



REACH-A-Child™

Book Selection Policy

The following criteria will be used by REACH staff and volunteers to evaluate books to be included in the REACH-A-Child™ BAGs to be distributed by First Responders to children-in-crisis.

1. Staff and volunteers will observe “used” books to make sure that names, etc. are not present and that the general appearance of the book looks “new.”
2. The book has overall purpose and worth for a child-in-crisis (is comforting and entertaining).
3. The book is appropriate for all reading abilities and appeals to the age of the users (Pre-K to Age 12).
4. There is quality writing and production evident in the book. In other words, the book is from a recognized author, illustrator, or publisher/producer.
5. The book does not promote a particular religion nor does it sanction war.
6. The book collection represents cultural diversity.
7. Books containing special features, e.g., maps, diagrams, illustrations are acceptable.
8. The books have better than satisfactory physical characteristics, e.g., binding is not ragged, paper is not yellowed, etc.

At all times, staff and volunteers should keep in mind that this book is a “gift” from the First Responder to the child – at a time when the child is facing a traumatic experience. Therefore, extra caution is urged in choosing books for the REACH collection from a distribution perspective.