

## The Coin-Spiracy Project: Our Story

I'm a grade nine leadership student at Mount Slesse Middle School. My name is Taryn Nelson. Our school got involved in the Coin-spiracy project through our leadership teacher. This project consisted of three kind acts, a kind act to the environment, to ourselves, and to others. For our kind act to the environment, we planted trees at the Blue Heron Nature Reserve. For our kind act to ourselves, we went on a leadership retreat to Manning Park where we skied, snowboard, or tubed and had lots of fun. For the final act (to others), we helped out with the Room to Read Program.

We were the first school in Canada to help out with this organization. The Room to Read program helps out in third world countries where they need schools, scholarships for girls, help in the communities, computer labs, libraries, and language labs. Room to Read provides as much as they can through the help of schools like ours. We raised money to build a school in a third world country. Our grand total was \$7200. Our school raised this much money by doing a Read-a-thon. Instead of a school, our money went to schools that needed libraries. Our school helped build/provide for four school's libraries.

This kind act not only impacted our lives by making us aware of how many children need help in other countries, but also the lives of the people in our community, and the people in the third world countries. The people in the third world countries were really happy with us and the people at Room to Read designed a plaque to put on one of the libraries. This plaque said our school's name and what we did.

This kind act also involved our community. The students at our school would take home pledge sheets for the Read-a-thon to collect money. To encourage them, the leadership classes collected prizes for draws. Every time you brought in \$10.00, you would get a ticket for the draw. Everyone had lots of fun and it's nice to know that our kindness made a difference in a country far away.

I think that our school, Mount Slesse Middle School, should receive this award (3. "Coin that created the greatest positive splash in the community") because of the 750 students that participated and how far our kindness went. Our kindness went to a third world country! Our whole school was involved and we built libraries for schools far away. The Coin-Spiracy project is a fun project to do. I urge anyone who's interested to take on the challenge!