

Super Saturday Training: Your Leadership Journey

November 15, 2025: Altrusa Literacy Projects

Meeting summary, Poll Results & Chat Summary

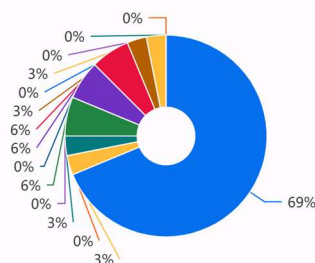
Overall Recap

This presentation explored various types of literacy and their importance, with participants engaging in polls and discussions about different literacy initiatives and projects. The conversation ended with clubs sharing their successful community literacy programs and initiatives, emphasizing the importance of tracking book donations and sharing resources across districts.

Poll#1 – Who is present today? Thank you for joining us!

1. Which Altrusa District are you in? (Single choice)

32/32 (100%) answered · 0 skipped



Options	Responses
Nine	22/32 (69%)
Eight	2/32 (6%)
Seven	2/32 (6%)
Five	2/32 (6%)
Twelve	1/32 (3%)
Ten	1/32 (3%)
Three	1/32 (3%)
One	1/32 (3%)

Action Items and Links

- **Share Literacy Project Ideas** <https://forms.gle/K2CuRNykA8AjkZYR6>
- **Altrusa Passport Book Link:**
<https://altrusadistrictnine.org/Stories/discover-your-altrusa-journey>
- Track and report book donations (as applicable for District Nine and encouraged for other Clubs abd Districts)
 - Report District Nine Book Donations:
<https://altrusadistrictnine.org/stories/one-book-donation-log>
 - Track your District Nine Club Donations:
<https://altrusadistrictnine.org/stories/2025-2027-one-book-summary>
- Additional Presentation Links:
 - **SMORES Book Resources List:** <https://app.smores.com/n/mv30jp>

- **Silent Book Clubs:**
<https://silentbook.club/pages/chapter-map?srsId=AfmBOootHjEjnzNLnUX0vNRU56mqnCNnsOut7SZ-SBUNrxnjMMXLq2wd>
- **National Archives:**
https://www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist/missions/revolutionary-war-pension-files?fbclid=IwQ0xDSwK9ZuxleHRuA2FlbQlxMAABHpqHOymtdnaYBTbQUd0CWX0rXI-rfzWQBsR6A7CSB51Ebcwbe5dSam4nXA2_aem_g_NQ2ZBryr5JcY292HhFaA
- **Books A Million:** <https://booksamillion.com/>

Exploring Dimensions of Literacy Impact

The presentation focused on Altrusa literacy projects, with **Kathleen Witte** (Greenville, TX) and **Janelle Williamson** (Texarkana, TX) presenting as **District Nine Literacy Co-Leaders**. They discussed the importance of literacy as a foundation for lifelong learning and its connection to economic mobility and community empowerment. The presenters introduced a poll to gauge attendees' initial thoughts on literacy, which included options such as reading and writing skills, financial or digital literacy, health or wellness literacy, civic or cultural literacy, and other. The session aimed to explore the various dimensions of literacy and provide ideas for clubs to create meaningful community impact. Kimberly initiated a poll to gauge participants' perspectives on literacy. The results showed that while 81% identified reading and writing skills as foundational, other forms of literacy such as civic or cultural literacy and computer skills were also recognized.

