

ABOOKU AND THE BAOBAB READING SCHEME



Some of the characters from the Baobab Reading Scheme



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Registered Charity number
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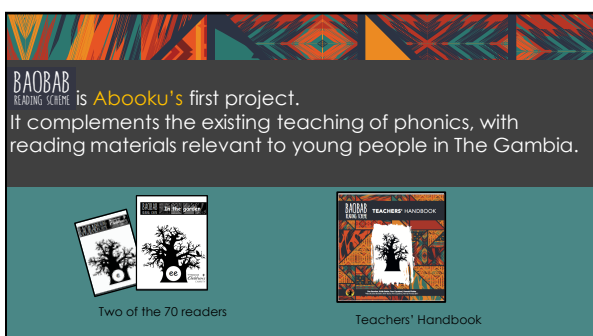
Abooku is a registered UK charity that has been set up for the advancement of education of young people and adults in The Gambia through the dissemination of educational learning, resources and training.

The first project for Abooku is the Baobab Reading Scheme a developmental reading scheme, designed to provide the children of The Gambia with readily accessible reading materials related to their own experiences and culture and building on the success of The Gambia's own Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education existing phonics teaching schemes.

Most Gambians are multi-lingual speaking a variety of languages including Wolof, Mandinka, Fula and Jola. The official language for education, the legal system and business and communication is English. Most children start their Lower Basic Education at 7 years old and the only language used in school is English. Daily phonics lessons in the children's own languages have recently been introduced (September 2015).

The use of Jolly Phonics and similar schemes in The Gambia has created a large number of young readers. These readers, especially in the rural areas only have limited access to reading materials. Little of the limited independent reading material refers to customs and places known to them and are matched with their progress on the phonics schemes. Gambian schools/teachers do not always have the capacity to provide children with relevant and appropriate reading material.

The Baobab Reading Scheme has been shared and developed with Gambian teachers as a capacity building process. These materials will be locally printed with a simple format, basically black and white line drawings and text on sheets of A4 photocopy paper and folded into booklets. This is to allow children to take them home to practise skills learnt at school, to foster a love of reading and share with their parents/carers and the people in their compounds.

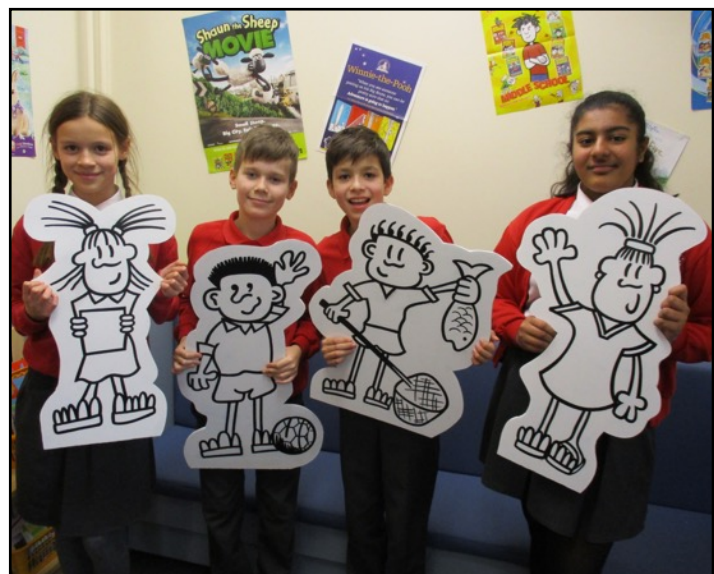
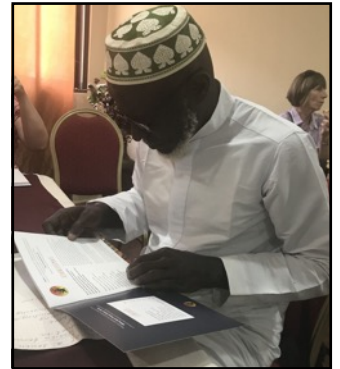
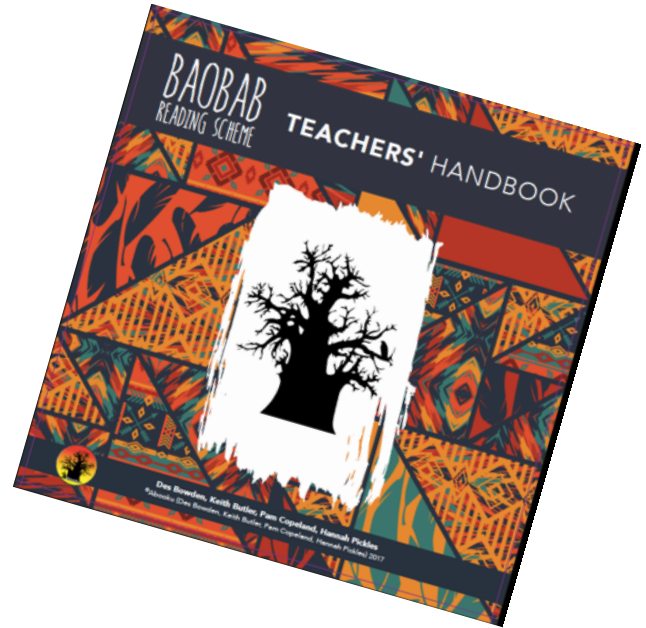


SPREAD READING AROUND FOR JUST A POUND AT **MILKING BANK** PRIMARY SCHOOL



So far, Abooku has raised money to buy 2000 Teachers' Handbooks, which explains the reading scheme for Gambian teachers. Schools can have up to 3000 pupils so we now need many sets of readers for the children. Each pupil needs 70 booklets. Abooku is having the books printed in The Gambia for £1.00 per set.

WE DONATED £1500 TO BUY 2000 HANDBOOKS.



Article 28 (right to education) Every child has the right to an education. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.