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CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL
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StoryTime
Young Author’s Spotlight
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The Akada Children's Book Festival (ACBF) is a showcase of children's books written for a diverse audience of children. To the best of our knowledge, ACBF is the first Nigerian book festival entirely dedicated to children's literature. The gathering was held for the first time in 2019. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the second edition of the event was held online and despite all the challenges that the world encountered in 2020, the online festival was another success, attracting over 1,600 participants from Ghana, Madagascar, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, Rwanda, Estonia and various states across Nigeria.

The 2021 event is also being held online and expanded over 3 days. On the first day of the festival, Thursday July 1st, there will be professional workshops for children's book writers, illustrators and publishers. On the second day, Friday July 2nd, there will be insightful workshops, sessions for parents and teachers while on the 3rd day, Saturday July 3rd, there will be author book readings; Book Chat; Giggle Box; Happy Tunes; StoryTime; pop quizzes and prizes; fun workshops for children. Please check the program schedule for full details.

Enjoy the festival!
Convener's Welcome

It is a joy and a delight for me to welcome you to the 2021 edition of the Akada Children’s Book Festival.

Last year more than 1,600 people (children, parents, teachers, grandparents, authors, etc) joined the festival online from Ghana, Madagascar, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, Rwanda, Estonia and Nigeria.

Here we are, hosting the 3rd edition of the Akada Children’s Book Festival and we are online once again, utilising the wonder of technology that makes it possible for us to revel in our love of books together, even though we are physically apart.

We have a wonderful 3-day line up for you this year filled with picture book authors; early chapter book authors; YA authors. All geared up to delight the heart of young readers everywhere.

We have book chats, book readings, the book exhibition, the festival bookstore, story time, GiggleBox (comedy for kids), Happy Tunes (singalong songs for children), Mummy Daddy Me Let’s Workout! (fitness for the whole family) and the virtual art gallery.

New this year we have Publisher’s Forum; a panel discussion; Young Author’s Spotlight; a 4-hour Write Like A Pro! creative writing workshop and KidTheatricks.

The festival wouldn’t be complete without the professional workshops for the amazing writers, illustrators and publishers who create all this fabulous content for children.

In this magazine you will find the full schedule for the festival as well as all the speaker profiles and the session summaries.

I thank all of the authors, guest speakers, young readers, participants as well as our sponsors and partners; the Akada Children’s Book Festival team; the advisory board; and the working group. God bless you all and welcome to the 3rd edition of the Akada Children’s Book Festival.

Olubunmi Aboderin-Talabi
Convener, Akada Children’s Book Festival

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ACBF 2021
TEAM

MEET THE 2021 AKADA CHILDREN’S BOOK FESTIVAL (ACBF) TEAM

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Convener, Akada Children's Book Festival

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Funmbi Popoola
Communications Officer

Jide Aboderin
Magazine Co-ordinator

Ishola Samuel
Magazine Graphics Designer
SESSION SCHEDULE
ACBF 2021 Day 1 - Thursday July 01

WRITE LIKE A PRO!
Sarah Odedina & Deborah Ahenkorah

Do you want to learn how to write excellent stories? This session walks you through the process of developing plots; themes; and outlines as well as building characters and bringing them to life in stories. Learn how to describe your settings and create good dialogue. The sample stories and interactive writing exercises are the highlights of this session.

THE IMPORTANCE OF AFRICAN'S CHILDREN'S BOOKS LOCALLY AND GLOBALLY.
Enajite Efemuaye, Farida Ladipo-Ajayi, Tunde Lawal-Solarin

A head of a multi-generational children's book publishing house; a dedicated literacy champion; and a seasoned editor expound on the vital role of African children's books around the world. Learn insights on the impact of having relatable children's books; their success stories as well as their challenges as social and business entrepreneurs in the children's book industry. This is a rich conversation that cuts across social entrepreneurship as well as the business of African books.

INSIGHTS INTO BEING A PUBLISHER
Gbemi Shasore

The iconic Gbemi Sashore of Quramo Publishing, shares on her life as a publisher, as well as her works propagating African history through books, films and plays. In this engaging Publisher’s Forum, learn tips on identifying the hidden gems amongst an influx of manuscripts.
DANGERS OF SELF-EDITING
Coco Anetor-Sokei

Your familiarity with your manuscripts can cause you to make avoidable yet costly errors. Find out how you can save yourself time and money as you work on self-publishing your book.

PODCASTING FOR AUTHORS
Chioma Momah

Podcasting is not as difficult as you think! This session demystifies podcasting and how it can be a useful marketing tool for authors.

CREATING DYNAMIC ILLUSTRATIONS FOR CHILDREN’S BOOKS
Tolu Shofule

A must watch for illustrators at any stage of their career. Learn creative tips on the use of expression; point of view; environment; placement and much more, to bring your drawings to life. Don't miss the practical demonstration.

WHY YOU NEED A LITERARY AGENT
Sarah Odedina & Deborah Ahenkorah

From Africa to the world! In this very enlightening session with two literary agents, find out the benefits of having capable representation and how your book can be published internationally.
SESSION SCHEDULE
ACBF 2021 Day 2 - Friday July 02

Day 2 - 2:00pm - (35min)

READING TO CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
Tonye Faloughi-Ekezie

Learn how to read to a child with special needs and cater to the needs of each child as a parent and guardian. Develop their interest in reading, engage their minds while spending quality time with your child. Finally, learn creative ways to answer their many questions even as you read on together.

