

# Growing Wisconsin Readers

The Intersection of Early Literacy,  
Public Libraries and the Community



WI FACETS – Endless Possibilities Conference  
Mission: Every Student a Reader  
May 9, 2015

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## Sharon Grover



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Youth Services Liaison  
Arrowhead Library System  
[sgrover@hedbergpubliclibrary.org](mailto:sgrover@hedbergpubliclibrary.org)



[read·learn]  
[explore·grow]

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## It All Started with GWR

[www.growingwisconsinreaders.org](http://www.growingwisconsinreaders.org)



Tessa Michaelson Schmidt  
Youth & Special Services Consultant  
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## 17 Library Systems



[http://lstat.dpi.wi.gov/lstat\\_delivery](http://lstat.dpi.wi.gov/lstat_delivery)

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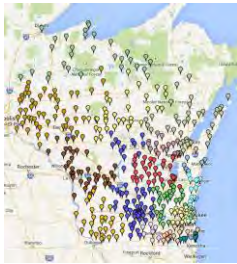
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## More Than 380 Public Libraries



[http://pld.dpi.wi.gov/pld\\_lib\\_dir](http://pld.dpi.wi.gov/pld_lib_dir)

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## Learning From One Another



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### Growing Readers with 1000 Books



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### Making Early Literacy a Priority in Rock County



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### Early Literacy Community Networks



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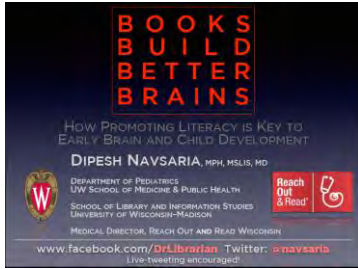
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## Community Workshops



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## Partnering to Keep Kids Emotionally Strong



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## Getting Out Into Our Communities



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## Taking 1000 Books on the Road



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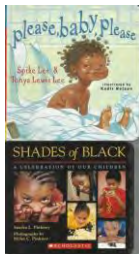
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## Connecting Through Books



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## Partnerships Make Things Happen



Nutrition and Health Associates, Inc.  
Rock County WIC Program



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### Getting Books into Babies' Hands



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### Partners Keep Early Literacy Visible



 **DAVIS**  
**Head Start / Early Head Start**  
Serving Wood County & Winnebago County, Wisconsin

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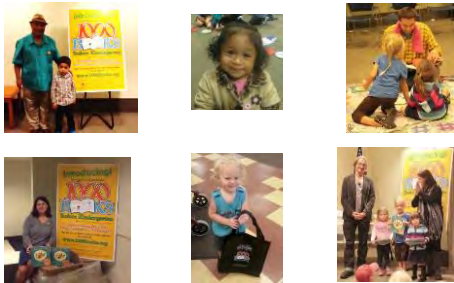
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### Celebrating Reading Success!



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## What's Next? Making New Partners!



Business Community Connections

Medical Community Connections



Faith-Based Community Connections



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## Our Early Literacy Elevator Speech

Early literacy is what children know about reading before they actually learn to read. It starts at birth, when parents and other caring adults spend joyful time talking, singing, reading, scribbling, and – most importantly – playing with their children. These early enrichment experiences in the lives of children ensure not only their ability to learn, but also their long-term health and their productivity as citizens, providing huge economic payback for our communities. This makes promoting early literacy everyone's responsibility, guaranteeing strong communities now and in the future.

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