

March is designated as National Reading Month to motivate Americans of all ages to read every day. In addition to being fun, reading is a key component to education and development. Reading books gives us an opportunity to travel without leaving home. Books can make us laugh and cry and they also provide:

Mental Stimulation	Stress Reduction
Knowledge	Vocabulary Expansion
Memory Improvement	Stronger Analytical Thinking Skills
Improved Focus and Concentration	Better Writing Skills
Tranquility	Free Entertainment

Schools and community libraries provide access to books covering every genre and every reading level for both adults and children.

During this past year, Florida PTA has worked hard to create additional reading opportunities for children by creating lending libraries in the following areas:

Alachua County – 2 lending libraries are in the process of being completed

Pinellas County – has completed 2 lending libraries

Indian River County - 1 lending library is in the process of being completed

Orange County - has completed 1 lending library

Volusia County - 1 lending library is in the process of being completed

Region 2 - Leon County local unit has installed a library in the school board building

We encourage all County Councils and local units to consider installing lending libraries throughout their communities.

<https://www.lifehack.org/articles/lifestyle/10-benefits-reading-why-you-should-read-everyday.html>

<https://www.charities.org/news/celebrate-national-reading-month-march>