Day 2 - 3:00pm - (20min)

RAISING INDEPENDENT AND RESILIENT LEARNERS
Craig Heaton

Get advice from a senior professional who has spent many years working with children and educators. Learn how to guide your children so that they can become resilient and independent learners, giving them the confidence and capabilities they may need to face the future. Learn the 7Cs Strategies that will help a child thrive and how to cultivate this in your day-to-day interactions.

Day 2 - 4:00pm - (35min)

HOW TO DEVELOP THE ENTREPRENEURIAL STREAK IN YOUR CHILDREN
Bowale Agboade

Learn the importance of developing an entrepreneurial mindset in your child. This session focuses on developing the mind of your child beyond technical skills and education. Learn how to raise a child who is future-ready. Do certificates and formal education alone guarantee a child will succeed in life? This session examines the relevance of other life skills, beyond technical and educational attainments.
A BUSY PARENT’S GUIDE: CREATING ENDEARING MEMORIES WITH YOUR CHILDREN
Toyin Onigbanjo

As parents and guardians we have super busy lives and schedules at times. This session provides tips on optimising the time spent with your child, recognising bonding opportunities in day-to-day tasks and finding ways to proactively make the most of these occasions.

FEED THEM RIGHT: SUPERFOODS FOR CHILDREN
Ifeyinwa Omisiete

What are super foods and why are they are important in the development of a child’s mind and meeting developmental goals? In this session, we learn about five super foods our children need in their diet to grow and develop creative minds.

RAISING MONEYWISE CHILDREN
Olubunmi Aboderin-Talabi

Learn the five Ps of generating, preserving and growing wealth that transcends generations and gain tips for talking to your children about money management.
SESSION SCHEDULE
ACBF 2021 Day 3 - Friday July 02

Day 3 - 8:00am (1hr)

Book Chat: My Favourite Children's Books
Jemima

Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Litattafina
Happy Tunes Crew

StoryTime: The Legend of Ataoja
Ayo Oyeku

Children’s Workshop: Artistic Achievements: Illustration 101
Yvonne Ogbechi

Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Dance!
Safari FITNESS

Book Reading: Risi Recycle
Temiloluwa Adeshina

GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids
Davidsyn

Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Litattafina (2021 Remix)
Happy Tunes Crew

Day 3 - 9:00am - (1hr)

Children's Workshop: Money: Spend It or Save It?
Wunmi Benson-Ajila

StoryTime: Izi and Larry The Dinosaur and the Nigeria Civil War
OluSegun Akande

Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Balanced Diet (2021 Remix)
Happy Tunes Crew

Book Chat: My Favourite Children's Books
Smartkid Obi

GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids
Davidsyn

Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Workout!
Maje Ayida

Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Balanced Diet
Happy Tunes Crew
**Day 3 - 10:00am - (1hr)**

**Children's Workshop: A Day In The Life Of A Filmmaker**
Katie Manley

**Young Author Spotlight: Max the Footballer**
Oluwadarasimi Fagbayi

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Dance!**
Safari FITNESS

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Going To The Supermarket (2021 Remix)**
Happy Tunes Crew

**StoryTime: Ginika's Adventure**
Nnenna Ochiche

**GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids**
Davidsyn

**Book Reading: Tobi Learns To Swim**
Baroness Lola Young

---

**Day 3 - 11:00am - (1hr)**

**Children's Workshop: Worry, Go Away!**
Yejide Kilanko

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Workout!**
Maje Ayida

**StoryTime: Captain Excellence and The Little Big Orange**
Izehi Anuge

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Dance!**
Safari FITNESS

**Book Chat: My Favourite Children's Books**
Dorcas Ikyia

**GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids**
Davidsyn

**Book Chat: My Favourite Children's Books**
Awele Okonkwo

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Happy Song**
Happy Tunes Crew
Day 3 - 12:00pm - (1hr)

Children's Workshop: Who Am I?
Bolanle Ogunnaike

StoryTime: Boom Boom
Jude Idada

Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Dance!
Safari FITNESS

Young Author's Spotlight: The Life of An Exciting And Brilliant Boy
Temiloluwa Modele

Book Reading: Bundi
Joseph Aderoju

Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Comeback!
Happy Tunes Crew

GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids
Davidsyn

Day 3 - 1:00pm - (1hr)

Book Reading: Why Do We Have To Move?
Lara David-Odufuwa

Children's Workshop: Super Fit Me!
Edirin Metseagharun

Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Balanced Diet (2021 Remix)
Happy Tunes Crew

GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids
Davidsyn

Book Reading - Shaka Zuľu Learns To Dance
Louisa Olafuyi & Oladele Olafuyi
Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Litattafrica (2021 Remix)
Happy Tunes Crew

Children's Workshop: Parent Appreciation
Oyinye Odih

Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Workout!
Maje Ayida

Book Reading - Half Hour Hara and The Case of The Broken Eggs
Ugo Anidi
Day 3 - 2:00pm - (1hr)

**KidTheatrics: My Happy Place**
Supreme Education Foundation School

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let’s Workout!**
Maje Ayida

**GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids**
Davidsyn

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Litattafina**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Book Reading: Why Do You Wash Your Hands?**
The Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Going To The Supermarket**
Happy Tunes Crew

Day 3 - 3:00pm - (1hr)

**Book Reading: Tobi Visits The Conservatory**
Juliana Olayode

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Comeback!**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Children’s Workshop: Staying Safe In Dangerous Situations**
Ndidi Chiazor-Enenmor

