Freeman

Babylonia was level and smooth and felt like an oven. The Euphrates River ran through Babylon. Clay was found by Babylonians beside the river about 6010 years ago. They learned how to use clay to make bricks.

The Babylonians discovered that the clay was hard when heated and even harder when baked in the fire. They noticed while laying bricks to build buildings that the bricks were not heavy enough to stay together. The Babylonians put mortar between the bricks that came from bitumen tar oil from underground oil deposits. They even learned how to make a glaze to protect the outside of the bricks to keep them from dissolving back into clay. This made the structures look shiny and luxurious.

The Babylonians discovered that they could make more buildings to expand their civilization. If they had not figured out how to form bricks, we might not know how to create bricks today.

**Information for this summary was collected from New Practice Readers (3rd ed.) Book 6 by Donald Anderson, Phoenix Learning Resources: NY, NY*

Share your Stories!

If you've written a story that you would like to share with everyone else, send it in and we'll publish it in the next Student to Student.

See page 1 for ways to send your story to us.

My Family

~By Dena Freeman

This is a story about my family and what makes us unique. My goal is included. Once I complete my goal, we will have a better future.

I have a son who is six years old; he is in the first grade. He loves action figure toys. He has two costumes, a Spiderman and Incredible Hulk. He enjoys pretending that he is them.

I have a daughter who is three years old. She goes to daycare. She cares about everyone. She is a big help. She likes to clean her room. I never knew a little girl that liked to help clean so much.

I met my future husband at a night club. He was so charming. I loved the way he talked. He talked so professional. It seemed like he worked for a radio station. He is currently driving his truck that he bought. He is really bright.

My life is multi-faceted. I am a mother of two. I play a big role in my home. Everybody is comfortable and they know they are loved. My goal is to get a GED so that I can be independent for myself.

By going to school, I will break the cycle of a lack of education. My son and daughter will have a chance of achieving a high school diploma and maybe going to college, because of my choice to go back to school

Student to Student

My Mountain

~Angelina Anthony-Anderson

The woman that I admire is my grandmother. She is the woman who was there when I was born. She always gives me advice. She was there for me when I lost my first baby. It was the worst thing. But, six months later, I was pregnant again. She knew before I did. When I went into labor, she was there the whole time, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:24 a.m.

When my son was born, I didn't have a place to stay and she gave us a place. She gives me words of encouragement all the time. If I talk about killing myself, she tells me, "You are strong and can't do that. You are the only one that can raise your children right." So I don't.

I admire her. She is a new reader. She goes to Indy Reads, too. She makes me feel good when I am down. She is my second mother who knows when I am mad or sad, and when I hear her voice she makes me feel good. If I doubt myself she will say, "Yes you can. Don't stop. Don't give up, and you can do it!" She gives me strength that keeps me going on. She doesn't want to say it, but I know that I am her favorite. She is always there for me.

Easter

~Ella Hunter

Going the week before Easter, I had a week of fasting. I had to refrain myself from eating and drinking from 6:00am until 6:00pm. It was very hard because there were some limitations: no TV, radio, or computer.

The foods I had to give up were chips, candy, desserts, coffee, and pop. I was so glad when Easter Sunday rolled around; the fasting was over.

I went to the 11:15am service. I was having a good time, but on the row where I was sitting, a little boy came thru and stepped on my foot. At that time, there was no God, just the boy and me.

But I prayed and prayed and I asked God to forgive me for my bad thought.

The rest of the day was very good because I spent the evening with my family.

Share your email address with us!

Do you have an email address? If so, email Indy Reads at office@indyreads.org and share your address with us. If you do this, you will receive information about upcoming events, and get a monthly update about what Indy Reads is doing!

While you're at it, join our Facebook page that is made for students and tutors to share ideas and information. You can find it at: www.facebook.com and look for Indy Reads Connect!