



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 27, 2015

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*

SUBJECT: Michigan Reads! Early Literacy Kits Are Being Shipped!

The 2015 Michigan Reads early literacy program kits are being shipped on August 31 to all schools with a K-2 classroom and on September 7 to Head Start and Great Start Readiness programs.

This annual program assists libraries and schools to encourage early literacy skills in young children and to promote parent engagement in reading behaviors. The kit contains a programming guide full of ideas to help children develop literacy skills through play-based activities based on the selected book. The materials are developed for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and early elementary aged children. The kit also includes a book, a poster, and bookmarks with tips for parents.

The 2015 book is *Do Unto Otters* written and illustrated by Laurie Keller. In the book, Mr. Rabbit's new neighbors are otters. OTTERS! But he doesn't know anything about otters. Will they get along? Follow Mr. Rabbit as he learns how to be a good friend and neighbor by simply following the Golden Rule.

For more information and resources, including an academic standards crosswalk, go to www.michigan.gov/michiganreads.

If you have any questions, please contact Karren Reish, Library Grants Coordinator, at reishk@michigan.gov or 517-241-0021.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • PAMELA PUGH – TREASURER
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY – NASBE DELEGATE • KATHLEEN N. STRAUS
EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER • RICHARD ZEILE

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324