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Dance!**
Safari FITNESS

**Book Reading: A Fun ABC**
Sade Fadipe

**Book Reading: The Canary That Couldn’t Sing**
Tayo Oyetayo

**GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids**
Davidsyn
**Day 3 - 4:00pm - (1hr)**

**Book Reading: My Dad Is A Superhero**
Olayemi Ejemai

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Balanced Diet (2021 Remix)**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Children's Workshop: Overcoming Peer Pressure**
Chigozie Mbadugha (Abuja)

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Dance!**
Safari FITNESS

**Book Reading: Adventures Of Mister Sweet Potato**
Chinyere Ifediora

**Book Chat: My Favourite Children’s Books**
Olufunke Oluyemi (PH)

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Litattafina (2021 Remix)**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Book Chat: My Favourite Children's Books**
Olubunmi Aboderin-Talabi

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**Day 3 - 5:00pm - (1hr)**

**GiggleBox: Comedy For Children**
Davidsyn

**Book Reading: My Fruits My Alphabet**
Ndidi Chiazor-Enenmor

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Going To The Supermarket (2021 Remix)**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Children’s Workshop: I CAN BE GREAT!**
Carrol Nelson

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let's Workout!**
Maje Ayida

**Book Chat: My Favourite Children's Books**
Kemisola Adetola

**Artist In Residence**
Seyi Oni

**Children's Workshop: Use Your Words**
Jennifer Nwokeji
Day 3 - 6:00pm - (1hr)

**GiggleBox: Comedy For Kids**
Davidsyn

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Comeback!**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Book Reading: Kob the Antelope**
Olubunmi Aboderin Talabi

**Children’s Workshop: Crafty Creations: Knitting 101**
Elizabeth Okeyele

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let’s Dance!**
Safari FITNESS

**Book Chat: My Favourite Children’s Books**
Kimberley Ajayi-Bembe

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Going To The Supermarket**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Book Reading: Daddy Do My Hair**
Tola Okogwu

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Day 3 - 7:00pm - (1hr)

**Young Author's Spotlight: Iremide The Singing Sensation**
Amy Abu (Abuja)

**GiggleBox: Comedy For Children**
Davidsyn

**Book Reading: Diary Of A Toddler**
Ibrahim Suleiman

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Litattafina**
Happy Tunes Crew

**Children's Workshop: 10 Golden Rules Of Writing**
Adeola Eze

**Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let’s Workout!**
Maje Ayida

**Book Chat: My Favourite Children's Books**
Semilore Okojie

**Happy Tunes: Sing Along: Litattafina (2021 Remix)**
Happy Tunes Crew
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>About Akada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Convener’s Welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>ACBF 2021 Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Session Schedule ACBF Day 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Session Schedule ACBF Day 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Session Schedule ACBF Day 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Akada Children’s Book Festival Editorial Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Advisory Board Members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Friends of the Festival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Akada 2020 Feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Special Guest AKADA 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>When I Read, Whose Picture Do I See? Whose Voice Do I Hear?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>World Kid Lit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>7 Easy, Realistic Steps to More Effective Parenting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Book Readings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Special Guest Book Readings at ACBF 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Story Time at ACBF 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Book Chats at ACBF 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Children’s Workshops at ACBF 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Young Author’s Spotlight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Professional Workshops; Panel Discussion; Publisher’s Forum at ACBF2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Parents’ and Teachers’ Workshops at ACBF 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Performing Artists at ACBF2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Illustrators and Artists at ACBF2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Fitness Coaches at ACBF 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
This year we received over 100 book submissions for the Akada Children’s Book Festival. The hard-working editorial team read through all the material and faced the difficult choice of selecting the books to feature during the event. Thank you to everyone that participated.
ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

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2020 FEEDBACK

We need more events like this to promote the reading culture in Nigeria.

I so much love the animation session.

Well done to the team!

Awesome time today. I had a great time. My son wants it to be longer.

Interesting tips.

Thank you for this tips.

Kudos to this Initiative. I have learnt a lot and hope to bring that alive.

Very Insightful session... Thank you.
SPECIAL GUESTS

The Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson
Gbemi Shasore
Baroness Lola Young
Ibrahim Suleiman
Juliana Olayode
Alex Unusual
WHEN I READ, WHOSE PICTURE DO I SEE? WHOSE VOICE DO I HEAR?

Recently, I asked one of my sons to describe the tooth fairy in his upcoming book. He said the fairy will be blonde. “Blonde? Why blonde?” I asked. He shrugged and asked, “Well, do they come in other colours?” Thinking about it, I don’t often see fairies in any other skin colour. Another time, I put up a post on my Instagram page asking people to share names of books they read as children which featured characters with disabilities and I got recommendations for only four books! Of the four books recommended, two were foreign. Even then, I could only recall reading one of the four as a YA book in secondary school.

These anecdotes unfortunately are not unique to me. There are other instances where lack of black and disability representation in children’s literature has been reported. For instance, in a recent study done in the UK, only 7% of children’s books published featured a main character who is Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME). Also, in another study done in 2019 in the US, only 3.4% of the children’s books featured a main character with a disability. It would have been interesting though to see the Nigerian comparative figure (at least for disability representation) or a similar study done in a Nigerian context but lack of data made this impossible.

This lack of representation can be deemed problematic in many ways. One of such ways (which I also experienced during my book reading sessions) is the role it plays in the perpetuation of stigmatisation and discrimination among children.

Stigmatisation and discrimination reflect the cultural schemas of disability (in the forms of ideas and beliefs) which are held by people who do not have disabilities and are transferred to different generations.

Children as active agents and participants in society are likely to be handed these schemas which they then use to interpret the meaning of disabilities and inform their disposition towards people with disabilities. The lack of representation in children’s literature can therefore worsen the chances of reshaping those schemas and bridging the knowledge gap.

