



# The Lubuto Library Project

*Bringing knowledge and enlightenment to Africa's most vulnerable children*

## GUIDELINES FOR DONATING BOOKS FOR LUBUTO LIBRARY COLLECTIONS<sup>©</sup>

Lubuto is committed to compiling strong collections of excellent books for street kids, orphans and other vulnerable children in Zambia. Needed are picture books, fiction and non-fiction, but especially **informational books with lots of illustrations or photographs** along with simple explanations and definitions. Books should be in **brand-new condition**, not outdated, and in English. Reference books should be current and in complete sets. **Hardcover is preferred** but sturdy trade paperback books can also be included.

**We cannot use:** pop-up books, magazines, textbooks, instruction manuals, pamphlets, study guides, school readers, publishers' advance reading copies, single volumes from an incomplete set, movie and television tie-ins (for example, Disney books), or books that strongly seek to promote a particular cause or religious or ideological point of view.



### General considerations and guidelines:

- Books are for boys and girls from early childhood through about age 18 whose first language is usually not English.
- Lubuto collections are non-circulating; the children will only be able to read books during visits to the library.
- Books dealing with subjects relevant only to the U.S. should be limited in number.
- We especially seek **books about or set in Africa**. Also, some books written for an African-American audience will make very good additions to Lubuto collections.
- **Books should be in great condition, containing no scribbling, torn or discolored pages or broken spines.**

### Good non-fiction choices:

- Well-presented illustrated books on nature, science, sports, crafts, technology, geography, history and especially **biographies**;
- Simple, clear explanations of how things work;
- Simple science books (which don't require equipment for doing experiments);
- Factual stories about how children live all over the world;
- We do not include books that strongly seek to promote a particular cause or religious or ideological point of view.

### Good fiction choices:

- Stories, poetry and drama--but please be sensitive to cultural and economic differences; one way to ensure that you are transcending cultural differences is to stick to the classics: **classical and folk literature**.
- Top-notch, but shorter and easily-readable, contemporary stories, mysteries, science fiction, historical fiction, classic titles for young readers; **no long novels or series books for older readers**.
- **Easy chapter books** with real-life stories and human characters (rather than complex fantasy stories).
- **Think about books that embody the ways in which reading brings hope into the world.**
- Please omit books that reflect a very affluent lifestyle (big houses, cars, lots of electronic equipment and other possessions).

***"Everything big that occurred in the world occurred in someone's imagination."***  
Astrid Lindgren, 1907-2002

**WE EMPHASIZE RESPECT FOR USERS OF LUBUTO LIBRARIES AND INCLUDE ONLY THE BESTBOOKS IN LUBUTO COLLECTIONS.**