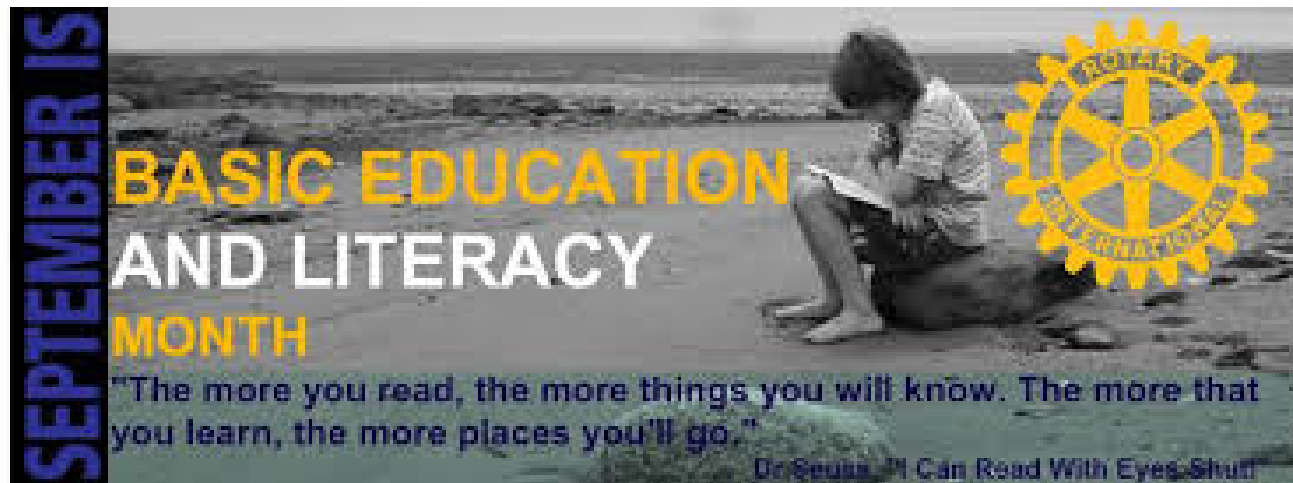


## MINUTARIAN from DG MARK

For meetings the Week of August 31, 2020



Basic education and literacy is one of Rotary's seven areas of focus. We know that basic education and literacy are essential for reducing poverty, improving health, encouraging community and economic development, and promoting peace. Consider these facts:

- If all women completed primary education, there would be 66% fewer maternal deaths.
- A child born to a mother who can read is 50% more likely to survive past the age of five.
- If all students in low-income countries left school with basic reading skills, 171 million people could be lifted out of poverty, which would be equivalent to a 12% cut in world poverty.

According to the United Nations, 57 million children worldwide are not in school and 757 million people over the age of 15 —two-thirds of whom are women — are illiterate. In honor of Rotary Basic Education and Literacy Month celebrated each September, take action by starting or supporting a literacy project in your community. Here are a few ways you can get involved:

- Donate dictionaries to schools.
- Develop or volunteer with an adult literacy program.
- Start a mentorship program for students in your community.

Rotary clubs all over the world are taking action to enhance basic education and literacy in their communities. Every community has different needs and different opportunities to serve. Ask questions, identify real needs, and make the greatest possible impact with the time, energy, and resources you have at your disposal.

Yours in Rotary- DG Mark