

Good morning,

As a youth librarian working diligently to continue to serve families and especially young people learning to read during the pandemic, we were concerned that parents of new readers would face a challenge of identifying which books would be appropriate for their new readers. Without the benefit of browsing, or working with a librarian in the building, this collection of materials remains a great mystery to most new readers. We were able to use a portion of our Ready to Read funding to create Power of Reading kits. These kits, which reflect the individual leveling that our librarians have done, make it possible for parents of new readers to easily find and place holds on large numbers of readers for their children.

The catalog record describes the level of reading for each color, and can be retrieved by searching “power of reading.” Each kit links to all of the others. Patrons will be guided to these kits via our kids’ website, word of mouth, social media, and of course by talking with a librarian. We anticipate that they will catch on quickly and not be on the shelf very often.

By the afternoon of the day we launched the kits there were already three on the holds picklist.



Each kit is in a bag that matches its level color and contains five books appropriate to that level.

- There are four kits per level, and four levels (Level 1, yellow; Level 2, Red; Level 3, blue; Level 4, green)
- Each Kit is identified by call number: Reader 1 Kit A, Reader 1 Kit B, etc.
- Each kit contains a different set of titles, although a few titles appear in more than one kit.
- Each kit contains a brochure describing all four levels and how we define them
- Each Kit checks out for 28 days

With your continued support, our librarians extend the reach and service that they can provide to ensure that all of our children have the opportunity to learn to read, and improve on those skills. Those early literacy skills are a huge measure of success.

Thank You, Andrea Milano, Lake Oswego Public Library