

The Read and Write Forever Project
of
The University of Uyo Synthetic Phonics Research and
Implementation Team

FACULTY OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF UYO

The History of the Project.

Jolly Phonics, a fast track synthetic phonics strategy was conceived out of a need to solve the problem of lack of resourcefulness among primary schools teachers and the desire to provide pupils with basic literacy skills. A pilot study of some selected public schools in Uyo Local Government Area revealed that primary school teachers lacked skills in production of low cost instructional materials (Ekpo and Ekukinam, 2005). The results of the study were further articulated in another pilot study carried out in six schools selected from the three Senatorial districts of Akwa Ibom State. This study was jointly conceived by a University of Uyo Research Team led by Prof. Comfort Ekpo and Mr. Gary Foxcroft of the Stepping Stones Nigeria.

The results of the pilot study revealed that pupils in the experimental class taught with Jolly Phonics resources had a significant reading age of seventeen months above pupils in the control classroom taught with conventional method (Ekpo, Ikorok, Afangideh, Ekukinam 2006). The positive results from the pilot study culminated in a proposal to expose a greater number of teachers in Akwa Ibom State to this strategy. This proposal was initially handicapped by lack of funds. In 2007, Stepping Stones Nigeria (SSN) was able to sponsor the training of 1,000 Primary One teachers in Akwa Ibom State. This was made possible through the provision of jolly phonics learning resources by Christopher Jolly, a UK based businessman, who donated the required resources free of charge to all Akwa Ibom State pupils. The State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB) was brought into the scene to partner towards the training of teachers and monitoring the implementation.

The Read And Write Now project (RAWN) was later expanded and converted to the Read And Write Forever project (RAWF) as the Implementation Team

Incorporated strategies for project sustainability. These included Monitoring, Mentoring, Teacher Networks structure and Research activities. In addition, the University of Uyo contributed significantly by providing an accommodation for a Literacy Resource Centre which was fully equipped through the benevolence of a UK based Non-Governmental Organisation, Waterloo in 2014. The University of Uyo Management Team and Universal Learning Solutions purchased a dedicated vehicle for monitoring the implementation of the project. To further buttress the sustainability of the project; the UNIUYO jolly team initiated a pilot study in the College of Education, Afaha Nsit to ensure that every student-teacher is exposed to Jolly Phonics skills at the point of receiving the initial teacher training. The aim is to incorporate synthetic phonics into the National Certificate of Education Curriculum.

Currently Read and Write Forever project has been assessed and adopted in thirty States in Nigeria through the collaboration of University of Uyo Jolly Phonics Research Team, Universal Learning Solutions (ULS), Christopher Jolly Publishers, SUBEB and Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC). University of Uyo Jolly Phonics Research Team provides the following services to Akwa Ibom State and Nigeria as a whole:

- **Training of teachers**
- Monitoring and mentoring of teachers in the field
- Distribution of Resources
- Organization of individual, small groups, and large group workshops
- Organization of occasional literacy campaigns

ACTIVITIES OF THE TEAM

TRAINING

The team has embarked on various training activities under the RAWN and RAWF in the past seven years.

Primary 1 Teacher Training

In August 2010 expert Jolly Phonics trainers from all over Nigeria along with the UNIYO team delivered the first batch of Jolly Phonics training to 1445 Primary 1 and head teachers from State primary schools.

Again in 2011 the second batch of 800 Primary One pupils was trained.

Primary 2 Teacher Training

In September 2011 and April 2014 the UNIYO Team of expert jolly phonics trainers delivered Jolly Phonics training to 1,000 and 822 Primary 2 teachers respectively, during the RAWN and RAWF projects, improving their ability to teach literacy to Primary 2 pupils.

Primary 1 Refresher Training

In 2011 the UNIUYO team also delivered one-day of refresher training to 565 Primary teachers, filling any gap in their knowledge and equip them with confidence to teach Jolly Phonics effectively.

ECCD Training

In July 2015 the Jolly phonics training was extended to 750 Early Year Child Care teachers in the State. To enable pupils at this level benefit from the use of the method as well.

