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The inspiration to train Stellar Programme was that I have been with Grade R teachers for over 10 years and it has been a struggle for them to keep up with the demands of early literacy development and Stellar came up with brilliant strategies that even a teacher in rural areas will be able to implement without major costs implications.

I am still and will still be involved in the programme because it has proven to be beneficial to the Grade R teachers, children and the parents. Foundational skills needed for further literacy development are reflected in the children's responses and work. I am inspired to see a Grade R child, age 6, telling a story to a hall full of teachers, "strangers, and not be afraid, not withdraw but stand tall and tell the story like it's her story. That motivated me to stay and "hunt" for more children with this possible potential.

I have learnt that:

- It is possible to change a teacher's fears and negativity and bring out a dedicated intrinsically and extrinsically inspired teacher to being the children's "hero".
- We can still confirm that learning emergent literacy skills is through the use of home language.
- The use of stories is like giving children a bridge that will carry them to new skills and knowledge development.

Sharing and making stories with your children is extending potential and greater possibility.