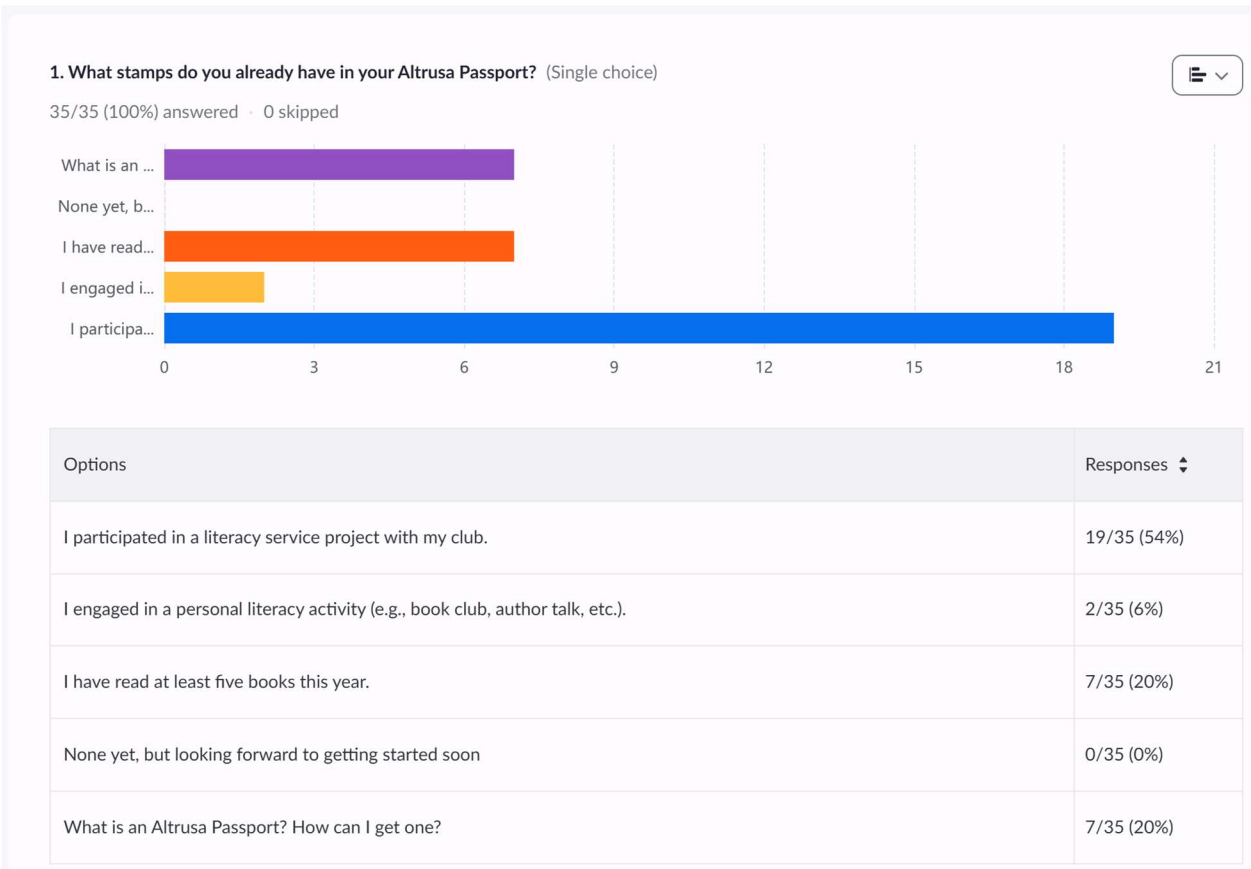


Types of Literacy and Their Importance

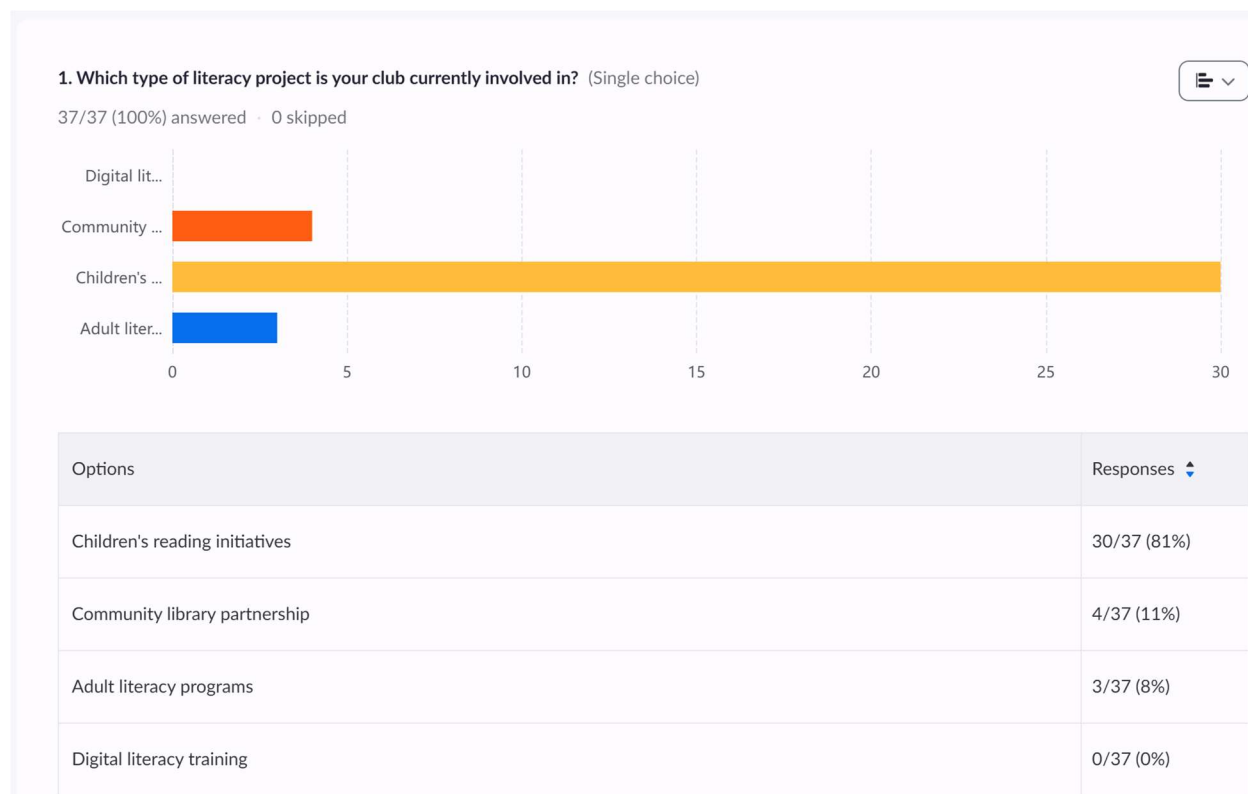
Kathleen then expanded on different categories of literacy, including reading, writing, oral, numeracy, digital, media, information, visual, financial, health, and workplace literacy, emphasizing their importance in daily life and career success. She referenced Eleanor Roosevelt's visit to the Fort Worth Altrusa Club in 1934 to highlight the historical significance of workplace literacy. The discussion concluded with Kathleen introducing Janelle to continue the presentation.

Community Literacy Initiatives Discussion and Enhancing Literacy Initiatives

The presentation focused on promoting literacy in communities through various initiatives. Janelle presented ideas including a passport program, which Kimberly Kierce, District Nine Governor, developed to track members' Altrusa activities, including literacy ones. Participants discussed the passport program, including how to obtain and customize stamps. The group also explored other literacy activities such as silent book clubs and a blind date with a book event. Janelle encouraged clubs to consider these ideas for their own literacy initiatives.



Janelle presented various ideas for engaging in literacy activities, including book drives, read-aloud events, and supporting adult learners. The group discussed the results of a poll, which showed that 81% of attendees were involved in children's reading initiatives. They also explored the need for digital literacy, particularly for older adults, and shared examples of successful projects, such as Altrusa San Antonio's work with a local animal shelter and digital literacy training in San Antonio.



Literacy Project Resource Sharing and Expanding Literacy Initiatives

The presentation focused on collecting literacy project ideas and sharing resources for obtaining books at low cost. Kathleen presented various book sources, including First Book, TxDOT, and Book Bundler, and discussed a tutoring project organized with a local library. Participants were encouraged to contribute their club's literacy project ideas through a shared form, and a poll was taken to gauge how clubs incorporate literacy into existing service projects.