Over 4000 teachers in the State have been trained so far in the use of the Jolly phonics learning resources and strategies.

National and International Trainings

The UNIUYO team and its Jolly Phonics project has become models for other States in the country , consequently the team has been invited to several States of Nigeria and beyond Nigeria, to train and mentor other teachers, government officials, project coordinators and academics on the implementation of the synthetic phonics strategy and the management of the project .

Monitoring and Mentoring

The team visits public schools where Jolly Phonics strategy and Jolly learning resources are utilized to monitor and mentor Jolly Phonics teachers giving them the required support, ensuring the method is being properly implemented and helping to address implementation challenges they may have. All the 31 Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom State have been visited by the team.

The UK Project partners also pay monitoring visits to schools in the state. Monitoring activities include:

- Routine monitoring by project staff
- Termly coordinated monitoring by the entire team
- Inclusion of SUBEB Staff and Ministry officials in the monitoring
- Teacher Leader now monitors schools in their L.G.A.

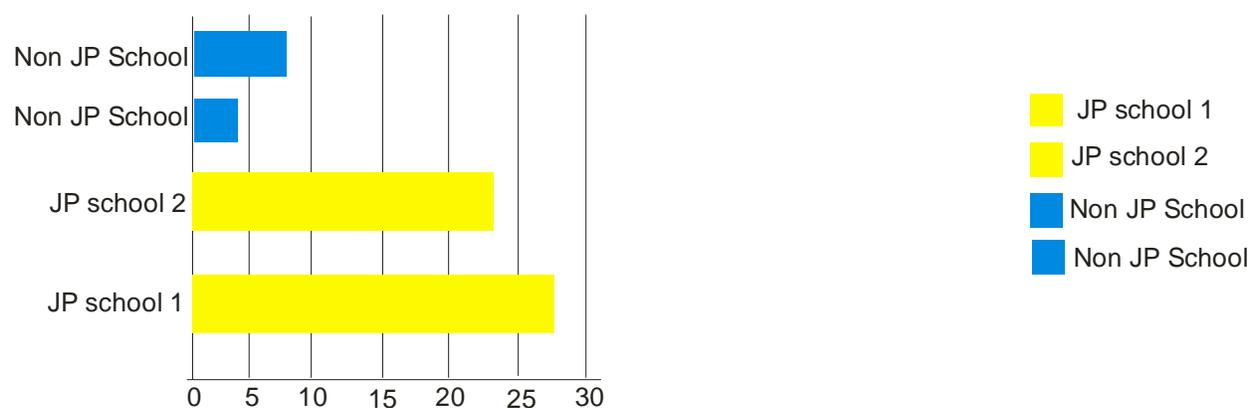
The team has been able to monitor 820 schools so far.



Research

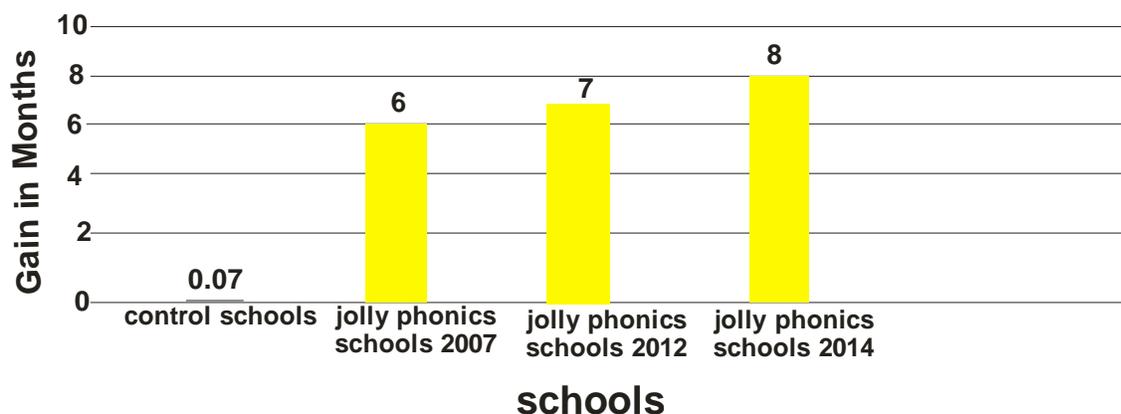
Research conducted by the University of Uyo Jolly phonics research team and independent assessors has revealed that the use of jolly phonics strategy has