The impact of children’s literature on cognitive and personality development especially in the early years of school cannot be understated. Importantly, the use of characters with disabilities within children’s literature provides an effective way of entwining disability awareness and character education into existing
curriculum in order to address everyday issues such as stigmatisation and
discrimination.
Reading children's literature about characters with disabilities can help young
people learn about important concepts such as kindness and empathy. It also
reinforces the need to respect and accept individual differences, unlearn disablist
prejudice and develop positive attitudes towards themselves and others. For
children with disabilities, representation in children's literature can allow them to
experience identification and inclusion particularly when their lived experiences
are not only depicted in stereotypical or
negative frames.
Considering the role of books as
metaphorical windows, and mirrors,
disability representation should be
encouraged in children's books. This
means going beyond writing about
children with disabilities in passive voices
and amplifying own voice narratives. This
should be further strengthened by
encouraging books written by people with
disabilities themselves. Finally, beyond the
inclusion of characters with disabilities in
children's books, the reading of such
books should also be promoted at home,
in schools and in libraries.

Some recommended books featuring human and animal
characters with a disability or neurodevelopmental disorder
by Nigerian and Foreign authors:

1. I am not naughty- I really really mean it! By Basirat Razaq-Shuaib
2. Ugo and Sim Sim- What is Down Syndrome? By Tonye Faloughi-Ekezie
3. Adventures of Muna- A safety guide about children with special needs By Ugochi Obidiegwu
4. My name is Nimi By Bukola Ayinde
5. God made us all By Olayemi Ejemai PhD
6. Princess Ellya Aims for Gold by Blandine Carsalade
7. My Brother Charlie By Holly Robinson Peete
8. Dacky's Deaf by Jack Hughes
9. Dragans can Sing By Basirat Razaq-Shuaib
10. What the Jackdaw Saw By Julia Donaldson

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childrens-books/
awareness and empathy through children's literature about characters with
disabilities: A cognitive stylistic analysis of Rodman Philbrick's Freak The Mighty.
First launched in 2016 by a collective of translators, World Kid Lit celebrates and promotes books for children and teens translated into English from other languages. The #WorldKidLit hashtag and our annual celebration of translated children's books in September, #WorldKidLitMonth, are grassroots campaigns led by a growing community of passionate kid lit aficionados.

We would like to see more diversity in English-language publishing, to give a richer and more realistic representation of the multicultural and multilingual world we live in. We aim to make it easier to find children's and YA books in translation into English from other languages. Our team of volunteers shines a spotlight on books from around the world with reviews, author interviews, publisher profiles, reading lists by country and hot tips on books we think deserve to be translated into English.

A new regular feature on the World Kid Lit Facebook page are live events with translators, authors, publishers and other experts. Each panel showcases children's and YA books from a different region or looks at an aspect of publishing children's books in translation. We've had the pleasure of hosting panels on Arabic Literature, Central European Literature and translating kidlit. Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming live panels on African kid lit in August—to be hosted by Ayọ Oyeku—and several regions in Asia later in the year.

World Kid Lit Month in September is the highlight of the year. With Facebook events, daily blog posts by guests and the hashtag #WorldKidLitMonth across social media—Twitter, Instagram, Facebook—World Kid Lit Month is the perfect opportunity to find out about global reading for young people.

We'd love to see even more people get involved! Why not join us?
Are you an educator or librarian working with books in translation?
Do you read books in translation at home with your family?
Do you work with or read an indigenous language that is less represented in English translation?

Tell us about your experiences, focusing on any way in which children's books/YA and translation intersect. We'd love to hear from you in any of the following ways:

* a short video (max 5 mins)
* a written article (max 800 words)
* a book review (max 600 words)

Email us at worldkidlit@gmail.com
Submissions from young readers welcome too! And don’t forget to use the #WorldKidLit month to tell us about what you’re reading in September!

Johanna McCalmont
Can we all admit once and for all that parenting is tough and motherhood isn’t any easier. I love to describe parenting as an ongoing process that involves a lot of learning, unlearning, and relearning. It pretty much involves parents learning on the job and then committing to raising their kids in the way they wished their parents did. When it comes to my all-time parenting tips or hacks, these are my favourite seven. Please, check them out below.

1. Praise more, criticise less

Ever wondered how you react to your kids? Ever wondered if you’ve actually been nice or hostile? Well, you may find yourself criticizing more than complimenting if you take a deep look. The more effective approach is to catch your kids being good. Compliment them when they do anything good. Statements like; I was watching you play with your sister and you were very patient can be very encouraging. “You made your bed yourself, wow that’s a good boy”. Make praising your child over something he or she does very day a habit and you’ll soon find that you’re more complimenting than criticizing and as such, you’ll help your daughter or son inculcate good habits.

2. Set limits and be consistent with your discipline style

The main goal of discipline is to help kids choose acceptable behaviours as well as learn self-control as discipline is imperative in every household. There is a need for you to establish house rules that will guide your kids. Just because you’re being nice and praise them does not necessarily mean you should not be tough when you need to be. You should have a system in place where you’ll need to set rules that if broken, certain punishments will follow.
3 Be flexible and willing to adjust your Parenting Style.

Your choice of parenting style might not just work with each of your children. Simply put, parent your child according to his or her personality. If you feel let down as a result of some expectations you have, there's a need for you to actually have a re-think as children also have different personalities and it won't be right for you to actually impose your perception on them. So, be flexible and adjust your parenting style once you notice it's not suitable for your child.

