



WPI

AID the Orphans: Enhancing Education

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Great Problems Seminar: Heal the World
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Project Goal

To collect donations of books and raise money to ship them to Dream Children's Home.

Need

Cultivate better levels of reading and education among the 59 children in the orphanage between the ages of 1 and 19.

Results

549 books collected
\$455.85 raised
90.6 pounds of books shipped using USPS M-Bags

Background

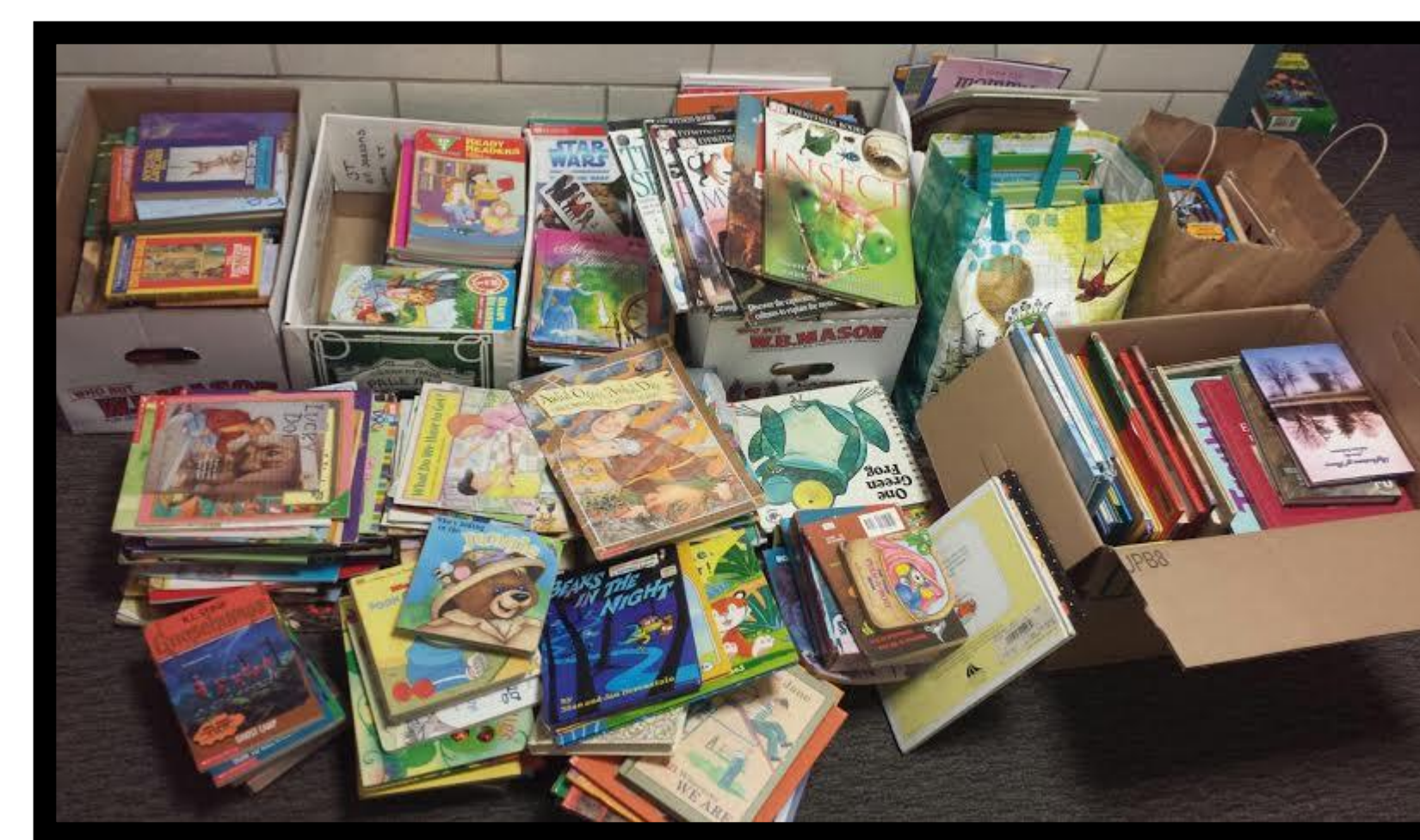
In Kenya there are over 1.1 million children orphaned by AIDS¹. Dream Children's Home is an orphanage, started by Rachel and Steven Gichia, that cares for children who are affected by this epidemic³.

Methods/Processes

1. Fundraise at the Campus Center and at local businesses.



2. Collect books from family, friends, and an elementary school.



3. Research shipping methods and ship books to the orphanage.

Enhancing Education

Books provide children with the tool to thrive academically and psychologically. These books may also serve as an outlet from any stress factors. Growing up reading books has a correlation with success in⁵:

- logical thinking skills
- acclamation to new experiences
- concentration and discipline
- communication skills
- speech skills
- competence
- creativity⁷



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References

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²Central Intelligence Agency. (2013). Kenya [Map]. Retrieved December 11 2013, from: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/graphics/maps/ke-map.gif>
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⁴Gichia, R. (2013). Photos. Dream Children's Home an Orphanage in Kenya. Retrieved from: <http://www.dreamchildrenshome-kenya.orphanage.org/img/photos/homework2.jpg>
⁵Neuman, S. B. (2013). The Importance of the Classroom Library. Scholastic. Retrieved from: <http://www.teachscholastic.com/products/ebooks/downloads/library.pdf>
⁶USPS. (2013). [M-Bag Tag]. Retrieved December 11 2013, from: <https://www.usps.com/shipping/mailbags.htm>
⁷10 Reasons Why You Should Read to Your Kids. (2013). Early Moments. Retrieved from: <https://www.earlymoments.com/Promoting-Literacy-and-a-Love-of-Reading/Why-Reading-to-Children-is-Important/>