



Inspired Literature. Inspiring Literacy

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**A Portal to Literacy: Celebrate International Literacy Day  
with Becklit.org, a New Web Site Giving Kids Easy Access to Recommended Reading**

Looking for something to do to celebrate International Literacy Day on September 8? Visit the brand new Web site [www.becklit.org](http://www.becklit.org), which features links to more than 5,000 enjoyable stories, books and poems for kids from kindergarten through grade 12.

Through the free site, kids, parents and teachers will have easy access to high-quality literature recommended and hand-picked by educational experts, including teachers and curriculum directors.

“We hope that educators, parents, tutors, and children themselves will make good use of the best children’s literature that is readily available to them at no cost, on the BeckLit.org site,” said Dr. Herb Walberg, Chair, Beck Foundation Board of Director and Emeritus Professor of Education and Psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago. “Any one of the children’s stories, books, and poems can be read on a computer monitor or printed for an individual child.”

In addition to stories and poems, the free site features:

- Lesson plan links to support and guide educators
- Ideas and resources to influence kids’ out-of-classroom reading
- Materials to read categorized by school subjects, like history, science, math, social studies, writing and more
- Detailed information on stories and poems, including the author, subject, grade level, word count, number of difficult words, and more
- Links to reference tools such as atlases, dictionaries and encyclopedias

“There’s no other Web site that has as many age-appropriate educational links in one spot,” Walberg said. “Parents, kids and teachers can use this portal as a starting point to find great materials that experts have categorized and recommended. There are no ads, no paid links and no unrelated links. It’s a one-stop shop devoted to increasing literacy.”

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*About the Becklit.org*

Becklit.org was created by Good Karma, a non-profit organization promoting literacy and learning among students. The Beck Foundation supports this Web site, and other projects that advocate for literacy, in honor of John and Frances Beck, who had long careers in the field of education. Their lifelong efforts were devoted to educating teachers, tutors, and parents in the field of reading.

Visit Becklit.org to find out how you can help improve children's literacy by volunteering your time or making a donation.

*About International Literacy Day*

International Literacy Day has been celebrated every September since 1965, when it was first established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Many organizations and governments throughout the world take advantage of the day to consider the status of adult and child literacy, note progress, and identify work still to be done.

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