been very effective in improving literacy level of pupils. The result of the 2015 pupil's assessment using the Burt Reading Test as shown in the fig. below shows that the Jolly Phonics children could read an average of 25 words, whereas the non-Jolly Phonics schools could read an average of 6 words. This means that according to BURT reading age norms, the children under the RAWN and RAWF projects were reading 12 months ahead of their non-project peers

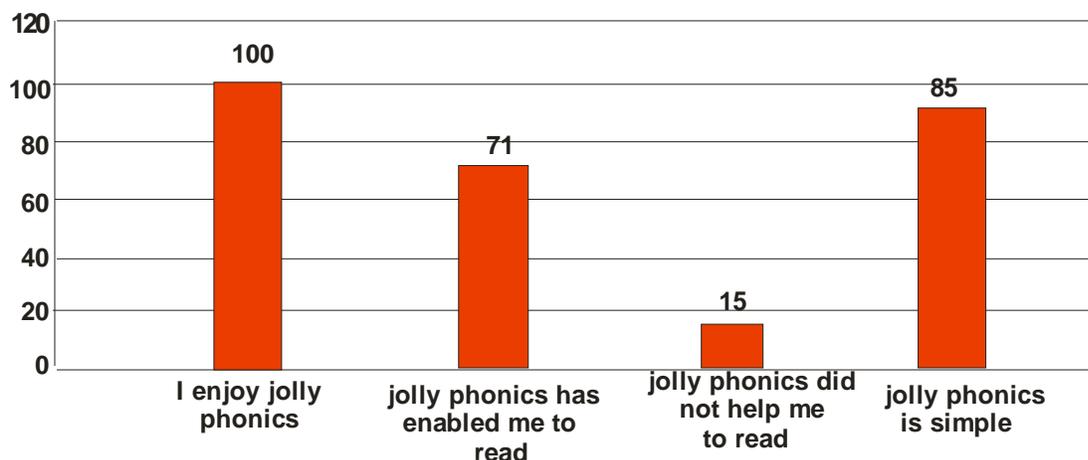


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These research findings have also shown that the reading age of the Pupils using the Jolly Phonics method has progressively increased from 6 years in 2007 to 8 years 2014.



It is also interesting to note that the external evaluation independently tested Primary 1 pupils and found that the reading age had increased even further, by 9 months. On October 2014, an external evaluation of 60 children learning with Jolly Phonics as shown in the chart below revealed that a high percentage of children agreed with the following statements:



The Grammar project

Grammar has to do with the teaching of spelling systematically; improved vocabulary and comprehension to reinforce the teaching of Jolly Phonics and extend the children's phonic knowledge. Teaching of grammar is multisensory, active, and progresses at a challenging pace. It is especially suitable for young children. It has to do with parts of speech, and it is taught with its own unique action and colours. The action makes the teaching interesting and the learning easy and delightful. The colours which are useful for identifying parts of speech in sentences, match those used by Montessori schools.

The grammar pilot started on March 2016 with six public primary schools, two schools each from the three senatorial districts of Akwa Ibom State. The pilot study took a period of one school calendar year in the junior section, precisely for primaries 2 and 3. The outcome was very encouraging as the pupils showed positive signs of better reading skills and comprehension. Furthermore, the teachers recommended that Jolly Grammar should be taught at the higher levels to help the pupils read with ease and confidence.

Teacher Networks

To ensure the best practice is widely circulated among the teachers, the UNIUYO team instituted Jolly Phonics Teacher Networks (JPTN) in all the 31 Local Government Areas of Akwa Ibom State. The JPTN teachers are the best teachers in their LGAs. This teacher leaders forum meets periodically to refresh their skills and discuss their achievements as well as challenges. Below is a table showing Local Government teacher network have been inaugurated.

