

**Learning Squared Liberia PROJECT Report:
SUPPORT RURAL GIRLS EDUCATION IN LIBERIA
(50009).**

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INTRODUCTION:

This report provides an overview of recent activities implemented under the project, covering the period from July 2024 to October 2024. Activities were conducted in Montserrado, Bomi, and Margibi counties, Liberia, to enhance educational access and foster literacy and STEM skills among students. The report covers the following key areas:

2.0 PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW:

2.1 Support for STEM Program and Reading Clubs

The Support for STEM Program and Reading Clubs aimed to empower students with essential skills in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) while fostering literacy and a love for reading, especially among girls in rural communities. Students were provided with resources like basic science kits, calculators, and instructional materials, and they participated in workshops: Designed to make abstract scientific concepts engaging and accessible, these sessions sparked curiosity among students, particularly those with limited exposure to lab-based learning. The Reading Clubs, specifically targeting girls, provided a supportive environment to develop literacy skills and instill a love for reading. Each club received age-appropriate books across genres, including fiction, non-fiction, and educational texts. Club activities included:

Students gathered to discuss book themes, share insights, and practice reading aloud to improve fluency. Structured activities focused on building vocabulary and enhancing comprehension skills. Students engaged in storytelling exercises and shared books they enjoyed, promoting a collaborative and interactive learning environment. Learning Squared is enthusiastic about the program's impact in these three counties and is actively seeking support and additional funding to expand this initiative to other parts of Liberia.

2.2FY24 Back-to-School Book Ride

The FY24 Back-to-School Book Ride is a major initiative designed to equip schoolchildren with essential educational materials as they prepare for the new academic year. This year's activities took place in Montserrado and Margibi counties, to support 1,000 students, particularly in underserved areas, by providing them with the necessary resources to participate in their education fully. By supplying books, notebooks, pencils, and other stationery, the program aimed to alleviate the financial burden on families and ensure students have the tools needed for their studies. Providing students with essential resources is expected to improve attendance and promote active engagement in learning.

The Book Ride was organized in collaboration with local schools and community leaders. Distribution points were set up in accessible locations, and school officials ensured that materials reached the students who needed them most. This initiative highlighted the importance of resource accessibility in fostering educational engagement and represents a positive step toward ensuring all students, regardless of background, start the school year with confidence.

The report concludes with recommendations based on the successes and lessons learned from these activities. These recommendations include further expansion of the STEM and Reading Clubs program to additional regions, as well as continued support and potential scale-up of the Back-to-School Book Ride to reach even more students across Liberia. These initiatives have significantly contributed to educational engagement and access, aligning with Learning Squared’s mission to enhance learning opportunities for all children and promote sustainable community development.