4 Boost your Child's Self-Esteem

Kids start developing a sense of self as babies and learn to absorb every language, tone, body language, and expression they get from their parents. Words and actions of parents actually go a long way in developing self-esteem in kids more than anything else. Avoid making loaded statements and using curse words as they can cause damage just as a physical blow. Choose words carefully around your kids and ensure you're always optimistic around them, show love and support, as well as compassionate behavior.

5 Make Communication a Priority

Communication plays a vital role in making you more patient with your kids. You need to explain things to them. Understand that they don't know much and they need guidance over everything. If you don't educate and explain things they won't understand and as such a breach in communication lines can actually go a long way in disorienting whatever you have planned. Make your expectations clear, if there is a problem, describe it, express your feelings and invite your child to work on a solution with you.

6 Show Unconditional Love

Kids start developing a sense of self as babies and learn to absorb every language, tone, body language, and expression they get from their parents. Words and actions of parents actually go a long way in developing self-esteem in kids more than anything else. Avoid making loaded statements and using curse words as they can cause damage just as a physical blow. Choose words carefully around your kids and ensure you're always optimistic around them, show love and support, as well as compassionate behavior.
7 Know Your Own Needs And Limitations As A Parent

There's no perfect human, you can only do your best to be perfect and as such, as a parent, you need to identify your weaknesses and work towards ensuring you turn them into your strengths. Parenting is no easy task so be realistic about your expectations for yourself, your spouse, and your kids. You don't have to have all the answers-be forgiving of yourself and try to make parenting a manageable job.

About Fabmumng

Fabmumng is a parenting and lifestyle resource site for parents, especially mums. It is a wholesome community established in 2018 by a triplet mum to help you parent with ease. You can connect with us on our website http://www.fabmumng.com and across social media platforms at @fabmumng. For inquiries or more information, please email info@fabmumng.com.
BOOK READINGS
AT ACBF 2021

LARA DAVID-ODUFUWA

Lara is a best-selling author of "Why Do We Have To Move". She holds a BSc in Biochemistry, a MSc in Human Resources Management from Walden University, USA and a Diploma in Business and Digital Marketing.

OMOTAYO OYETAYO

Omotayo is a chartered accountant by profession. She writes fictional stories and novels that help children improve their interpersonal skills and promotes the importance of good morals with the belief that her story books will change the life of one child at a time.
Ndidi Chiazor-Enemor


Olayemi Ejemai

Olayemi Ejemai, Ph.D.; FCCA; FCA; FCIT; is an author of children’s picture storybooks and the CEO of BooksbyEMO. She’s a mother of 3 wonderful children (2 girls and a boy who happen to be special), and a wife to Oluwaseun Ejemai. She is also a fellow of Association of Chartered Accountants, Institute of Chartered accountant of Nigeria, Chartered Institute of Taxation of Nigeria. She has a day job and lectures on a part-time basis.
TOLA OKOGWU

Tola is a British-Nigerian Author, Journalist and Hair Care Educator. Born in Nigeria but raised in London, she holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism. Her self-published picture book series, DADDY DO MY HAIR is a firm family favourite.

JOSEPH ADEROJU

Joseph self-published author, illustrator, educator, screenwriter, copywriter, business development consultant, producer and TV director. His peculiar passion is teaching the next generation of writer’s the rudiment of writing. He has been honoured with many invitations as a visiting author from various schools.
CHINYERE IFEDIORA

Chinyere Evelyn Ifediora is a lawyer and author. She is an enthusiast of early childhood development and supports community causes for children's well-being.

SADE FADIFE

Sade majorly lived and schooled in Kent with her English foster mother, for the first six years of her life, before relocating to Nigeria with her parents. After a first degree in English (Linguistics) and a bag of cultural accessories, she returned to England.
OLADELE & LOUISA OLADEVU

Couple Profile:

Dele and Louisa are both marketers with experience working for top businesses. The couple met in London in 2013 and moved to Cambridge in 2017 where Dele completed his MBA at Cambridge University, Judge Business School, and Louisa worked as a senior product marketer at Cambridge University Press.

UGO ANIDI

Ugo Anidi’s writing career began in primary school where she wrote and illustrated chapter books and sold them to her classmates. She works as Regional Advisor of the Nigerian chapter of the SCBWI.
TEMÍLOLUWA ADESHINA

Temiloluwa Adeshina is a radio presenter, author, serial social entrepreneur and a seasoned British Curriculum Teacher, and consultant with more than a decade old experience. She is the host of the weekly Readland Reading Adventure. It is a read-aloud session.

OLUBUNMI ABODERIN-TALABI

Olubunmi is an author; the publisher of Clever Clogs Books; and the convener of the Akada Children's Book Festival. She is passionate about creating visually-engaging, culturally-relevant content for children, and has a desire to see steadily increasing literacy rates within her community and others.
SPECIAL GUEST BOOK READINGS
AT ACBF 2021

The Duchess of York, Sarah Ferguson

The Duchess of York is a global humanitarian, businesswoman, best selling children’s book author, speaker, producer, wellness advocate and now novelist with her first novel to be published in August. The Duchess has published over 70 books including two autobiographies and titles dealing with health, empowerment, history, art, as well as children’s stories.

Baroness Lola Young

After an extensive career in acting, Lola became a professor of Cultural Studies, a writer, broadcaster and cultural critic. She has been an independent Crossbench member of the House of Lords since 2004, after serving as Head of Culture at the Greater London Authority for two years. Since 2018, Lola has been Co-Chair of the Foundation for Future London.
Ibrahim Suleiman

Ibrahim "CaptainQuest" Suleiman is a Nigerian-based Architect, Digital Artist, Actor, Voiceover artist, Choreographer, Writer, Model and Filmmaker.