S/N	MONTH/YEAR	NO.OF LGAS INAUGURATED	NO.OF PARTICIPANTS
1	June 2013	10	871
2	Nov/Dec 2014	19	701
3	March 2015	9	258
4	May – July 2015	14	374
	TOTAL		2,204

Teacher Network meetings have been inaugurated in all the Local Government Area in the State.

Life Player project

Akwa Ibom State was fortunate to be among the 3 states that benefited from the Life players project and Mentoring training of the British council. The Life Player is the first MP3- enabled multi-band radio designed and engineered for the humanitarian sector. This innovative learning tool combines radio and media player, and is powered by electricity, a solar panel with a safe winding mechanism. Jolly Phonics songs, stories, and African stories have been recorded onto the life players in order to enhance the impact of the Read And Write Forever in sixty schools.

The key objectives of the project were:

- To discover the extent to which life players can raise literary levels using the Jolly Phonics Learning Resources
- To provide teachers with suitable audio resources for the development of listening, speaking and reading skills.
- To improve awareness of synthetic phonics initiatives amongst community members.

Training for 111 teachers took place on the 8th and 9th of May 2014 at St. Michael's A/C school Effiat Offot, Uyo. The training ran concurrently at the three senatorial districts in the State, Uyo, Ikot Ekpene, and Eket. The pilot study took a

period of one school calendar year in the junior primary section involving six public primary schools selected as focus schools, two schools each from the three senatorial districts of the Akwa Ibom State. Baseline and end line tests were administered to the pupils. The findings show that using the Life player to teach Jolly Phonics has brought improvement in pupils' reading skills, thus increasing literacy levels of the pupils in Akwa Ibom State.

Distribution of Jolly Phonics Materials

A total of 135, 940 Pupil Books 1 and 2 (donated by Dr. Chris Jolly)has been successfully distributed to 1,100 primary schools by the UNIUYO Team from 2010 till date. The years of distribution of materials given to the 31 LGAS in the State are as follows:

August 2010, Book 1- a total of one hundred and twenty thousand cartons (120, 000 cartons) of books and Jolly songs – five hundred and eighty disc (580)
 Book 2- thirteen cartons given to Childs Right And Rehabilitation Network (CRARN) Hope Institute, Bane and Bebo, and Stepping Stones Model School, EsitEket. Three Hundred and ninety seven schools across the State have received Jolly Phonics materials.

September to November 2011 distribution:

Book 1- one thousand five hundred and sixty six (1,566 cartons)
 Book 2- one thousand five hundred and seventy four (1,574 cartons)
 Training VCD- one thousand five hundred and seventy one (1,571 disc)
 Jolly songs- one thousand five hundred and seventy one (1,571 disc)

A total of two hundred and thirty seven schools received Jolly Phonics materials at their various LEAS after Refresher workshop in October 2011. Therefore, a total of about one thousand cartons of pupil book 1&2 were given out to the various schools.

November 2012 distribution: Book 1- two thousand two hundred and ninety five (2,295 cartons)

Book 2- nine hundred and ninety five (995 cartons)

all these materials were successfully distributed to all the 1145 schools across the 31 LGAS of Akwa Ibom State.

October 2014 distribution: Book 1- one thousand one hundred and fifty five (1,555 cartons)

Book 2- five hundred and fifty three (554 cartons)

College of Education pilot study

From 2006 – 2017, many Primary One and Primary Two teachers in various states of the federation like Zamfara, Kebbi, Abuja, Cross River, Akwalbom, Abia, Anambra, Oyo, Rivers, Bayelsa, Jigawa, Plateau, Nasarawa, Enugu, Imo, Benue, Lagos, Ekiti have been trained in the strategy. The success story is on the net.

In 2016, it became necessary to focus attention on the Colleges of Education since the teacher trainees on graduation go to teach in primary schools.

- Pilot study in Colleges of Education

In October – November 2016 the possibility of integrating the Jolly Phonics Strategy into the Teacher Training Curriculum reached a crescendo that it just had to break forth.

