

# BOOKS FOR A BUCK

The Pennsylvania State Grange is introducing a **new state-wide service project**. We encourage EVERY Grange to participate in this project - **Books for a Buck!**

Some of you may remember participating in state-wide service projects some years ago - projects that brought us all together to work toward a common goal. You may remember projects like “Goats for Guatemala” and “Words for Thirds”. We hope that this project will allow us ALL to work together however we can to support literacy for students in our local schools.

Children’s book publisher, *Scholastic*, offers a \$1 Book of the Month, which can be purchased for each student in a class. That means, for a class of 25 students, only \$25 will provide one book for each student in a class. \$225 would provide one book every month for each student in a class; this means each student would finish the school year with **9 new books!**

Literacy is the foundation for almost every academic skill and far too many children do not have access to books in their homes. This is an easy way for EVERY Grange to make a difference in the lives of children in their communities. Here is what to do!

## **STEP 1: Set a goal to raise/allocate money for this project and raise the funds.**

Granges of all financial standings can participate in this project at a level that works for your Grange. Maybe your Grange can support a class for one month; maybe your Grange can support a class for an entire year; maybe your Grange can support several classes for the year. Set the goal that works for you! Some ideas include:

- Allocate the proceeds of a current or NEW fundraiser to donate to local classroom(s).
- Hold a prize drawing at one of your meetings. Members can each contribute \$1 or more and a winner is selected to win a prize (draw numbers, pick the person standing near a specific spot in the meeting location, etc.). Prizes can be donated by the members. Do this a few times and earmark the proceeds for the **Books for a Buck** project.

## **STEP 2: Connect with a local school to find a classroom to support.**

Contact your local elementary school and let them know that you would like to donate the funds for a classroom to purchase books for their students. Each school is different, but the guidance counselor or administrator are a good place to start. Maybe one of your members already knows a local teacher and you can support their classroom directly.

**STEP 3: Present the monies raised to the classroom teacher and present the books to the students.**

**\* Classroom teachers should be able to order the books and have them delivered directly to the school through established accounts with the publisher. Granges would then be able to donate the money directly to the teacher and earmark it for the books. It would be great for Granges to connect with the teacher to find a way to be involved with the presentation or distribution of the books once they are delivered to the school.**

This may look different from school-to-school with visitation policies, but some ideas could be:

- Ask to visit the classroom to present the books to the students. Always check with the school to see what their visitor policy is and what clearances may be needed.
- Volunteer to read to the classroom you are supporting.
- Invite the classroom teacher to attend a meeting to accept the funds. BONUS: Invite them to lead the literary program and share information about the local school and how the books will make a difference to the students.
- Provide the teacher with labels for the books letting students know their books were provided by your Grange. You can also provide other Grange or Junior Grange literature/materials for the students.

**STEP 4: Celebrate your success!**

Let others know how many books you have donated to your local school.

- Send photos and a brief article to [pagrange@pagrange.org](mailto:pagrange@pagrange.org).
- Include it in your annual community service reports.
- Submit photos and an article to your local paper.
- Post pictures and information to social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)

**We CANNOT WAIT to see the good we can do by working TOGETHER!**