Juliana Olayode

Olayode Juliana Oluwatobiloba is a multiple award winning Actor, Bestselling Author, Public Speaker and Brand Ambassador. She started her acting career in Nollywood in 2014 when featured in a Television Series Titled "ME, MYSELF AND MY DIARY". Her big break came when she acted in The popular Nigerian Television Series Titled "Jenifa's Diary" and a lot more.
STORY TIME
AT ACBF 2021

AYO OYEKU

Ayo Oyeku is a writer of prose, poetry, and screenplay. His first children's book, First Among Equals, was selected by the World Bank for distribution across schools and libraries in the country. His young-adult novel, Tears of the Lonely, won the Ezenwa Ohaeto Prize for Fiction, by the Society of Young Nigerian Writers.

OLUSEGUN AKANDE

As well as being a fantasy fiction novelist, Olusegun Akande is the author of the Amazing Adventures of Izi and Larry the Dinosaur children's books series.
NNENNA IJEOMA OCHICHE

Nnenna is a medical doctor with a bias for Community Medicine. Her love for writing enables her to use it as a tool for health education, as well as to motivate her readers to embrace African stories. Ginika's Adventures is her second book. It was on the long list for the NLNG Prize for Literature in 2019.

IZEHI ANUGE

Meet Izehi Anuge – The Author, Visionary, Values Based Educator & Excellence Advocate

Izehi Anuge, a Trainer, Speaker and Author is driven by excellence in every aspects of life.

JUDE IDADA

A winner of the NLNG Nigeria Prize for Literature, an AMAA best screenplay award, ANAA prize for Drama, a nominee for the prestigious University of Iowa International Writing Program, a Goethe Institut Afrika Projekt finalist and a long-listed and short-listed nominee of the NLNG Nigeria Prize for Literature.
BOOK CHATS
AT ACBF 2021

AWELE CHUKWUDI-OKONKWO
Awele Chukwudi-Okonkwo is currently in Year 3. She is an interesting child, very outspoken and caring, she loves to read and make presentations on different subject matters. She loves to sing, bake and swim. She has won numerous awards in her school and is always picked for a presentation.

SEMILORE OKOJIE
Semilore Okojie is a 5-year-old multitalented boy. He is an avid child reader, book reviewer and story-teller in the making. He started reading and reviewing books at the age of two with a preference for his favorite African Author – Bunmi Aboderin Talabi; an influence that amassed his interest in African books. He is extremely playful, witty and can talk the hind legs off a horse like a mini consultant.

MRS. KIMBERLEY AJAYI-BEMBE
Mrs. Kimberley Ajayi-Bembe is a British Citizen who relocated to Lagos 12 years ago, she has been an early years professional in both Scotland and Nigeria for 14 years, she is the School Director at The Nurturing Tree which started in 2017. Mrs Kimberley has a passion for building the right foundation and giving the children the necessary skills for an easy transition to school, her personal goal is to ensure the children adopt a love for books.
JEMIMA

A violinist and football fan, Year 2 student Jemima loves reading, learning and swimming. Jemima assisted the Editorial Board of the 2021 Akada Children’s Book Festival by reading and reviewing many of the books submitted. She also assisted the festival planning team by providing feedback on product development from the perspective of the intended audience, children.

Hi! My name is Dorcas Ikya. You can call me the bookfairy, the booklady, reading specialist, book whisperer!

My love of literacy started at an early age. I grew in a book loving home. I’m also a trained educator with 17 years of work experience as a school teacher and head of school.

OLUFUNKE OLUYEMI

Olufunke Oluyemi is the founder of Infant and Toddler’s Corner, an early childhood education resource and consultancy organization. With a background in Information and Communication Technology, she gained experience in the financial services and Information Technology sector before starting up the early childhood organization. She is certified as a Montessori early childhood educator and a Professional Early Years Consultant.
Master Obioma Maduekeh (popularly known as #ProfObioma) is a multi-talented 6 years old prolific reader, presenter, and storyteller. He is a kidpreneur and the CEO of SmartKidObi Media. He regularly reviews diverse children's books and produces content that encourages kids to read books, and models good behaviors and values.

Kemisola Adetola is the founder of Book Hangout, a socially engaging community of readers channelled towards redefining the reading narratives in Nigeria and Africa at large. She is a PR consultant at ADVerb Agency where she is working with businesses, personal brands with authors to create valuable social engagements around the theme of their books, as well as driving sales and distributions.

Olubunmi Aboderin Talabi is an author; the publisher of Clever Clogs Books; and the convener of the Akada Children’s Book Festival. She is passionate about creating visually-engaging, culturally-relevant content for children, and has a desire to see steadily increasing literacy rates within her community and others. Olubunmi is also the immediate past Executive Council Chairperson of Women in Management, Business and Public Service (WIMBIZ); as well as the Chairperson, Board of Trustees, of the OA Foundation.
CHILDREN’S WORKSHOPS
AT ACBF 2021

Omowunmi Ajila

Wunmi is a Banker with one of the leading financial organizations in Africa.

With over 15 years' experience in the financial services industry; she has played lead roles in Private and Offshore Banking, Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Sustainability Management, Project Management and Customer Relationship Management (CRM). She has received several awards and recognition for her outstanding performance and impact.

