



YEAR OF THE BOOK: Grant Overview and Elements

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 two years 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!

CORE EVENTS:

- Kick Off Event (held during school; includes a CLiF author/illustrator visit)
- Library Event (held during school; includes CLiF author/illustrator visit) with the public librarian(s) also attending to showcase their new books purchased under the CLiF grant
- Family Literacy Event (held during or out of school time; includes a CLiF presenter; food stipend; and bonus giveaway books)
- Finale Event (held during school; includes a CLiF author/illustrator visit)

SELECT ONE IN ADDITION TO YOUR CORE EVENTS:

- Schoolwide literacy flexible funds (max of \$2000)
- Writing workshop (3-day residency)
- [Storykeepers](#) with author Natalie Kinsey-Warnock (3 to 5-day residency)
- Author/illustrator books = one copy of a visiting presenter's book for every student served under the grant (max of \$2000 to spend on books); option to pair with author/illustrator visit and include signing
- Author/illustrator visit for large schools with 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. CLiF will provide:

- Books for Students – Eight new books per student distributed during multiple

book giveaways throughout the school year.

- Books for Classrooms - \$2,000 for books to be divided amongst individual teachers whose classes are served by the grant (\$1,000 for schools with 100 preK-6 students or less).
- Books for the School & Public Libraries – School librarians will choose \$1,000 in retail value for new books and public librarians select \$500 in retail value from CLiF’s extensive booklist.

PUBLIC LIBRARY COLLABORATION:

- CLiF encourages working with the public library and librarians to enhance community connections. You can invite the public librarian(s) to visit your school and meet with to do a short read-aloud; arrange a field trip to visit the library; include the librarians at your family literacy event to promote library card sign-ups; and/or include the librarians at your finale event to talk about their summer reading programs.

READING CONTRACT (OPTIONAL):

- Read-With-Me! Contracts with \$500 to support a celebration if the goal of 80% of students return their contracts signed by both student/adult pledging to read together at home. This can be used for a schoolwide celebration with treats, popcorn, popsicles, hot cocoa party, add-on to a family literacy event, or a bonus author visit.

ENRICHMENT MINI-GRANTS (OPTIONAL):

- Each school receives \$2000 in total mini-grant funding to support and enrich learning in the classroom connecting to reading and writing (\$1,000 for schools with 100 preK-6 students or less). 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.

AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR VISITS:

CLiF has a roster of over 50 professional authors, illustrators, and storytellers who live in VT & NH and visit programs to engage with students around literacy. As part of your grant, your school will host presenters from our list here: <https://clifonline.org/about/presenters/>

YEAR TWO MOMENTUM GRANT:

Each school automatically receives a follow-up Momentum Grant for 2027-28. This will include a standard author/illustrator visit; book giveaway (two books/student total); \$1500 for a schoolwide literacy project, 3-day writing residency, Storykeepers, or family literacy event; and \$500 for classroom and/or school library books.