A 'tink tank' comprising the Chief Executive Officer – Gary Foxcroft, RAWN Ambassador – Prof. Comfort Ekpo, Country Representative – Pat Uzu came up with a proposal. Twelve lecturers from six colleges selected from the six geopolitical zones of Nigeria were invited for a round table meeting in Abuja. This was the breakdown:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| • COE, AfahaNsit, Akwa Ibom State | 2 |
| • COE, Katsina Ala, Benue State | 2 |
| • FCE (T) Asaba, Delta State | 2 |
| • FCE Pank Shin, Plateau State | 2 |
| • COE, Gume, JigawaStatel | 2 |
| • FCE – COE Zuba ,Abuja | 2 |
| Total | 12 Lecturers |

In attendance also were Sarah Shepherd the Quality Assurance manager for Universal Learning Solutions, Maria Etokebe the facilitator/trainer, Dr. Sam Ugwuoti (desk officer for Jolly Phonics in NCCE). Mr. Badmus & Dr. Iquo Okon still of NCCE Abuja.

It started with a refresher training and at the end participants were put in groups to draft a working paper for the inclusion of Jolly Phonics in the NCCE Minimum Standard (Curriculum).

In December 2016 the six selected Colleges were given the go ahead to conduct a pilot study in their various colleges. Materials were distributed for this purpose by Sarah Shepherd. The NCCE officials were to be invited officially for the Endline Assignment. Five of the Colleges have completed the Pilot Study and the Endline Assessment administered by NCCE team.

- **College of Education- AfahaNsit.**

- **Initial attempts-**

In November 2014 the University of Uyo Jolly Phonics Research Team attempted a pilot study in COE AfahaNsit but it was disrupted by the National Strike of all Colleges of Education. On 22 – 23rd Sept 2016, a 2 day refresher training was organized again by the same group for selected staff of the College. The objective was to equip the selected lecturers with the needed proficiency and facility to function effectively in the proposed pilot study scheduled to hold in the College.

- **Abuja 2016.**

The November 2016 meeting of stakeholders in Abuja became a more vibrant stride and holistic in scope in a bid to incorporate this fast track multisensory approach to teaching children how to read and write into the NCCE curriculum. This therefore became very pertinent for legality, acceptability and functionality.

- **COE AfahaNsit Pilot Study: current picture.**

The COE Afaha Nsit attempts at a Pilot Study of 2014 had been subsumed by the nationally approved approach. The College plugged into the NCCE project formerly in February 2017 after an opening ceremony by the RAWN AMBASSADOR, Prof Comfort Ekpo. The slight delay was due to change in College management the lecture session hold twice, at times thrice a week during break periods. The Pilot Study would be rounded off soon. NCCE officials and UniUyo Jolly Phonics Research Team (mother body) shall be invited for the End line Assessment and closing ceremony. The trainees are very enthusiastic. Thirty students from each of the six selected Colleges of Education participated/are participating in the Pilot Study. The female gender tends to be more than male in all cases. The result of the Pilot Study shall be compiled and made public later.

Collaborations

The team has collaborated with and is still collaborating with various funding agencies and organizations in the execution of the RAWN & RAWF projects. These include;

- Jolly learning Ltd Uk (Who donates all the books and resources used in the projects)
- Action aid International in Nigeria(in monitoring the implementation of the project in the State)
- Waterloo Foundations Uk (has donate substantial funds to the project)
- Equitable Trust UK (has also donated funds for the project)
- Universal Basic Education Commission , Nigeria (is funding the project and teacher trainings)
- Akwalbom State Universal Basic Education Board (continues to support the project in various capacities)

Literacy Resource Centre

A major milestone of the University of Uyo Synthetic Phonics Research and Implementation Team (USPRIT), has led to the establishment of the Literacy/Resource Centre at the Faculty of Education, University of Uyo. June 2014 during the administration of Prof. Comfort M. Ekpo, who provided the accommodation for the centre. There was support from a UK Based Charity Organization called "Safe Child Africa", which did the renovation and furnishing of the centre. There was also a great assistance from Christopher Jolly, the Managing Director of CPD College in the UK and publisher of Jolly Phonics materials. He magnanimously provided the learning materials for the Centre.

