

2007-2022

THE  
**LITWORLD**<sup>®</sup>  
STORY



CELEBRATING

**15**

YEARS OF CHANGE

# OUR

# STORY

# SO

# FAR



LitWorld strengthens kids and communities through the power of stories. By giving children a safe space to learn and grow, we help them **discover their voices and change the world.**

In 2022, we are proud to celebrate **15 years** of spreading joy, creating change, and transforming lives around the globe. From impact numbers to testimonies from LitKids themselves, **here are just a few ways to tell the LitWorld story.**

***ENJOY!***



# 1

# OUR UNIQUE APPROACH

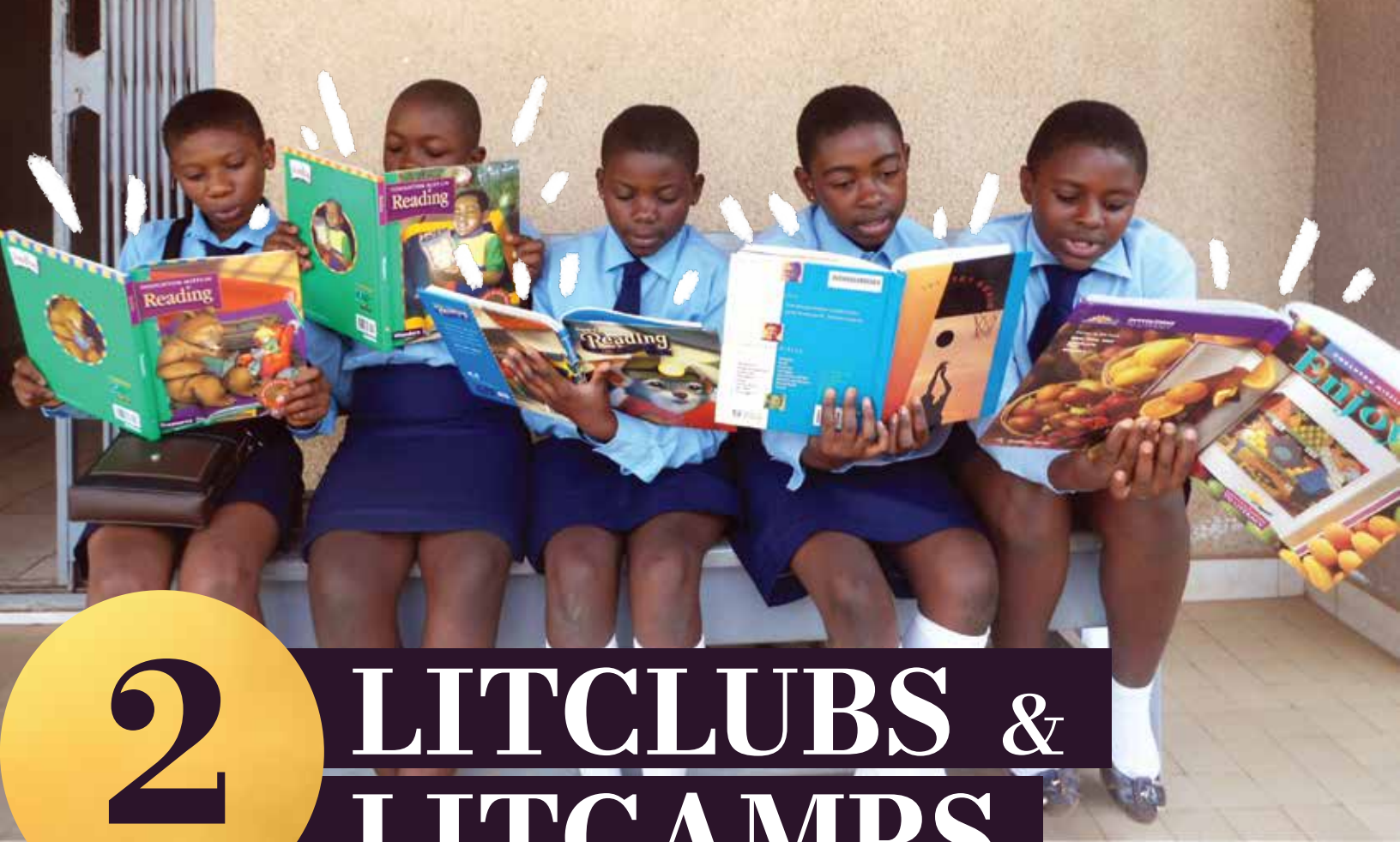
At LitWorld, we believe that reading should be a positive experience for all children.

Based in LitWorld's signature **7 Strengths framework**, our innovative programs feature a unique blend of literacy, storytelling, and social emotional learning. These practices not only allow kids to discover the joy of stories, but are also directly linked to **improved health, well-being, and civic engagement**.