Yvonne Ogbechi

- Won a creative writing award in Year 5 [2013]
- Wrote and illustrated my first children's book for a class project in Year 12 [2020]
- Won a Silver Key in the Comic Art section of the Scholastic Art and Writing awards [2021]
Katie Manley
Katie Manley made her break into the entertainment industry at age 19 as a Production Coordinator in New York City. At age 20, she landed her first feature film job on Learning to Drive, starring Sir Ben Kingsley and Patricia Clarkson. She has worked on several films, television shows and Broadway shows such as Little Monsters (film), While We're Young (film), "The Elephant Man" (Broadway show), Power (show), Broad City (show), and The Black Panther (film).

Yejide Kilanko
Yejide Kilanko was born in Ibadan, Nigeria. A writer of fiction and poetry, Kilanko's debut novel, Daughters Who Walk This Path, a Canadian national bestseller, was longlisted for the 2016 Nigeria Literature Prize. Her work includes a novella, Chasing Butterflies (2015), two children's picture books, There Is An Elephant In My Wardrobe (2019), and Juba and The Fireball (2020).

Bolanle Ogunnaike
Bolanle Ogunnaike is an Interior Architect and Designer by profession, with a great passion for community development and culture preservation. She is particular about connecting the younger generation to their Nigerian heritage by reading fun and relatable story and activity books through a modern and creative lens, which she believes is the true representation of today’s Nigeria.
**Edirin Metseagharun**

Edirin Metseagharun is a teacher, public speaker, and a counselor with strong passion for children's health and fitness. She is a certified Health Coach and has a degree in Educational Management with bias for Primary Education. She also has a certificate in Diet, Nutrition and Exercise for children.

**Ndidi Chiaozor-Enenmor**


**Onyinye Odih**

Onyinye Odih is an early childhood, author and speaker. She expresses herself in several ways to fulfil her desire to build stronger families. As a teaching practitioner, she has worked with families for many years and her understanding of parents and their involvement with their children has been an outstanding achievement for her.
Chigozie Anuli Mbadugha

Chigozie Anuli Mbadugha is a Nigerian writer and ophthalmologist. Chigozie wrote her first unpublished novel at the age of six. The first edition of her debut publication - Beyond the Trial was awarded the Samuel Ajayi Crowther prize in 2017. She has written six children and young adult books with the help of her hyperactive muses. When Chigozie is not performing eye surgeries, she tries to write “eye-popping” fiction, listen to music, and spend quality time with her family.

Carrol Nelson

Carrol is a published author of children's books, with an extensive background in Personal Development Coaching and Mentoring as well as a Cognitive Behavioural Therapist.

Her passion for writing was reignited whilst she was working with disadvantaged children and young people in the care system.

Okeyele Elizabeth

Okeyele Elizabeth is a graduate of textile technology from yaba college of technology and a certified knitting teacher recognized by the craft yarn council of america. Elizabeth is the author of knitting ABC Book, 22 inspired patterns for the young to explore and the founder of tunnize creation.
Adeola Eze

Adeola Eze is an educationist with over twenty-three years of teaching experience. She graduated in English Studies from Olabisi Onabanjo University in 1997. She began her career as an educationist at Mason College, Festac Town, in 1998 as an English and Literature-in-English teacher. After that, she had a brief stint at Scottfield School, Amuwo – Odofin as the English teacher. She worked as a Teacher at Greensprings School, Anthony, for four years.

Jennifer Nwokeji

Jennifer Nwokeji is an educator and author who is passionate about making positive impacts in the lives of young children, especially struggling children. As a second career educator, her life's goal is to see that young children believe in themselves and reach their full potential. She is happily married and blessed with two biological children.
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www.safarifitness.eu/studios
YOUNG AUTHOR’S SPOTLIGHT AT ACBF 2021

TEMILOLUWA MODELE

Temiloluwa Modele is an eleven year-old. His love for books have been greatly inspired with the vibrant reading programs and activities he enjoyed in the schools. This love for books has motivated him to write his book, The Life of an Exciting and Brilliant Boy.

AMY ABU

Amy Abu is a creative writer who enjoys playing the piano, singing and playing dress-up in her spare time. She wrote her first story at the tender age of 6. Her passion for writing has produced several unpublished manuscripts.

OLUWADARASIMI FAGBAYI

Oluwadarasimi Fagbayi is eight years old and presently in Year 4. His dream is to play football for his favourite premier league football team one day.
PROFESSIONAL WORKSHOPS
PANEL DISCUSSION,
PUBLISHER’S FORUM
AT ACBF 2021

Publisher’s Forum: Insights Into Being A Publisher
Gbemi Shasore

Gbemi Shasore is the Executive Publisher of Quramo Publishing Limited, an indigenous media company dedicated to producing quality content for its diverse audience.

Write Like A Pro!
Sarah Odedina

Sarah Odedina has worked in publishing for more than 2 decades. As the Publishing Director of the children's list of Bloomsbury Publishing, she oversaw the publication of the Harry Potter series as well as published many other best-selling prize-winning novels and picture books. In 2011 Sarah founded the successful and award-winning Hot Key Books.

Write Like A Pro!
Deborah Ahenkorah

Deborah Ahenkorah Osei-Agyekum has built and led several organizations all of whose goals have been to give children across Africa culturally-relevant books to fall in love with. Her publishing house, African Bureau Stories, is committed to providing increased opportunities for African writers and illustrators to publish locally and internationally.
The Dangers of Self Editing
Coco Anetor-Sokei

Coco is a media professional who is passionate about telling stories through visual media, and skilled at leveraging digital communities to boost brand awareness, and build loyalty. When she isn't working, she is binging on Netflix shows while wolfing down dried fruits, or getting life and Indian drama updates from her daughter.