Kimberly presented results from a survey on literacy activities, noting that 38% of respondents partner with schools, libraries, or literacy nonprofits, while another 38% incorporate literacy themes into community events. Kathleen shared examples of incorporating literacy into projects, including a homeless outreach event and a senior

citizens book club. Participants discussed various ways to expand literacy efforts, such as collecting and distributing books from post offices and partnering with organizations like Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. The conversation ended with an invitation for attendees to share their own literacy projects.



Sharing Altrusa Literacy Projects

The group focused on various literacy projects and initiatives shared by different Altrusa clubs.

Kathy (Dayton, OH) shared a partnership with a local church's Storybook Project, which involves recording parents' voices on CDs for inmates' children.

Demric (Waxahachie, TX) highlighted a creative "Bear Hunt" event organized by the Waxahachie club, which included a scavenger hunt, storytelling, and book distribution.

Corretta (Poplar Bluff, MO) described a radio story time project and a Santa Land event in Poplar Bluff, where over a thousand books are donated annually.

Carol (Appleton, WI) shared her club's efforts, including partnerships with the Park and Rec Department, providing bilingual books to schools, and supporting homeless shelters with birthday bags and bookshelves.

The discussion also touched on other projects, including book distributions to senior homes and Alzheimer's association support packets.

Altrusa Community Literacy Initiatives and Book Donation Tracking and Literacy

Clubs discussed creative ways to identify donated books, such as using QR codes and stickers, and shared successful projects like StoryWalks, trunk or treat events, and first responder care packages.

Kathleen and Janelle encouraged clubs to reflect on and expand their literacy efforts, track book donations, and share successful ideas for a repository.

The group discussed book donation tracking and literacy initiatives across Altrusa districts. Kimberly shared District Nine's competitive tracking system and encouraged other districts to implement similar methods. Participants discussed various book donation programs, including partnerships with **Books A Million** and creative fundraising ideas. The group agreed to share resources and ideas through a Google Form, with Kimberly promising to publish all presented materials on the District Nine website. The conversation ended with a call to continue the literacy mission in Altrusa communities.

Thank You for Attending!

Thank you for joining us in this latest edition of District Nine's Super Saturday: *Navigating Your Leadership Journey*. Your presence, your ideas, and your passion truly strengthen our Altrusa community.

As we wrap up, we are reminded that literacy has been at the heart of Altrusa's mission since 1977, and each of you continues to carry that mission forward with creativity, compassion, and purpose.

Whether your club is launching a new project, enhancing an existing one, or discovering fresh ways to reach your community, your efforts make a real and lasting difference.

Thank you for your commitment to service, for embracing new ideas, and for continuing Altrusa's vital literacy mission in your communities and beyond.

We appreciate your time, your leadership, and your dedication.

Kimberly Kierce, District Nine Governor

Chat Summary

- 00:23:35 Demric Woods, Waxahachie: Combination of all.
- 00:23:50 Sharon Tramonte-DN, SA, DN Secretary: all the above
- 00:23:59 Marcia Tucson, AZ dist eleven: other we have supported music, computer skill, and other not usually thought of just books
- 00:24:27 lynne moore: But it's truly the foundation for everything. All of the other items listed.
- 00:25:39 Corretta Bishop: All
- 00:32:58 Demric Woods, Waxahachie: There is not an option to select multiple.
- 00:33:16 Yvette Pue: I would love to get the PDF, Yvette Pue
- 00:37:31 Kimberly Kierce, District Nine Governor: All links will be shared after the presentation.
- 00:37:44 Demric Woods, Waxahachie: Excellent way to engage adults
- 00:40:49 Frances, District Nine, Greenville, TX: Dr. Seuss's birthday in March 😊
- 00:42:01 Joyce Towsley: Altrusa San Antonio has made books available to a local animal shelter that sponsors children reading to the dogs.
- 00:43:00 Sharon Tramonte-DN, SA, DN Secretary: San Antonio teaches digital literacy as training at the meetings.
- 00:43:46 Ann's Phone: Love my own digital reading
- 00:44:04 Corretta Bishop: Poplar Bluff Altrusa record storyline on the radio
- 00:45:16 Gail Woods, Waxahachie: We've organized a tutoring project with local library.
- 00:49:50 Linda Hurt - DFW and District Nine: Half Priced Books gives out free books -- slightly used.
- 00:49:57 Julie Livingston, District Twelve Gov: Our Corvallis, OR club partners with a Lyons Club for gently used books. Lyons pickup books from local bookstores & other resources-our literacy opportunities expanded per the variety of book we receive.
- 00:53:54 Barb Hahn, Pampa, TX: Pampa donates books to our pregnancy center for reading before the babies are born.

