

CLiF Year of the Book Grant Overview 2025-26



This grant is funded by the Children's Literacy Foundation (CLiF), a nonprofit based in Waterbury Center, VT. The grant offers up to \$25,000 worth of literacy programs, support, and brand-new books over the course of a year to public schools (preK-6) in VT and NH. Grant goals are to:

- Create a culture of literacy
- Involve parents and caregivers
- Support school staff to reach their goals for reading and writing with students
- Strengthen relationship between the school and public libraries
- Inspire a love of reading and books!



BENEFITS TO YOUR SCHOOL:

- Build a culture of literacy in your school
- Funding for author/illustrator/storyteller visits and workshops from CLiF's [professional presenter list](#)
- Free books for students
- Mini-grants for literacy enrichment activities in the classroom
- Money for classroom books
- Family engagement
- Strengthen relationship between the school and public libraries

CORE IN-SCHOOL EVENTS:

- Kick Off Event (including a CLiF presenter)
- Library Event (including school & public librarians and a CLiF presenter)
- Finale Event (including a CLiF presenter)
- Book Giveaways (each student will select up to 10 books over the school year)

SELECT NO MORE THAN THREE OPTIONS IN ADDITION TO YOUR CORE EVENTS:

- Schoolwide literacy dollars (max of \$2000)
- Family literacy event (inc. CLiF presenter, extra giveaway books and up to \$800 for food/supplies)
- Writing workshop (3-day residency)
- Storykeepers (3 to 6-day residency)
- Author/illustrator books (copies of a visiting presenter's book for every student served under the grant with option for signing)
- Extra author/illustrator visit for large schools (offered to students *not* served under the grant)

BOOKS:

Studies show that the more access a child has to print materials (in the home, at school, or at the library), the greater the likelihood of their future success in school and life. In direct correlation to these findings, CLiF will provide:

- Books for Students – 10 new books per student distributed during multiple book giveaways throughout the school year.
- Books for Classrooms - \$3,000 for books to be divided amongst individual teachers whose classes are served by the grant.
- Books for the School & Public Libraries – School librarians will choose \$1,000 in new books and public librarians select \$500 in new books.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS (OPTIONAL):

- Read-With-Me! Contracts with \$500 to support a celebration if goal of 80% contracts signed by student/adult and returned to school is met.
- \$100 in prizes/incentives for book reviews.

ENRICHMENT MINI-GRANTS (OPTIONAL):

- An individual teacher may submit a project application for up to \$400. Multiple educators (i.e. two teachers or a grade level team) can submit a joint application for up to \$800. We will award up to \$2,000 in mini-grants total.
- Educators can submit grant applications that are project-oriented and enrich their existing literacy curriculum. A teacher can ask for books as part of the grant, but it should be in support a larger project or curriculum unit that will help inspire a love of reading and writing. Field trips, admission costs, supplies, costumes, play fees, printing costs, and visiting artists/museums are all eligible expenses.
- Need ideas or inspiration? See [this list](#) from past YOB mini-grant projects!
- Applications will be online and rolling until funding is spent.

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR VISITS:

CLiF has a roster of over 50 professional authors, illustrators, storytellers, and songwriters who live in VT & NH and visit programs to engage with students around literacy. As part of your grant, your school will have a number of presenters selected by the Year of the Book literacy committee visit over the course of the year. In an ideal world, you'll know about the presenters and schedule in advance so you can talk to students about who will be visiting, themes in their work, and expectations. <https://clifonline.org/about/presenters/>