**Reading books helps children become global citizens**

Reading books has always been considered a fundamental activity in a child's life, helping them develop various skills and understandings that shape their future. Beyond the cognitive benefits, reading plays a significant role in shaping children into global citizens with a broader perspective on the world around them. By engaging with diverse narratives, characters, and cultures, children can develop empathy, awareness, and an appreciation for the world's diversity.

One of the key ways in which reading books helps children become global citizens is by exposing them to different cultures and beliefs. Through stories set in various countries and communities, children can learn about different traditions, languages, and ways of life. This exposure helps foster an understanding and respect for cultural differences, preparing children to navigate an increasingly interconnected world.

Moreover, reading books can spark curiosity and a sense of wonder about the world. Children who read about different places and experiences are more likely to develop a sense of empathy and a desire to learn more about the world beyond their immediate surroundings. This curiosity can drive them to explore new ideas, seek out diverse perspectives, and engage with global issues.

Furthermore, books can act as windows and mirrors for children, allowing them to see themselves reflected in stories and to gain insights into the lives of others. By reading about characters from diverse backgrounds and experiences, children can develop a sense of empathy and understanding that transcends their own lived realities. This ability to empathise with others is a crucial skill for becoming a global citizen who can relate to and connect with people from different walks of life.

In addition, reading books can help children develop critical thinking and analytical skills that are essential for navigating an increasingly complex and interconnected world. By engaging with different perspectives and exploring complex themes, children learn to question assumptions, think critically, and form their own opinions. These skills are vital for fostering a sense of global citizenship and encouraging children to become active participants in creating a more inclusive and equitable world.

In conclusion, reading books is a powerful tool for helping children become global citizens. Through exposure to diverse cultures, experiences, and perspectives, children can develop empathy, curiosity, and critical thinking skills that are essential for engaging with the world around them. By fostering a love of reading and an appreciation for diverse stories, we can empower children to become compassionate, informed, and active members of a global community.