00:54:38 Mary Standfield-Greenville: We gave away BOOKS and Candy at a city sponsored Halloween event.

00:55:00 Frances, District Nine, Greenville, TX: Replying to "Pampa donates books ..."

Our Make a Difference Project diapers and books!

00:56:24 Laure Bruner: Altrusa of Anderson County has a teacher supply closet where we give a bag of school supplies (valued between \$30 & \$50 each) to every teacher (grades pre-k to 3rd grade) in all 9 school districts in Anderson County. Next year we will be adding grade appropriate children's books to each bag.

00:57:16 Marcia Tucson, AZ dist eleven: most happy to find other sources for books-we LFL with gusto here in Tucson, give holiday books and scarfs to an adopted school pre-k class, provide books to our Tucson festival of books young author/poet contest winners each year, provide new books to our 'adopted' pre-k school library.

00:57:38 Debbie - District Nine, Garland: Do clubs stamp each book with name of club? Good for name recognition in the community

00:57:41 Ann's Phone: In Pampa we participate in Books Are The Beginning that give books to local school and also internationally.

00:59:42 Frances, District Nine, Greenville, TX: We went to stickers (so we could do full color) this year and added our website.

01:01:02 lynne moore: I love this ! Great job Waxahachie!!

01:01:24 Ann's Phone: Love this idea.

01:02:53 Linda Hurt - DFW and District Nine: Corretta - Love the Radio Story-Time. You all are so creative! And this is probably a time the kids really look forward to -- hopefully along with their parents!

01:03:49 Ann's Phone: Pampa also gives books out at our Soup with Mrs. Claus event

01:04:32 Debbie - District Nine, Garland: We worked with Alzheimer's association to put together a pack of reading material for the family of the Alzheimer patient. Focused on families caring for Alzheimer patient at home. We gave the packets to the local home caregivers support group

01:06:03 Kathy Ballman-Parks: For our Trunk or Treat events in October, we give away books - Dayton, OH Club.

01:07:33 Marcia Tucson, AZ dist eleven: Tucson recently volunteered to sort books for a local program that provides comfort bags and books to emergency responders-wow on that area of need

01:08:56 Corretta Bishop: Can someone email me the Sims Library Bear project? I think that is an amazing idea and I hope you don't mind sharing.

01:09:01 Julie Livingston, District Twelve Gov: We have several Clubs in OR, WA & BC that do StoryWalks in their local parks both seasonally & throughout the year. Engages children and families.

01:09:59 Barb Hahn, Pampa, TX: Replying to "Do clubs stamp each ..."
Pampa does stickers too. I love the QR code idea!

01:11:30 Demric Woods, Waxahachie: Replying to "Can someone email me..."
Let's connect. I'd also like to hear more about the radio project.

01:11:57 Laurie Hot Springs Village AR: We give dictionary/reference books to third graders in four schools. We also do "Birthday Books" to all children in the Mt Pine Grade School, they each get to pick out a book to keep the month of their birthday

01:12:57 lynne moore: Great ideas! Thanks everybody for sharing !

01:13:05 Anne Rahm: Great presentation.....so many wonderful ideas!!!!

01:13:10 Barb Hahn, Pampa, TX: Thank you for getting this together for us Kimberly.

01:13:42 Ann's Phone: Thank you for this presentation.