



www.shadow-project.org

6663 S.W. Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy #108 Portland, OR 97225

Students with learning disabilities have tremendous potential to achieve.

But right now one in three do not finish high school. There are bright, talented children as young as third grade who have already begun skipping school.

We need to reach struggling students early and help them discover their abilities.

The Shadow Project does just that. We partner with special education teachers to build habits for success in boys and girls grades K-8.

Honored by the Oregon Education Association, The Shadow Project provides a classroom goal-setting program proven to help students with learning challenges improve academically, develop perseverance and take pride in their accomplishments.

Started in 1997 by a Portland mom whose son has learning challenges, The Shadow Project has helped 5,500 boys and girls who:

- Spend one or more periods a day in a special education classroom
- Have been diagnosed with one or more disabilities, including ADHD, dyslexia, autism, and communications disorders.
- Typically are bright and talented but read and write a minimum of two years below grade level
- Typically come from low-income homes

Ryan's Story

When Ryan started 5th grade he already felt like a failure. He struggled to read and fought with classmates. Then his special education teacher began using The Shadow Project, a program that motivated Ryan to tackle The Great Illustrated Classics, books two years beyond his reading level. Today Ryan loves reading. And he keeps a journal of his own short stories--featuring himself as the hero.

Support us in helping more special children become heroes of their own stories.

Making a Difference

According to a 2008 Teacher Survey on Student Impact:

- 93% of teachers say the vast majority of students in The Shadow Project are more likely to persevere when tackling a difficult assignment
- 96% of teachers say the majority of their students have significantly improved in reading, writing or math.
- 83% of teachers say the vast majority of their students show a more positive attitude toward school
- 100% of teachers say The Shadow Project makes a lasting difference in the lives of vulnerable children

Inspired by Dedicated Teachers

Special education teachers have long created their own systems to motivate students whose disabilities leave them frustrated and discouraged. These dedicated teachers pay out of their own pockets, often buying thrift store stuffed animals and other used toys.

Building Habits for Success

The Shadow Project has turned this teacher strategy into a full-scale, ready-made program that consistently provides students real life lessons in saving, giving, and self-sufficiency.

Students work toward individual goals, including improving attendance, doing homework and making good choices. They earn: **books, school supplies and art supplies, educational toys, and gifts for others.**

Children who once shied away from reading choose books; students who normally receive charity school supplies become empowered by “buying” their own; and kids with ADHD learn impulse control by putting higher-ticket items on “layaway.”

But the #1 choice is gifts! Kids spend their hard-earned “Shadow Bucks” on gifts for others. Becoming a giver provides these children with a powerful new identity.

Through The Shadow Project children discover the joy of learning and the power of giving.

How to help

Join **Social Venture Partners Portland, Spirit Mountain Community Fund, Juan Young Trust, The Stimson-Miller Foundation, Anvil Media, Christmas at the Zoo, NIKE** and others in helping these amazing students discover their potential.

You can make a difference:

- 1. Become a “Friend of Shadow”**
Your \$100 base membership in our new giving circle supports a child in our program for one year; \$1,000 helps 10 children.
- 2. Become a corporate partner**
Sponsor a school near you. For information, contact Executive Director Christy Scattarella at shadowproject@comcast.net
- 3. Donate in-kind merchandise**
Our wish list includes books, school supplies and art supplies, educational toys, , and gift items including bath products and jewelry.
- 4. Make The Shadow Project a beneficiary of your special event.**

The Shadow Project is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, #65-1166066.

Send donations to:

The Shadow Project
6663 S.W. Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy. #108
Portland, OR 97225

Contact us at **1 888 747-0005.**