

Book Bag Program

Lyn Knoll Elementary School

Aurora, CO



COLORADO
Department of Education

The Book Bag Program at Lyn Knoll Elementary School in Aurora is making sure that every student has access to a variety of suitable books each week. The goal of the Book Bag Program is to increase reading fluency of students, and testing of students' reading skills shows that the program is successful.

The Book Bag Program grew out of a partnership created in 2015 between Lyn Knoll, the Texas-based specialty retailer Conn's, and First Book, a nonprofit organization that provides access to new books for children in need. Initially, Conn's and First Book donated 1,000 books to the elementary school.

Every week, each student gets to take a book bag home with five books that have been chosen to support their independent reading level. Students are encouraged to read for 30 minutes each day at home. The Book Bag Program also supports ELL students with their English language skills. The assistant principal, Community Liaison, and parent volunteers help the Family Liaison to replenish and replace books, and to make sure each bag is suitable for each child. New books are purchased with PTSO money, while older books currently in the building are also used.

In a community where many families do not have books of their own and the closest public library is two miles away, students and families are encouraged to read and learn through the Book Bag Program.