

# Foment de lectura en llengua catalana per a joves lectors

<https://engagenow.eu/case-studies/foment-de-lectura-en-llengua-catalana-per-a-joves-lectors/>

The project is based on small groups of young people, some of them new arrivals, in which the reading of books is shared with writers, in a space where they have the opportunity to speak, listen, and share, which allows them to gain linguistic abilities and value reading.

A book is like a window, like a home, like a refuge. To promote reading in Catalan among groups where even having a book at home is difficult. Books are not the first need, before buying shoes, paying the electric bill, or purchasing basic goods. For this reason we wished to collaborate in the encouraging reading in Catalan for the children, young readers, and women of the Casal d'Infants in the Raval neighbourhood. This project has a couple of branches, one addressed to children and youth and another to women. The idea is that different writers choose one of these groups working with children, youth, and women who are living in particularly difficult situations and get involved for a quarter term. Some of the participants have been: Miriam Cano, Jaume Copons, Liliانا Fortuny, Maica Duaigües, Montserrat Espallargas, Lluís Farré, Montserrat Morera, Ivone Puig, Maria Sevilla i Conxita Tarruell.

As for children and youth, the writer will bring a couple of storybooks to read during each visit, whether their own or others', but stories that have changed their life in some way. Stories that have become friends. In addition to reading them, they leave a copy for the centre, and gift a copy to each child who has chosen it.

As the writers get to know each child, they will also select books that might particularly interest him or her, to bring along on the next visit. At the end of the program, each child can count on having a small personal library of between five or six books, among those that the author has chosen for the whole group and those selected in a personalized way for each child. We know from experience that books can only be a refuge as far as they seem to be our friends. We help children and youth, then, to find the books that can accompany them on this stage of their life.

Promotion of reading in Catalan for young readers

**LOCATION:** SPAIN, BARCELONA

**WEBSITE:** [WWW.ESCRITORS.CAT/?Q=NODE/15878](http://WWW.ESCRITORS.CAT/?Q=NODE/15878)

**YEAR THE PROJECT BEGAN:** 1997

**ORGANIZER:** [ASSOCIACIÓ D'ESCRITORS EN LLENGUA CATALANA \(AELC\)](#)

**ARTS AND CULTURE SECTORS:**

- LITERATURE: READING
- LITERATURE: COMPREHENSION
- LITERATURE: ORAL EXPRESSION

**AGE TARGETS:**

- PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN (6-14 YEARS OLD)
- YOUNGSTERS AND ADOLESCENTS (IN GENERAL)
- ADULTS (OVER 18 YEARS OLD)

**GENDER TARGETS:** ALL

**SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC TARGETS:**

- URBAN

**AIMS:**

- EDUCATION
- LITERACY
- SOCIAL INTEGRATION

As for the women, mothers of the children and youth who use the Casal d'Infants in the Raval, we also seek to encourage reading among the group, to create an exchange between the authors and the women. So, the authors explain the need for and benefits of reading, and tell traditional Catalan stories as a way of bringing Catalan culture and traditions nearer to this group of women, most of them originating from Pakistan and some from sub-Saharan Africa. It should also be said that the authors who participate in the project take, in principle, one or two instructional sessions beforehand from a specialist in encouraging reading in the school environment.

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## MAIN GOAL OF THE PROJECT

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- To encourage reading in Catalan and strengthen the emotional link between readers, authors, and books.
- Get young audiences interested in books and reading.
- Encourage social integration.

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## ROLE OF YOUNG AUDIENCES

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The role of the young participants is to participate in these meetings, at the same time improving their reading and linguistic ability through the exchange of readings and talks in small groups of children ages 6 to 16. The pilot test of the 2017 year was very positive and it is anticipated that the sessions will take place throughout the current school year for the smallest children and the experience will happen on a trimestral basis for the youth aged 12 to 16.

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## AIMS

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- Literacy
- Social Integration
- Education

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## WHY IS IT "A CASE OF GOOD PRACTICE"?

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This project is considered a best practice case because it is a informal way for children with little access to reading in Catalan to have spaces available where they can converse with writers and other children in the same newcomer situation as them, and improve their linguistic abilities.