

Community Needs

Adequate libraries are scarce in rural areas around Mongolia. When there are libraries, books from the socialist era written by Marx, Lenin, and Engels make up at least half of their book selection. Communities depend on good, appropriate books for their children's development because often they are too distant from major city centers to even receive radio or television programs. It is not surprising to find children from these rural communities who have never had a chance to read interesting and exciting books written for children. Schools in these communities often function without any textbooks for their students, or manuals for their teachers. Without well trained teachers and quality learning materials, these children will not be able to reach their true educational potential.

Edurelief's Approach

Edurelief launched our School Library program in 2006 to provide children in rural Mongolia with better access to quality learning materials, age-appropriate literature and children's books. This program engages children in fun and meaningful ways, promoting a quality education and encouraging their interest in learning and discovery. Our ambition is to:

- Provide rural communities and schools with access to quality learning materials, literature and children's books.
- Promote interest in reading and learning in rural communities and schools and integrate library resources into classrooms.
- Train community members and school staff to support program sustainability and ensure libraries are well run.

Program Results

As of December 2009, Edurelief's School Library Program has reached over 5,000 children in poor, rural areas. These communities and their schools now have access to textbooks, children's books, and literature books which are sparking renewed interest in learning and helping open the door to a better future. With your help, we can reach our goal of starting 10 new library programs by the end of 2010.