



neema
foundation

Bringing hope through education

What does the Neema Foundation do?

The **Neema Foundation** is a non-profit organisation started by Kloof Baptist Church in 2011 and is an arm reaching out into the community.

The heart of the Neema Foundation is bringing hope through education to those who couldn't otherwise afford it. We decided to focus on reading because, without reading, learning in any other area is impossible.

Neema can help your business achieve maximum points on your B-BBEE scorecard under the Socio Economic Development (SED/CSI) element. Neema's black beneficiary status has been independently assessed by Empowerdex and, to this end, Neema can provide documented proof for all corporate donations.

The Neema Foundation was unable to source affordable appropriate foundational reading material for learners struggling in this area and so, over the years, we developed our own programme called **Gateway into Reading**. This is a syllabus that teaches foundational reading, developing basic skills in word recognition and deciphering.

Second language classroom teaching:

Neema has a heart to empower second language teachers to teach reading and spelling in English. We do this by building a mentoring relationship with these teachers during our weekly lessons. Teachers revise work learnt with the learners during the week and are gradually empowered to assume full responsibility for the programme.



One-on-one teaching: During the first lesson a learner is individually assessed and then programmed according to his specific needs. Each learner attends a 45 minute one-on-one lesson once a week with most learners staying with us for 2-4 years. Often the learners have a very high IQ but have had little exposure to English or have missed some of the basic principles of reading.



Neema Staff:

The Neema Foundation has 2 employed teachers and 1 administrator who are assisted by 11 volunteer teachers and 16 other volunteers. As our opportunities increase to implement more larger group teaching we are hoping to employ 2 additional Neema accredited teachers and a trainee teacher/admin assistant in 2016.



Gateway into Reading one-on-one teaching

Gateway into Reading has been tried and tested with great success over the past 4.5 years. Those learners who have completed the programme are reading successfully. Since its conception, the Neema Foundation has worked with approximately 85 learners on a one-on-one basis. During this time the Neema Foundation has been using the programme one-on-one in the following 3 schools.

1. Kloof Junior Primary School: As a result of the huge improvement the staff have seen in the learners since we started, they continue to send us underprivileged children to our learning centre, 3 afternoons a week.

The head mistress and remedial staff filter for us those learners whose families otherwise couldn't afford the help they need.

Teachers at the school endorse our programme and one of the teachers commented recently, "we are happy to follow Neema's lead with this child because a few of the children in my class have been on your programme and they have all soared."

2. Kloof Senior Primary School: We were approached by KSP to join them in their new remedial centre one afternoon a week helping their children. Three of their teachers, at their request have been trained to teach Gateway into Reading along with us. The staff at the school have a huge heart for underprivileged learners and are grateful for this opportunity to help these children. Where a child is able to pay for lessons in the school the school, donates the fees to the Neema Foundation.

3. Gillitts Primary School: This is an underprivileged school in Gillitts where less than 10% of the children contribute towards school fees. The only food many of the children eat each day is provided by the school. We are currently working there two mornings a week. We recently approached 31 Club who donated a cottage to the school so that our lessons could take place inside. We had been sitting on the veranda and often children are cold and distracted and pages were being blown away. This very generous donation from 31 Club gave us exposure on East Coast Radio and, more importantly, will hugely benefit our weekly lessons. Ms Jadoo, the Principal at Gillitts, would love to have Neema working at the school more frequently. While working with these learners, we have been able to develop the programme so that it is very effective in teaching second language learners with limited English vocabulary.



Gateway into Reading for larger groups

Gateway into Reading was initially developed as a one-on-one programme. However, in response to the huge demand for reading in English we have very successfully adjusted our programme to meet this need in classroom teaching. At Gillitts Primary School we teach a class of Gr 2 learners. Mr M Ngidi, the Principal of Ukusakwabasha School, approached us to implement Gateway into Reading in his school which we started in January 2015 for the Gr R-4 learners. We have built up a wonderful mentoring relationship with his staff who participate in our weekly lessons so that in 3-4 years, when we have been through the programme, they will be able to continue to implement it without us. 5 children who find the work more challenging are in a small group.



Distribution of Gateway into Reading material

Due to the growing demand of the Gateway into Reading programme, we have had our material copyrighted and printed. We are now encouraging other organisations to link up with schools in their areas to make a difference in their communities.

Running the Gateway into Reading programme is very cost effective. All an organisation would need is to purchase the manual, be able to photocopy the required pages and have basic stationary. There are 10 Books (610 pages in total) although no learner would use all pages as it would depend on their specific needs. We have kept the amount of ink used on each page to a minimum to keep the costs of photocopying as low as possible.

There are two price structures for purchasing Gateway into Reading:

1. Commercial price - the organisation then has no further obligation towards us.
2. 50% discount - the organisation signs a contract agreeing to teach at least 75% underprivileged learners and provide the Neema Foundation with regular feedback. In order to maintain a high standard the Neema Foundation only sells the manual once a qualified teacher from an organisation has come to our training and been Gateway into Reading accredited.



Audio CD for Gateway into Reading

In response to the request from second language teachers we are in the process of putting our lessons on to audio CDs. This is currently our most significant project as it empowers teachers who are not familiar with English phonics. It also enable organisations using various overseas volunteers to familiarise themselves with the phonics to ensure learners are not confused.

We are in need of funding for this project which is done on a termly basis and will take till March 2017 to complete.

What do educationalists say about Gateway into Reading?



Mrs Lesleigh Harvey

Retired Lecturer, Academic H.O.D. Remedial
I am delighted to be associated with this Neema project. The programme addresses a vital area in the learning to read process. It breaks 'the code' of letters, sounds and words, providing the learner with the basic tool to take responsibility for his/her own reading progress.



Mrs Lynn Dobson

Principal – Kloof Junior Primary
The children have made amazing gains by having this individual, caring assistance. This is a wonderful community service that is greatly needed by the community."



Miss Jadoo, Principal – Gilletts Primary School

Our special thanks to the Neema Foundation for using their fantastic material to help our pupils. We have seen much improvement as a result of this one-on-one programme and many of our pupils have now started to read.

Your business can achieve maximum points on your **B-BBEE** scorecard under the Socio Economic Development (SED/CSI) element. Neema is accredited by Empowerdex.

Bank Details: FNB
Account name: Neema Foundation
Account number: 62422621046
Account type: Current
Branch: Kloof
Branch number: 221526

Thank you for taking the time to read through our information.

**If you have any further questions please contact Cindy on
neemaadmin@neemafoundation.co.za or 074 121 8728 / 083 375 9609.**

45 Abelia Rd, Kloof, 3610
PO Box 347, Kloof, 3640
Tel: 074 121 8728
Fax: 031 - 764 6273
Email: neemaadmin@neemafoundation.co.za
www.neemafoundation.co.za