

12-2-1992

Expanding Horizons: The Reading Bookbag To Go

Char M. Lemons
Allegan Public Schools, Allegan Michigan

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/reading_horizons



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Lemons, C. M. (1992). Expanding Horizons: The Reading Bookbag To Go. *Reading Horizons*, 33 (2). Retrieved from https://scholarworks.wmich.edu/reading_horizons/vol33/iss2/12

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Education and Literacy Studies at ScholarWorks at WMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Reading Horizons by an authorized editor of ScholarWorks at WMU. For more information, please contact maira.bundza@wmich.edu.



The Reading Bookbag To Go

Char M. Lemons

Now your student can take you home — your voice, that is — when you tape record yourself reading or storytelling your favorite read aloud.

The *Reading Bookbag To Go* can be tailored to fit your classroom's needs. Create a theme, include puppets, posters, store bought taped stories and blank story writing books — whatever coordinates with your curriculum or season of the year. The Reading Bookbag that I have used consists of a compact and simple (goof proof) cassette recorder and a durable, waterproof tote bag. Laminated identification tags are attached to the tote bags and each cassette recorder is engraved with an identification number. A teacher can arrange for a different student to take the bookbag home nightly, or use the bookbag as a good behavior reward incentive.

I am a Chapter One Reading Specialist, and the Reading Bookbag To Go has made a difference for my struggling readers. Reluctant students feel at ease moving at their own pace with the taped stories. Comprehension skills, fluency of language, and most importantly self-esteem are all reinforced and strengthened through this at-home reading experience. Feedback from parents indicates that they appreciate having the convenience of a professional storyteller to help out with bedtime story hour.

Busy parents can create their own version of the Reading Bookbag. A blank cassette tape and storybook sent to special relatives can turn an ordinary story into a special personalized experience for your child on those busy evenings when parents need to be away from home at story hour.

Char M. Lemons is a Chapter One Reading Specialist in the Allegan Public Schools, Allegan Michigan.