Podcasting For Authors
Chioma Momah

Chioma Momah is a lawyer, writer and inspirational/parenting blogger. This mother of four is the author of the children's books "First day at the Big School" and "Fun Day at the Museum" as well as the Goals, Gratitude and Growth Journal. Chioma is also the founder of “Let's Encourage A Reading Nation” (L.E.A.R.N) which is aimed at improving literacy among children.

Creating Dynamic Illustrations For Children's Books
Tolu Shofule

Tolu Shofule is an illustrator, an author, a creative designer, and a publisher of children's books. For his background in Architecture, Illustrations and Character Animation, Tolu has had the pleasure of working on a myriad of projects.
The Importance of African Children’s Books Locally and Globally
Enajite Efemuaye

Enajite is an editor, freelance writer and former graphic artist. She gets paid to read: a fact that does not cease to amaze her. She tweets about dodo and other randomness from her twitter handle and will edit your work for a reasonable fee.

The Importance of African Children’s Books Locally and Globally
Farida Ladipo-Ajayi

Farida is a social impact entrepreneur advocating for literacy in Nigeria. She is the founder and literacy leader at The Bookworm Cafe. Farida is passionate about children’s literature especially literature that are mirrors for African children. She is also passionate about literacy and loves helping educators and parents become aware of its importance. She is a Tony Elumelu entrepreneur and a Cherie Blair mentee.

The Importance of African Children’s Books Locally and Globally
Tunde Lawal-Solarin

Bjorn Olatunde Lawal- Solarin is the Chief Executive Officer of Lantern Books, Literamed publications and founder of the Book Swap Foundation. He is an award winning writer, trained in filmmaking, web design, graphic design and 3D animation.
PARENTS’ AND TEACHERS’ WORKSHOPS
AT ACBF 2021

Reading To Children With Special Needs
Tonye Faloughi-Ekezie

Mrs. Tonye Faloughi-Ekezie is a wife, mother and entrepreneur. As the head of TEEOF Media, she consults on media and entertainment projects for a range of clients.

Raising Moneywise Children
Olubunmi Aboderin-Talabi

Olubunmi Aboderin Talabi is an author; the publisher of Clever Clogs Books; and the convener of the Akada Children’s Book Festival. She is passionate about creating visually-engaging, culturally-relevant content for children, and has a desire to see steadily increasing literacy rates within her community and others.

How To Develop the Entrepreneurial Streak in Your Children
Bowale Agboade

Bowale is a serial entrepreneur with a deep passion for empowering female entrepreneurs with skills and knowledge to help them succeed in life and business. She is the Founder of Entrepreneur Girl Africa, a thriving community of African business women. She is also the founder of Kid Entrepreneurs.
Creating Endearing Memories With Your Children
Toyin Onigbanjo

Oluwatoyin Onigbanjo is an award-winning child nutrition advocate and Founder of Augustsecrets. She is a children's recipe developer, author, family enthusiast and gender & growth advocate for women. Toyin holds a Masters' Degree in International Affairs from the University of Lagos, A Bachelor's Degree in English & Literature.

Feed Them Right: Superfoods for Children
Ifeyinwa Omesiete

She is a certified Nutritionist with a Bsc in Nutritional Sciences from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, USA. She consults at various hospitals for children of all ages; where she treats medical and dietary ailments. She creates and introduces innovative recipes designed to improve a child's diet based on their diagnosis, physical activity and age requirements.

Raising Independent and Resilient Children
Craig Heaton

Craig Heaton has over 25 years educational experience, as a schoolteacher and Head Teacher. During the course of his career he has taught across the educational age range in seven different schools. He was appointed to his first headship position at the age of 30 and has held successful headship positions in a further five schools.
PERFORMING ARTISTS
AT ACBF 2021

Supreme Education Foundation School
KidTheatrics: My Happy Place
Supreme Education Foundation Schools is a centre of excellence designed to provide world-class education in an exciting learning environment with a vision to attain the highest standards of excellence in academics and total development of its students.

Davidsyn
GiggleBox: Comedy For Children
Davidsyn is an MC, standup Comedian, Actor and Content creator. He holds a bachelors degree in Entrepreneurial and Business Management From the prestigious National Open University.

Glowreeyah Braimah
Glowreeyah: Recording Artiste
Glowreeyah Braimah is a versatile and globally-acclaimed Kingdom Personality. As a distinct Worship-Leader and Music Minister, Glowreeyah has graciously been on various ministry, corporate, political and international platforms around the world.
ILLUSTRATORS AND ARTISTS AT ACBF 2021

by Seyi Oni

by Tolu Shofule

by Yvonne Ogbeci

by Ayodele Somolu

by Rume Ohimor

by Oluwapelumi Oluyemi
by Seun Folaranmi  
by Titi Fagbemi  
by Wuraola Fagbamiye  
by Wunmi Obe  
by Ayodamola Ojerinde  

**YOUNG PICASSO CLUB**  
by Oyinade Adejugbe  
by Fikayo Adeniyi  
by Inioluwa Adamolekun
Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let’s Workout!

Maje Ayida is a Nigerian Wellness Coach and CEO of the award winning Health and Fitness Brand, Eden Lifestyle. Maje spent 10 years in banking in the UK, having gone through the full education system there. He has been a columnist for two national newspapers and makes numerous television and radio appearances, educating and motivating Nigerians on healthy living.

Mummy, Daddy and Me: Let’s Dance!

Safari® is a unique African inspired fitness program. The rhythms include Afrobeats, Bhangra, Calypso, Latin & Soca. We are headquartered in Nigeria, UK & Belgium with Safari® Instructors in different countries worldwide.