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ILA RELEASES ADVOCACY MANUAL ON PROTECTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TO READ

Global organization empowers educators and community members to take action

Newark, Del. (May 21, 2019) — The International Literacy Association (ILA) today published an advocacy manual to guide literacy partners in protecting children's rights to read.

The manual is an extension of the campaign ILA began last September, which launched with the goal of ensuring every child, everywhere, has access to the education, opportunities and resources needed to read. The initiative is based on 10 fundamental rights ILA asserts that every child deserves, such as "the right to read for pleasure."

In addition to teachers and reading/literacy specialists, the manual addresses administrators, librarians, families and policymakers. It includes a questionnaire to help readers critically examine their own and their community's literacy practices, targeted action items for each audience and concrete steps they can take to accomplish those goals.

ILA Executive Director Marcie Craig Post says she hopes the guide will empower literacy stakeholders to come together and mobilize in support of the rights.

"Since we launched the campaign last September, we've seen a deluge of support in the form of thousands of signatures and social media shares. The next step is to propel that support into action," she says. "This guide will help visualize what the rights look like in practice and bring that vision to life."

Access the full manual [here](#).

About Children's Rights to Read

The Children's Rights to Read initiative, launched by the International Literacy Association (ILA) to ensure every child has access to the education, opportunities and resources needed to read, focuses on 10 rights essential for individuals to reach full personal, social and educational potential. The global campaign asserts and affirms ILA's commitment to its mission of literacy for all and offers a framework for partnerships and action. To learn more and sign the pledge to support the rights, visit literacyworldwide.org/rightstoread.

About the International Literacy Association

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a global advocacy and membership organization dedicated to advancing literacy for all through its network of more than 300,000 literacy educators, researchers and experts across 146 countries. With over 60 years of experience, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught and evaluated. ILA's Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals 2017 provides an evidence-based benchmark for the development and evaluation of literacy professional preparation programs. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather and disseminate high-quality resources, best practices and cutting-edge research to empower educators, inspire students and inform policymakers. ILA publishes *The Reading Teacher*, *Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy* and *Reading Research Quarterly*, which

are peer reviewed and edited by leaders in the field. For more information, visit literacyworldwide.org.

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