Also, there are three project coordinators and a driver. They keep the Centre running, providing remedial training to trainers and Teacher Leaders who have access to materials in the Centre anytime there is need. There is a vehicle attached to the Centre to aid in monitoring and the day to day running of the place. The Centre is poised to provide training and consultations on the use of the Jolly Phonics method to individuals and private schools at reduced rates, host events with key stakeholders and carry out continuing research. It also has in

stock Jolly Phonics materials for purchase by teachers , schools , parents and interested members of the public.



The RAWF Project Coordinators, (far left and far right) UNIUYO academics and ULS Technical Director Mrs. Naomi Foxcroft at the Jolly Phonics Resource Centre.

MEMBERS:

Team Leader: Prof. Comfort M. Ekpo.



Professor (Mrs.) Comfort Memfin Ekpo BLS, Ed.; M.Ed.; (Zaria) Ph.D. (Wales) a fellow of Nigeria Association of Educational Media and Technology (NAEMT) and a fellow of Nigerian Academy of Education (NAE). She is a Professor of Educational Technology.

She commenced her career as a part time lecturer at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria. She has worked as a visiting scholar to University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State, University of West of England, Bristol and University of Lagos, Lagos State. She attended the International Jolly Phonics trainers conference in London, visited schools with best practice in Jolly Phonics in UK. She is a certified jolly phonics trainer.

She has taught many courses at both undergraduate and post graduate levels; served as an External Examiner to various Universities and supervised numerous undergraduate and postgraduate projects. Prof. (Mrs.) Ekpo is a member of many professional bodies. She has produced many instructional media packages and programmes for teaching and learning and has more than sixty publications including books, chapters in books, journals articles and monographs to her credit.

Prof. Comfort Ekpo has served the nation as member of the Governing Council of Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, RITMAN University, Ikot Ekpene and member of Common Wealth Scholarship Interview Panel, among others. She has served the education industry in various capacities – team leader for the National Universities Commission (NUC) in regulating accreditation and as a panel member for drawing up Basic Minimum Academic Standards (BMAS) in Education for Nigerian Universities. She was elected into the Governing Board of the Association of African Universities (AAU) and served West African Region for four years 2013 to 2017.

She also served the University of Uyo in various administrative capacities some of which are: Head, Department of Educational Technology and Library Sciences (1993 – 1999), and Director, Institute of Education (2000 – 2006), Chairperson and member of various University committees; Communication Officer for the world bank project, ' Science Technology Education Post Basic Project (Step-B Project)'; and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) 2006 to 2008. By her appointment in December 2010 - 2015, Prof. (Mrs.) Comfort Memfin Ekpo made history as the first female Vice Chancellor and the fourth substantive Vice-Chancellor of the University of Uyo.

She is the team leader for the collaborative research on Synthetic Phonics - The Jolly Phonics Read And Write Now (RAWN) Project, a fast track reading scheme

for the training of primary school teachers and development of a reading culture among primary school pupils and RAWN Ambassador in Nigeria. Her research interest is in courseware development and management of instructional media.

Prof. Comfort Ekpo, a committed christian and strong advocate of women empowerment and youth development, maintaining that these are some of the essentials for building a strong, united and prosperous nation. She is a disciplined administrator and academic who has impacted greatly on the lives of youths and women.

SECRETARY: Dr. Thelma U. Ekukinam



Dr Thelma is an Associate Professor of Educational Technology. She holds a Doctoral and Masters degree in Educational Technology with a first degree in English Education (1991, 1998 and 2006 respectively). She had an opportunity of teaching in the primary school before joining the University of Uyo in the year 2000. At the University of Uyo, she is involved in teaching several educational technology related courses in addition to supervision of students' projects, seminars and teaching practice in my Department and in the Institute of Education. She has conducted and published several researches on the utilization of local resources for teaching and learning and most especially improving the performance of teachers. A specific instance is a research on Adaptation of Local plays for teaching and learning at the primary School level. This has resulted in design and development of instructional packages for teaching basic numerical values and English Language patterns.

