

Seven Stick Steps

To organizing a stellar book drive

Book drives are a great way to give back to your community, whether you are donating to a local library, or giving it to kids in Africa when they start a school. Sometimes a book drive may seem like a daunting task. But, follow these steps and you'll be sure to have a fantastic book drive!

- 1) Find a drop off location and date and time
Finding a location and time for people to drop off their books is a crucial step in organizing a book drive. Make sure you have volunteers who are able to watch over the book drive and are able to collect all the books. Or, put book bins around your campus where people can drop off books. Just make sure you collect them at the end of the book drive, and always make sure they are **indoors** in case there is any rain!
- 2) Decide where you want the books to go to, and make sure they can take it!
Do you want to give it to your local library, or are you looking into an international organization such as Better World Books (one of our International Service Partners) or Room to Read? Reach out to them to see if they're interested in taking the books you have to donate, so that you are not stuck with hundreds of books and nothing to do!
- 3) Get volunteers who are willing to help with the shipping or movement of the books!
Transportation is one of the most difficult parts of any book drive, because books are heavy and typically cost a lot to ship. Find volunteers who are willing to help drive the books to a library, if the library is interested in them, or grab a group of members who don't mind helping you pack the books to be shipped to another location.
- 4) Advertise to your local community and your campus
Promote, promote, promote! Put flyers around your campus, mention it to your Kiwanis clubs and make sure everyone **in the area knows about your book drive**. It would be particularly helpful to also reach out to college departments that are getting rid of their textbooks. Not only is this great publicity for your book drive, but it's also **great publicity for your club!**
- 5) Collect the books!
Run the book drive! Make sure your volunteers are happy, hydrated and ready to get to work! Collection goes by much more easily if everyone knows what they're doing ☺
- 6) Ship them to the people who want the books (or drive them over, depending on how close they are)
Remember those volunteers in step 3? Follow up on them and make sure they get those books shipped or driven over to the drop off point!
- 7) Announce your success and celebrate!
Announce to your campus how many books you got and where all the books went! Then celebrate and make sure to thank all your volunteers!