



ISSN - OLD-2231-3613, NEW-2455-8729
International Educational Journal

UGC APPROVAL NO. - 42652

CHETANA

Received on 18th July 2017, Revised on 26th July 2017; Accepted 26th July 2017

ARTICLE

Taking Care of Community

***MS Layna Lewis, Branch Librarian,**
Angleton Public Library, Angleton, Taxes-77515, US.
Email: laynal@bcls.lib.tex.us 979-864-1597 (M)

Key words: *communities, carrying, non-verbal communication etc.*

ABSTRACT

Many people in the West have always been busy in helping their communities in several ways. Some extend help financially if it is needed but so many work for the welfare of the community by involving themselves physically, extending their support to them as and when required. The article underneath unfolds the story of an American lady, named Emma Lou O'Bannon, who after the demise of her beloved husband, has been keeping extremely busy in the care of her community. She once disclosed to the chief editor of this journal, how extremely happy she feels when she looks at the happy faces of small children, whom she takes care in the Angleton Library time to time.

The Starter

In many communities across the United States, there are several individuals who work quietly among people to help them in various ways as required. So many of them are very well known as they meet them several times while helping the community in different ways but it is also surprising that their names may not be known. It is because they are dedicated and devoted to the community rather than propagating for themselves. At times we never see them second time again. Yet these individuals are among the community and have been making a major impact on the well-being of the community and the people with whom they have contact. One such person here in Brazoria Country is Emma O'Bannon. Some people may know her as Miss Emmy.

Emma Lou is the children's specialist for the Angleton Library. In carrying out her job, she plans each story well in advance before it is delivered and makes certain that she has everything she needs to communicate the story well. As non-verbal communication is such an important part of total communication, Miss Emmy understands well the importance of props and other visual aids.

Each year her reading program is filled with professional entertainers, craft programs story-times, musical activities, movies and reading programs that awards readers. Each participating child is required to read a minimum of 10 books in order to get a reward package. Children are encouraged to

read books on their reading level or a little above, not only to challenge their skills but also influence their minds positively.

Preschool children are encouraged to participate in the 'Read-To-Me' program and are needed to have 10 books read to them. Children of school-age who read in the program, keep interested in reading. The program helps them keeping interested in reading and to retaining the skills they need to learn in school later on. This helps developing an "I-Can-Do" attitude and elevates their self-esteem, preparing them for the next school term they are expected to attend.

Volunteer Projects

Emma Lou's extensive volunteer projects have not gone unnoticed. As a result of her hard work and selfless working for the community she has been awarded several times by the community. She was awarded a proclamation by the City of Angleton for sponsoring, hosting and continually encouraging children's interest in reading. She has also been a Junior Achievement Volunteer to second grades for six years, teaching. She was also honored by the Alpha Delta Kappa Sorority for Women Educators as being the person in this area who has done a great deal relating educational program.



Miss Emmey taking care & telling stories to children in the library campus

She is very much involved in broadcasting her storytelling on Channel 4. That she does four times a week. She has thus been influencing several children through her storytelling for more than 30 years. By her excellent manner of storytelling, 'she gets children on the road to success.' They listen, understand, react and adopt so many good things out of her narration. Most of it, it is her way of helping to conceive different turns one gets in life, and how to win over the difficulties that one encounters in life. Besides, each story she narrates, contains something new in it. It broadens children's limited horizons, helps them learn how to react to new situations and how to converse with their own peers. Is it not a lot to know at that tender age when children don't get all that and don't know so many of those things as they live in inadequate environments due to poverty and so many other reasons?

Build a Better World

Emma Lou's way of story narration is unique and highly valuable. It leads to build a better world for the children. One of the most valuable components of storytelling session is children learning to listen. Regardless of what is being taught; be it the alphabet, mathematics, fairy-tales, tales about the great persons of the world or relating morals. Little children cannot learn if they are unwilling to listen. The 30 minutes session requires the children to sit and listen to the story. It normally takes three to four weeks for children to learn to 'sit and listen'. If a child does not know how to listen, you are just taking in the wind. It is one of the most important points relating Emma's story telling program. Besides, parents are also the core influence. Using manipulative games, music and illustrated voices, she helps to keep children's interest intact which is really vital.



Story telling is in progress

She is, in fact, building a better world for the children by broadening their mental horizons by narrating stories, involving them in various learning games, and in so many different kinds of activities that gradually enrich their minds. They also provide them new vistas of visions, which are not only fascinating for them but educationally greatly rewarding and enriching too. This way of serving one's community, is certainly unparalleled as it leads to pave the way for children not only how to speak smoothly but understand so many new things at that tender age when all parents are unable to provide so much and are not able to help them to grow in the right direction.

Angleton Branch Library in Texas State in USA, where Emma works, is one of the most popular libraries of this area. It has been functioning for more than forty years now and helping the nearby community to enrich themselves by using it in different ways. It includes working with computers, using internet services free, landing very interesting movies and books that help enriching people's knowledge and fulfilling their empty time very usefully. Emma is one of the special workers in the library. She has added something unique to it by her actively helping children to grow in a better direction, which normally many of them are unable to get at their homes.

*** Corresponding Author**
MS Layna Lewis, Branch Librarian,
Angleton Public Library, Angleton, Texas-77515, US.
Email: laynal@bcls.lib.tex.us 979-864-1597 (M)