

Dear Canada: Why Books Matter to Kids

We are asking students, parents, and teachers to write letters to a government leader. This could be your local Member of Parliament, school board trustee, or provincial Minister of Education. These letters are more than a classroom activity: they are part of a national movement calling for stronger support and funding for school libraries. Right now, many libraries across Canada are underfunded and understocked. Every child deserves access to books that reflect their lives, spark their interests, and support their learning. Your voices can help make that happen.

We are collecting letters and artwork from across the country that we will profile nationally and in partnership with community organizations to inspire other Canadians to take action in support of youth literacy. It will be a national statement that shows decision-makers how much Canadians care about reading and literacy.

Your letter should share:

1. Why reading matters

- What do you love about reading?
- How does reading help you or your classmates?

2. Why schools need great books

- Why is it important that students all across Canada have access to good books?
- How would it make a difference for other kids?

3. What government leaders can do to help

- If you could talk to someone in charge, what would you ask them to do?
- How can they support schools and libraries?

Optional Letter Template:

Dear [Leader's Name],

My name is _____ and I am in Grade ____ at _____ School.

Reading is important to me because...

Our school is getting a grant for new books, and I hope we get books about...
I think all students in Canada should have...
Please help by...

Thank you for listening!

From,
(Age ____ / Grade ____ / Community)