Why Read Me Week?
Reading Aloud to children is the best way to help them learn to read and learn to appreciate reading and writing. It helps them learn new vocabulary and grammar, and fosters a positive attitude toward reading. Research shows that reading aloud to students actually improves their reading ability.

Read Me Week lets children enjoy discovering that reading is EXCITING, IMPORTANT and FUN!
2009 Celebrity Partner: Adventure Science Center
2009 Theme: 20 Years of Reading Adventures

What is involved in adopting a school?
You will be assigned a school that is participating in Read Me Week. You will recruit volunteers to read at the school during the school week of February 23-27. It would be wonderful if each reader could donate the book they read to the school, but this is not required. Your group may be interested in doing other things for the school (i.e., give treats to students and/or teachers, donate books, help with other activities planned by the school.) Please work this out with your school contact.

What do the Volunteer Readers do?
Read to a classroom of students – choose a book and have fun reading to students!
Time in the classroom - plan for about 15 - 20 minutes, depending on length of book and interaction with children.
Wear something readable - a nametag will do, but readable clothing is better. Wear your work clothes if they say something about your profession.

Background
Read Me Day, which became Read Me Week, was started by (Ms.) Frankie DeWees at East Hickman Elementary School in Lyles, Tennessee in 1986. Book’em has been the producer of Middle Tennessee’s Read Me Week for 20 years.

Book’em’s purpose is to inspire a love of books and reading in children by putting books in the hands of Middle Tennessee children who may not have books of their own, providing reading role models and conducting special events to highlight the importance and the joy of reading.

For more information, please email Martha Ann Pilcher (volunteers@bookem-kids.org), call 615-834-READ. Read Me Week materials are available upon request from Martha Ann Pilcher.
Sign up Form to Adopt a School for Read Me Week 2009
February 23 - 27

Date _____________________________

Name of Organization/Business ______________________________________________________

Contact person _________________________________________________________________

Address _________________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip ___________________________________________________________________

Daytime phone ______________________   Night-time phone _________________________

Fax number _______________________________

Email address _________________________________________________________________

Number of members/employees ___________

The primary responsibility of your organization will be to recruit volunteer readers to visit the school at some time during Read Me Week. You may all decide to go on the same day or to go on different days. Please work that out with your school contact.

If you are interested in doing other things with the school – your options are endless! Possible activities include producing a show/program for the children, bringing goodies for the students and/or the staff & faculty, providing incentive prizes for the students, holding a reception for staff & faculty, helping with various Read Me Week activities being planned by the school, help plan various activities, etc.

We will recruit people to read at our school.                       Yes    No

Approximate number of potential reading volunteers _____________

We will talk with the school representative about other opportunities.   Yes    No    Maybe

Please return this form to Martha Ann Pilcher, fax 646-8212, volunteers@bookem-kids.org, or mail to her at Book’em, 421 Great Circle Rd., Suite 100A, Nashville, TN 37228.