



ALREADY ONE YEAR!

In 2009, we have

- more than 3000 books!
- 2478 unique titles and 2182 authors!
- more than 700 registered active patrons!
- more than 870 books checked out!
- an average of 273 books borrowed per month!

Thank you for making
this dream a reality

Summer camp is right around the corner

Again this year the library will **host** more than 250 children from 10 to 17 years old participating to our USAID Summer Camp.

The library will host the Life Skills classes and will also be used as a main reference center for the teachers and volunteers working with the different literacy groups.

OUR AMAZON.COM WISH LIST

We are pleased that our Amazon wish list is still very active. The word has spread and we are receiving beautiful books and game almost every week. We also have added magazine subscriptions and audio-books in Spanish. This is a great way to help us keep our book inventory up to date and exciting for our young patrons. Have a look

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/3023XSGAMA321>



Meet Laura

Laura Budzina has been working as a volunteer in the library since last summer, achieving amazing results in two main areas:

EARLY LITERACY:

The main goal of this year's early literacy class – made up of struggling students between 10 and 14 years old – was to create a dynamic, hands-on environment to counter the passive copy-down method that had left them behind in school. At the end of the program, I was thrilled to find that each student had taken steps forward in their reading, all became active, enthusiastic participants in story discussions. Most notably, though, their confidence had improved, reopening their willingness to learn after so many years of failure in school.

YOUTH GROUP:

The Estrellas reading program focused on the novel study, approaching a single book from as many angles as possible over a 6-week period. The novels we chose – most notably *The House on Mango Street*, *Number the Stars* and *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry* – shared a theme of tolerance, giving the added dimension of local relevance and global awareness.

“ I was so pleased to see that as the year went on, the Estrellas students developed a habit of thinking as they read. One student in particular, who participated in 4 consecutive cycles, jumped six reading levels: both his fluency and his understanding had improved markedly. For these adolescents, reading became a dynamic, multi-dimensional, and social activity, as well as window to understanding the problems and divisions in their own communities. “