

Press Release

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Heinemann-Raintree Donates Books to Five Nonprofit Literacy Foundations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chicago, IL – **Educational publisher Heinemann-Raintree has donated over 48,000 new nonfiction children’s books to five nonprofit literacy foundations in the U.S.** *Feed the Children*, *Read to Grow*, *Reach Out and Read*, *First Book*, and the *Children’s Literacy Foundation* will receive new social studies and science books to help strengthen children’s reading skills and encourage learning. The books will be distributed to needy families and literacy programs nationwide.

Dennis DeCock, V.P. of Sales and Marketing for Heinemann-Raintree, notes: “We are proud to help promote literacy by making our books available to these worthy organizations. These specific organizations actually get books into the hands of kids who otherwise might not have this opportunity, and this is a cause about which we are extremely excited.” Heinemann-Raintree is a Chicago-based publisher whose books can be found in classrooms, libraries, and daycare centers throughout the United States under the imprint names Heinemann Library and Raintree.

Feed the Children, a recipient of 38,000 new books, is helping Louisiana schools damaged by Hurricane Katrina. *Feed the Children’s* Erin Carlstrom explains, “Due to the number of libraries and schools that have been destroyed, books are a precious commodity.” Meanwhile, in Texas, *Reach Out and Read* will give the donated books to children at various pediatric care facilities in the Dallas area, including children that are evacuees from Hurricane Katrina. Volunteer Glenna G. Harris, MD, notes “We are seeing these children without charge as a way to give a little assistance in horrible circumstances. This gift of books will be used in unexpected ways!”

Connecticut-based *Read to Grow* will distribute the donated Heinemann-Raintree books through *Books for Kids*, a program run by *Read to Grow* that distributes books to children and families who might not otherwise have books of their own. *Read to Grow* has distributed 130,000 books over the past four years to children in pediatric waiting rooms, childcare centers, school and community health centers, classrooms, libraries, after-school programs and other organizations. The *Children’s Literacy Foundation*, also based in Connecticut, will disburse the books to their ten literacy programs in Vermont and New Hampshire.

Washington D.C.-based *First Book* is a national nonprofit organization whose mission is to give children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books. *First Book* will work with literacy programs throughout the U.S. to distribute these new Heinemann-Raintree books to children who, for economic reasons, have little or no access to books.

About Heinemann-Raintree

Heinemann-Raintree, a division of Harcourt Education, is a leading publisher of children’s nonfiction books, serving schools and public libraries. Our three major imprints are Heinemann Library, Raintree Library and Heinemann-Raintree Classroom. All Heinemann-Raintree books feature appropriately leveled text, carefully chosen content, and engaging design. For more information, visit www.heinemannraintree.com or contact Cathleen Ann, Marketing Manager, at cathleen.ann@hil.com or phone 312-324-5292.