She is a member of the Reading Association of Nigeria (RAN) which has impacted positively on children's reading habits, a pioneer member of Read and Write Now project (RAWN) which developed into Read and write Forever(RAWF) for reasons of sustainability. Dr. Ekukinam is a certified trainer in Jolly Phonics and Jolly

Grammar on-line courses (2016 & 2017), was awarded the best decorated classroom teacher during Jolly Phonics training in Anambra State.

- Dr. Thelma is the Secretary of the University of Uyo Jolly Phonics research team;
- Pioneer member in research and publication of findings and result of pilot study in Akwa Ibom State which kick started the movement of Jolly Phonics in Nigeria;
- Gold Trainer of Primary one and two School Teachers category. She works in collaboration with Universal Basic Education Commission(UBEC), Universal Learning Solutions in several states in Nigeria(ULS) and State Universal Basic Education Board(SUBEB);
- Monitoring and mentoring teachers on implementation of Jolly phonics projects in Nigeria;
- Design and development of tools for effective implementation of Jolly Phonics.
- Managing of pilot study in implementation stage in various states of Nigeria;
- Attended the Reading Reform Foundation Conference and visited schools with best practice in the United Kingdom;
- Participate in the review of Jolly Phonics materials to reflect local content

Dr (Mrs) Thelma is a Christian, married with seven children, serving in her local church as the women president and children's Sunday school teacher. She delights in sponsoring and coordinating children's activities.

EVENT MANAGER: Dr. Stella N. Nwosu



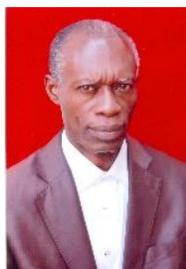
Dr. (Mrs.) Stella N. Nwosu

BSc, PGDE, MEd, PhD

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Dr. Stella Nwosu is a Senior Lecturer in the Institute of Education and Professional Development of the Faculty of Education, University of Uyo with over eleven years' experience in teaching and research. She possesses a PhD in Educational Technology specializing in Instructional Systems Design. She also has a BSc. (first Class) in Chemistry from Punjab University, India; a Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE) from the University of Nigeria; an M.Ed in Curriculum Studies and Educational Technology from the University of Port Harcourt in Nigeria. She has research interests in instructional design for sustainable development programmes and literacy and women development strategies. Dr. Nwosu is the Events Manager for the University of Uyo Synthetic Phonics Research and Implementation Team. She has attended the International Jolly Phonics trainers conference in London, visited Jolly Phonics schools in London; worked with the University of Education, Wenniba in Ghana on the Jolly Phonics action research, Read and Write Now project in Ghana. Dr. Nwosu has worked for the British Council in 2013 in Nigeria as a researcher in the pilot of the Learn English Audio Project (LEAP). Worked with the UNI Uyo team in the review of Jolly Phonics Pupils book to reflect local content; the pilot of the grammar programme and in the continuous monitoring, mentoring and research of the implementation and impact of the project. She is a certified Jolly Phonics and Grammar trainer and consults and trains education officials and teachers on the implementation and management of the Jolly Phonics project all over Nigeria and other African Countries.

PUBLICITY/ INTERNAL AUDITOR: Dr. Ime E. Emah



DR IME EFFIONG EMAH is an Associate Professor of Curriculum and Social Studies. He holds a PhD in Curriculum Studies with bias in Social Studies. He has over twenty five years of experience in teaching and research in the University. His teaching and research experience and interest include Curriculum innovation, classroom processes, social studies and values reorientation, among others. Dr. Emah has not less than 39 publications to his credit. He has been involved in collaborative projects including being the team leader in a research project funded by Educational Research Network for West and Central Africa (ERNWACA) in 2008 with the title 'Peace Education and Gender Equity among Nigerian South-South Youths; Project Mentor for one of the teams that won the grant in Nigeria in 2009 (with project titled 'Universal Basic Education and Socio-Economic prospects of the Girl Child in South- South Nigeria). Dr. Emah is also a member of Jolly Phonics Research Team, University of Uyo, who implement and researches on the 'Read and Write Forever(RAWF)'project, undertaking an action research on the use of Jolly Phonics teaching literacy in Primary Schools in Akwalbom Sate and Nigeria.