## LITWORLD'S 7 STRENGTHS



By partnering with local, grassroots organizations that understand the culture and needs of their communities, we can then scale and share our work—**helping children everywhere to reach their full potential and create change for generations to come.**



# 2

# LITCLUBS & LITCAMPS

## LITCLUB

The most prolific of LitWorld’s programs is the **LitClub**. These year-round after school programs are a space for **joyful learning, creative self-expression, and community building**. Over the years, different versions of LitClub have evolved to specifically engage girls, boys, teens, and caregivers. LitClubs take place all around the globe and always reflect the communities and cultures in which they are run, providing young people everywhere **safe spaces to share their true voices**.

## LITCAMP

LitCamp emerged when LitClub participants across the globe called for year-round safe spaces to tell and share stories. Designed to accommodate school breaks in our partner communities, **LitCamp is flexible enough to be enjoyed any time, anywhere**.

In 2015, LitWorld partnered with Scholastic, the world’s largest publisher and distributor of children’s books, to create a structured version of the program for summer schools. **LitCamp now engages over a million kids across the United States** and has led to several iterations including LitCamp en Español and LitCamp at Home.



# 3

## WORLD READ ALLOUD DAY

As with most things LitWorld, the idea for LitWorld's signature annual advocacy day came from a child. After a special read aloud with his class, a student asked, "**Why don't we create a birthday party for the read aloud?**"

*...And so we did!*

Since its founding in 2010, World Read Aloud day has mobilized **millions around the globe** to celebrate the transformational power of reading aloud and to demand literacy rights for all. From celebrities to students to families, this day is an opportunity to celebrate the power of oral storytelling as a vehicle for **amplifying voices and bringing communities together.**



# OUR PARTNERS

# 4

**Our partners are at the center of our work.** Since LitWorld began in 2007, we have worked closely with our wide network of on-the-ground organizations to craft, scale, and deliver our pedagogy and programs. These partners ensure that our work **reflects each community's cultural needs** and that those we serve are **equal stakeholders in our mission.**

## OUR GLOBAL NETWORK



[Click here to view our full partner network](#)

# 5

# OUR NUMBERS

SINCE 2007...

**120,000**

*kids, teens, and adults in LitClubs*

**+1MM**

*kids in summer LitCamps across the U.S.*

**+90MM**

*annual participants in World Read Aloud Day*

**160**

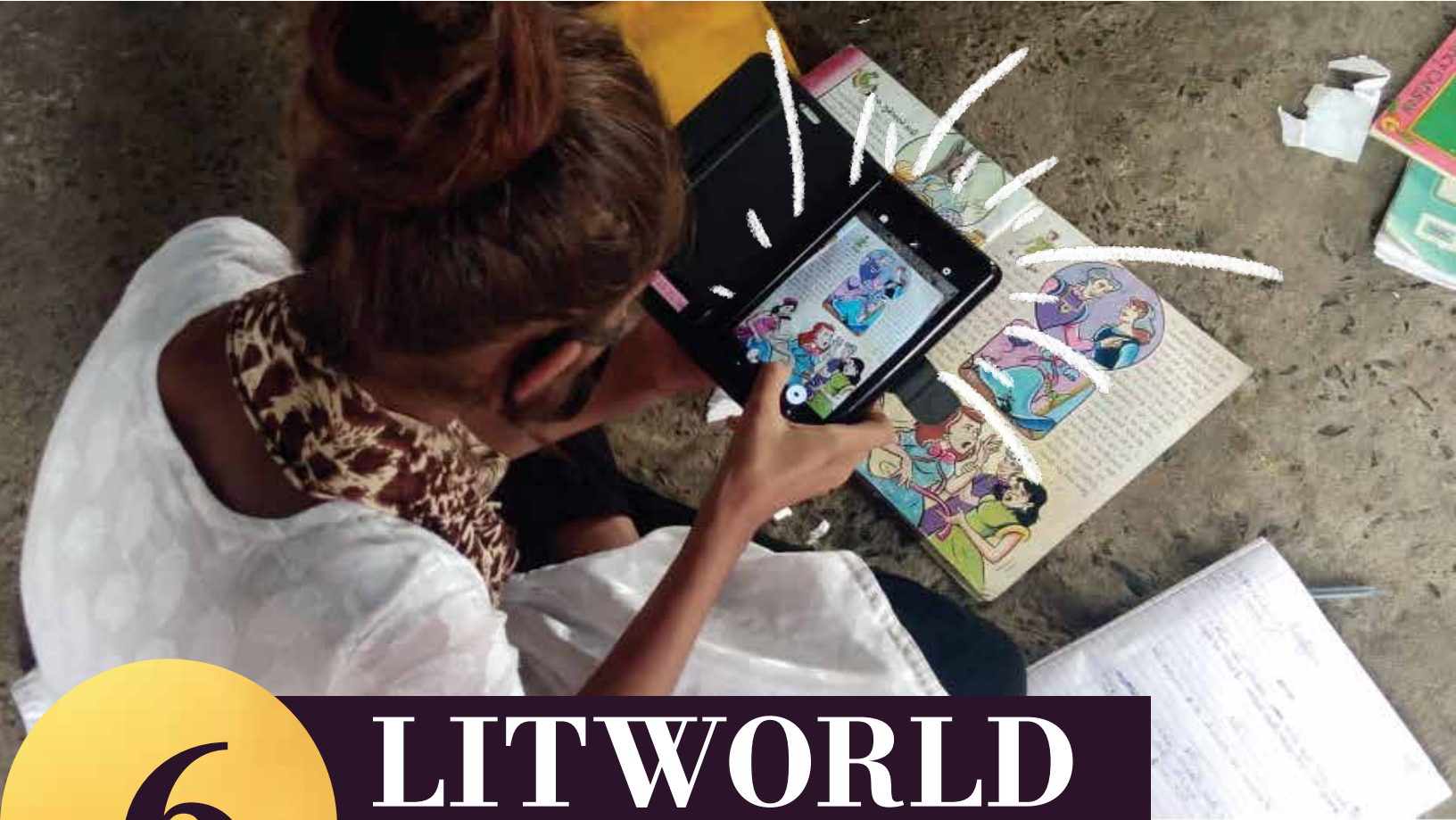
*countries engaged in LitWorld programs*

