



Finding the Joy of Books

Kuopio City Library's Reading Project for Special Classes

"Will Sylvi be able to understand me if I make mistakes?"

Sylvi the Reading Dog is not there to judge - she loves listening to readers, even if not all the words go quite right.



"We want each child to discover a book they genuinely like."

Workshops offer inclusive book tips and heartfelt reading moments.

"It's all about the joy of reading, not the performance."

Completing a reading diploma offers children better tools for understanding diverse texts and inspires all kinds of readers.



Reading Project "Lukukirjo" aims to support and inspire children with literacy problems

The project runs workshops for special classes in Finnish primary schools. A literary art instructor offers tips on books using action methods, inspiring children to share their favourite books with others. Under professional guidance, each child can find interesting reading suitable for their level.

The workshops also feature Reading Dog **Sylvi** (R.E.A.D). She has a big role in the class: Her presence helps calm down restless or insecure readers. She doesn't mind mistakes and is always an attentive and encouraging listener.

Alongside workshops, online reading tasks are made available for all primary school children. Reading lists including simplified books, e-audiobooks and book-based movies lower the threshold for taking up reading. There are also book assignments that deepen the reading experience and encourage the children to start making texts of their own. All tasks can be completed alone, with classmates or with the help of family members.

The project is implemented by Kuopio City Library in collaboration with Literary School Aapeli and three Kuopio-based primary schools. It is funded by the Finnish Regional State Administrative Agency for the period 2021-2023.

PAWsitively Engaging!

