

Netagamiou CLC Presents:

Sleepy Time Story Hour, A Reading & Writing Adventure!

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Chevery, QC - Ms. Bobbitt's & Mme. Thivierge's Grade 4,5,6 students have been doing monthly Sleepy Time Story Hour sessions for preschoolers with the support of community volunteer Jennifer Anderson (Chevery Senior Citizen's Club) since December 2007 as a part of a class entrepreneurship project. They have also researched, written, illustrated, translated, published and presented their own book about a local community artifact that played an important role in the early development of Chevery.

The project developed in response to a number of needs, including the need to:

- increase student entrepreneurship education: Need to expand entrepreneurship education opportunities for primary students
- develop services for preschoolers: Lack of community based learning/leisure services for kindergarten and preschoolers
- sensitize preschoolers to school life (basic school rules/behaviour)
- expand literacy based experiences: Need to promote literacy/ and French language proficiency at earliest age possible and though student involvement in reading and writing activities (i.e. Oliver Fully Loaded)
- expand library collection for the new Municipal/School Library: preschooler books bought with funds raised from Sleepy Time Story Hour fees
- promote leadership: Need to develop youth leadership

A tall order for one little program, but after more than a year of service delivery the Grade 4,5,6 students' program achieved a resounding success with the support of their teachers, a priceless volunteer, and parents!

The Sleepy Time Story Hour service is offered once a month in the evening. The program offers preschool aged children and their families an opportunity to meet for an evening of fun, giggles, and learning in comfy pajamas... snuggled close to a favourite toy, blanket and pillow. The Grade 4,5,6 students take turns reading to the preschoolers in English and French with the encouragement and mentorship of a senior volunteer. Preschoolers are treated to a healthy bed night snack at the end of the evening and encouraged to choose books to take home from the new Netagamiou Municipal/School Library. Although the preschoolers come well equipped with pillows and blankets for a comfy circle on the floor, more often than not they are eagerly clamoured around the Grade 4,5,6 students and senior volunteer to get an up close look at the books being read.



Part of the students' responsibilities include helping supervise the room set up, selecting stories, taking attendance, collecting fees for the session, seating children in a circle, preparing and serving the snack and tidying up the room when the session was finished. Students take turns as Sleepy Time Story Hour session "Reader Leaders" and participate in the tasks they feel more comfortable with i.e. reading English or reading French books to the preschoolers, calling to remind parents, managing set up, etc. Students use the money raised to purchase Scholastic books each month, not only learning about how to select books appropriate for the age group, but also building the preschooler library collection and contributing to the Netagamiou School Scholastic rebate program.



In short, this concept and service has evolved over a period of months, bringing together a number of components to create a rich model of youth leadership, intergenerational literacy, and youth entrepreneurship development. A definite multiple win scenario for students, preschoolers, volunteers, parents, the school and the library!

Students Share Their View of the Program.

Sleepy Time Story Hour

"We learned how to read to little kids and they liked it. Some words were hard to read so we had to ask for help. We had to collect the money for the story hour and count it to see how much we had. We had to check off

names on the paper to see how many people were there and then count how much money was paid. Some people gave 10 dollars and so we had to give them back five. I liked everything about the story hour. I liked the reading to little kids... when they grow up they can tell other little kids about it. When we did the story hours, sometimes it was hard because they didn't listen or would ask questions like "What does that mean?" The story hour will keep going, which is good because the little kids are learning more and can get out with other little kids. They have more activities. We have after school activities, but the little kids had nothing. It's a good way to give something to the little kids and raise money for the school. Everyone wins, and maybe we can do other things too."

Oliver Fully Loaded

"I like the fact that we also wrote our own book, that we're actually going to print it and make it a real book and then sell it. One challenge was finding information... doing the research about the tractor; thinking about how to draw the pictures for the story. I learned that you can make many kind of books. Another challenge was choosing the title; we all had ideas and had to vote on which one we wanted. I learned that it takes a long time to write a storybook. I liked that we learned about our history. I found it cool that Oliver is still there, and that it was put to good use, and helped Chevery. Writing the story of Oliver is writing down the history of our community... and we can sell the book to raise money for our school. I like this because we're the authors, we did it ourselves... we're the one's that wrote the story. We did our own research before we wrote the book. We're preserving history and people will know about our history."

Anyone wishing to have more information about this or our other programs and the "Oliver Fully Loaded" book is welcome to contact the Netagamiou Community Learning Centre by phone 418-787-2107 or by email : netagamiouclc@hotmail.com.



*Reading... a journey of discovery toward
a destination of new knowledge.*

THE NETAGAMIOU CLC ~ A Catalyst for Positive Change

The Netagamiou Community Learning Centre (NCLC) is Chevery based, with links to other organizations through its partners. The NCLC serves a multi-lingual, multi-cultural and multigenerational community of diverse individual and group stakeholders from local and extended communities.

VISION

Supporting and promoting lifelong learning, growth, activity, services and exchanges that meet the diverse needs of students, the whole community and all partners involved.

MISSION

The Netagamiou CLC strives to be a catalyst for positive change in students, families and the community by helping to cultivate a culture of lifelong learning, collaboration and capacity.

Our mission is to:

1. Equip students and adults with the support, knowledge and competencies required to be actively engaged citizens and to make healthy and balanced life choices for academic and personal success.
2. Support the expansion and development of infrastructures and services to meet social, cultural, and economic needs as well as the sustainable development of our community.
3. Support the collaboration between the school, businesses, community groups and various government agencies to achieve a collaborative community development plan and to use existing resources as efficiently and effectively as possible.
4. Increase parent involvement with the school to facilitate academic and extracurricular service delivery, which will support optimal student success.
5. Establish a self sustaining CLC that will continue to enhance opportunities for our community.

The Netagamiou CLC owes the development of this and our other successful programs and services to the many partners, parents, teachers, students, volunteers (too many to name in the space available), the leadership of our Netagamiou School Principal Mr. Philip Robertson and the guidance of the CLC Project Resource Team.

Your support and generosity are priceless beyond measure.