**+100**

*global partners*

LitWorld began with a single LitClub in Kibera, Kenya. Today, we are a global organization creating lasting change for **hundreds of communities around the world.**

For a scope of just how many lives LitWorld has helped transform, check out these **jaw-dropping impact numbers from the past 15 years.**



# 6

# LITWORLD ADAPTS

Thanks to our uniquely flexible and adaptive model, LitWorld has kept children **safe and engaged in their learning** throughout crises like COVID-19 and beyond. From **providing critical resources** such as food kits and cellphones to **creating online programming** like Virtual LitClubs and LitCamp at Home, LitWorld remains dedicated to giving every child the opportunity they deserve to learn, grow, and thrive—**no matter the circumstances.**

## LITMOM OUTREACH



*LitMoms delivering LitKits at Project PEARLS, Philippines*

## VIRTUAL LITCLUBS



*An episode of LitWorld's Virtual LitClubs*

## EMERGENCY RELIEF



*Mentors & LitKids distributing food at Seeds of Hope, Pakistan*

# 7

# INNOVATION PROJECTS



Museo Rayo's "Traveling Library" Innovation Project uses mobile libraries to bring joyful learning to remote communities throughout Roldanillo, Colombia

In 2021, LitWorld piloted two new partnership models: **Network Partners and Innovation Partners**. Our Network Partners help scale LitClubs and other LitWorld programming, while Innovation Partners help deepen our impact and explore new ways of creating change in communities through 'Innovation Projects'.

Thanks to these models, LitWorld has been able to help partners find unique solutions tailored to the needs of their community while **discovering more ways to enrich young lives** in not only the communities we serve, but for children everywhere.

COMMUNAL CHICKEN COOP INNOVATION PROJECT



ART OF A CHILD, UGANDA





# 8

# OUR TIMELINE

From the very first LitClub to our brand-new Innovation Partnerships, explore the moments that have **defined the LitWorld story** in our [timeline](#) or [photo gallery](#).

[Click here to view the photo gallery](#)

[Click here to explore the timeline](#)



# “I AM” POEMS

# 9

“I Am” poems are a signature LitWorld activity that allow us tell the **unique stories of who we are**. Beginning each line with “I Am...”, these poems can be about anything that has helped shaped you into the person you are today.

Check out this sample “I Am” poem, then craft your own and **upload it to our padlet** to add your voice to the LitWorld story!

I AM...

I am from hot summers and frigid winters.  
I am from honking horns, the beat of a backyard party, and the call of the mourning dove.  
I am from reading and traveling the world.  
I am from jumbo crab legs, my mother’s mac ‘n cheese, and the perfect cupcake.  
I am from a world where everyone gets what they need and everyone is cared for.

[Click here to upload your poem](#)

# 10 YOU!

Whether tonight is your first introduction to LitWorld or you have been with us for the past 15 years, we are so grateful to have you as part of our LitWorld family. From LitClubs and LitCamps to World Read Aloud Day and beyond, **all of our work is made possible by you.** Thank you for supporting our mission, our partners, and our LitKids and communities in the U.S. and around the globe. You are an integral part of the LitWorld story—**here's to the next 15 years!**

Thank you!





## WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO

PAM ALLYN  
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