

Reading Grandmas and Grandpas project



About Niilo Mäki Institute

The Niilo Mäki Institute functions as a unit in multidisciplinary research and development work for learning disabilities. The area of operation is centralised in the prevention of the youth from dissociating with their educational responsibilities as early as possible.

About reading grandmas and grandpas

The Reading Grandmas and Grandpas project is funded by the Finnish Slot Machine Association. The project focuses in developing two new programs:

- 1) Grandmas and Grandpas read with children who study Finnish as their second language. Supporting the children's Finnish vocabulary development is essential.
- 2) Immigrant seniors read with children in their own mother tongue. This model is implemented as a weekly afternoon language club in Multicultural Center Gloria.



For students

We are hoping to get volunteer students to take part in the second program. The club will start in the fall of 2016. We especially hope to get **international students involved**. Here are the opportunities:

- 1) **Guiding seniors and children in the club.** An assisting role. If motivated, planning and implementing the club structure and contents is very desirable.
- 2) **Reading to children in the club.** There is a need for readers when seniors are absent. Reading can be done in any language, depending on the reader's mother tongue.
- 3) **Making contents to project's web pages and Facebook,** e.g. writing pieces of news.
- 4) **Lukusilta.fi parent education website.** Planning the marketing and developing contents in different languages.
- 5) **Writing your thesis.** Data would be gathered as a part of the project. Please read more below.

It is possible to write your thesis as a part of the research project. A broad evaluation has been done about the project's first program earlier this year. There are multiple alternatives to focus your research on what interests you. Theme could be for example examining children's linguistic identities (qualitative method). Project staff provides help in addition to your formal supervision.

Join us! There are plenty of options to work with – for lower engagement level students but also for more motivated and committed ones. All work is appreciated!

Please read more: www.nmi.fi / www.lukumummitjavaarit.fi