

- **Project** Give your child a language.
- **Owner** Playtime.Seychelles
- **Project leader** Gunilla Holmberg
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- **Preface**

Books are essential building blocks of literacy and learning. To give small children access to story books in their own mother tongue and to read aloud to them in early age are key components for language development and have a profound impact on their educational development.

- **Background.**

After a visit to Seychelles National Library Children's Department I found out while talking to the Librarian that there were no books in the children's own language Creole only in French and English and no books that were in context of Seychelles, not by population, nor by places, not by languages, nothing that the children can relate to and recognize themselves in. I also met a little girl at the library who said "I wish I owned a book of my own"! This was the run-up to write and start this project" Give your child a language"!

- **About us**

Playtime Seychelles is a small NGO that works volunteer in Seychelles. Our target group is small children in ECCE 0-8 years old. The primary objective of Playtime Seychelles is to assist in improving the well-being of all small children in Seychelles. Playtime is a member of IPA (International Play Association).

- **Purpose**

- To advocate the importance of story books for small children in their own language as a key components, both for their personal and social development.
- To promote and encourage a culture of reading aloud to children, for their language development.
- To advocate the value of story books for the development of small children's language, fantasy, creativity and empathy and as the bridge to learn to read and write.
- To give small children access to story books in their own mother tongue, to encourage reading habits and promote reading for pleasure.

- **Advocate the importance of reading aloud to children for their language development.**

- **Benefits of reading aloud**

- get children accustomed to books and reading
- increase children's interest for books
- increase children's vocabulary
- ability to understand pictures
- help them to a linguistic instinct
- stimulate their intellect ,fantasy, creativity and empathy

- Has a positive impact on their educational development.
- Increase the desire to learn to read.
- Pleasure in reading later in life.
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- **The importance of mother tongue**
- **the mother tongue is important to**
- personal identity development
- culture identity
- successful multilingualism learning
- educational performance
- emotional and mental growth
- the ability to learn to read
- language development

- **Goals**
- **Activity goals**
- Print and publish picture books with stories that take places in the children's own environment in the children's mother tongue Creole.
- **Spread our publication**"The Importance of the Mother Tongue for Children's Education and Intellectual Development and the Importance of reading aloud to children for their language development" ISBN 978-99931-944-1-5 to National Library, school libraries, teachers, parents and other persons involved in education
- Donate books to the National Library, School libraries, Community Centers, Children's Hospital and Orphanages
- Collaborate with National Library children's department and their staff.
- Donate at least one book to each child in the age of 4-8 years old.
- Sell the picture books at cost price to the public and the money will be used to print more books.
- Provide economic week families with book packages in collaboration with the Social Affairs Officers.
- Promote" reading aloud to children" towards campaigns in the libraries, schools and in media.
- Encourage a small children Creole Literature production in Seychelles.
- Be in contact with other community reading projects in Africa

- **. Project goal**
- Give small children access to story books by writing, publishing and printing books in their own mother tongue Creole.
- Wake awareness of the value of small children's literature in their own mother tongue.
- Spread knowledge about the importance and benefits of reading aloud for children in the mother tongue from early age.

If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairytales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairytales. - Albert Einstein