REPORTER 1: DR. Maria E. Afangideh



Dr. Maria Afangideh is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Curriculum Studies, University of Uyo. She is a specialist in English /Curriculum Studies and holds a Doctorate Degree in Language Education, from University of Nigeria, Nsukka (2005); Master's Degree in English Education, University of Jos, (1992) and Bachelor of Arts in English Education, University of Cross River State, (1988). Dr. Afangideh transferred her services from University of Jos and joined that of University of Uyo, in May, 2000. She has been involved in teaching and research across several departments in the Faculty of Education and the GST unit. She has over 54 works published in reputable Journals across Nigeria, other African countries, Europe and North America.

Dr. Afangideh is a member of African council for communication Education (ACCE), Association of Language Educators in Nigeria (ALE), Reading Association of Nigeria (RAN), Curriculum Organization of Nigeria (CON) among others. Dr. Afangideh is equally a pioneer member of the Read And Write Forever (RAWF) and a certified trainer in Jolly Phonics and Jolly Grammar on-line courses (2016 and 2017).

Dr. Afangideh is the Head of the Research Team and Reporter 1 of the University of Uyo Jolly Phonics Research Team; pioneer member and Secretary in Research and publication of findings of the pilot study in Akwa Ibom State, which kick started the movement of Jolly Phonics in Nigeria in 2006. She is a Gold standard trainer of Primary One and Two school teachers' category; works in collaboration with Universal Basic Education Commission (UBEC), Universal Learning Solutions (ULS) in several States in Nigeria and State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB): she is equally a member of the monitoring and mentoring team of teachers on implementation of Jolly

Phonics in Nigeria. Dr. Afangideh was born on the 25th day of October, 1965 and is married with three children.

REPORTER 11: Mrs. Maria Etokebe



Reporter 2: Maria E. I. Etokebe
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Maria Etokebe is a Chief Lecturer with 25 years cognate experience in the Department of Educational Foundations, School of Education, College of Education, AfahaNsit, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria. She is a Ph.D student of Educational Psychology, holds a Masters degree in Educational Psychology, a first degree with Second Class (Hons.) Upper Division in English (Education) from the University of Calabar, Cross River State, a Nigeria Certificate in Education (NCE) in English/History and a Certificate in Jolly Phonics/Grammar – CPD College (online), 2017.

Maria is a versatile writer with many publications to her credit, an assiduous teacher, a mentor and belongs to many professional bodies. She is one of the anchor persons in the COE Pilot Study on Synthetic Phonics in Nigeria, a member of the team who drafted the proposed curriculum for the inclusion of Synthetic Phonics (JP) in the Minimum Standards by the National Commission for Colleges of Education (NCCE).

She trained selected lecturers from six Colleges of Education in Nigeria's three (3) geopolitical zones in Abuja for this purpose. She was the Chief trainer in COE Afaha Nsit Pilot Study on JP. She is also involved in training Primary 1 & 2 teachers in various States in Nigeria, monitoring and mentoring of Assistant Trainees to become Trainers. She belongs to the UniUyo Research Team and her job schedule is Reporter 2.

Her deep seated passion to promote literacy has propelled her into organizing several literacy challenges alleviating programmes. She collaborates with Universal Basic

Education (UBEC), State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB), National Youth Service Corp (NYSC), Universal Learning Solutions (ULS) Nigeria & UK), Department For International Development (DFID) British Council, MELROSE Publishers, Nigeria and many others.

Project Coordinators



Mrs. Janet Udoh
Research assistant/
Coordinator 1

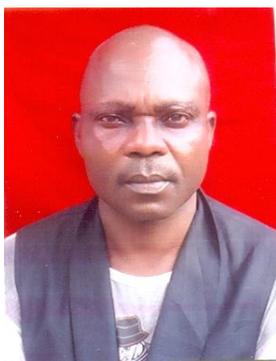


Mrs. Mary Ekanem
Coordinator 2



Ms. Mfonobong Noah
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