Sarah Badgley Literacy Fund for Rural Ontario Children

Background
The Rural Learning Association established the Sarah Badgley Fund in 2002. The Ontario Library Association now administers the Fund. To date, more than 60 public libraries have received grants from the Fund.

Grants
Grants up to $500 per year are available to rural public libraries and to urban public libraries that serve rural clientele. The number of grants varies from year to year, depending on annual fund-raising efforts. Typically, up to four grants are provided each year.

The purpose of the grant is to support children’s literacy initiatives. Priority is given to those libraries that promote the love of reading by using the grant for such things as literacy programmes (story time, book/activity bags, other literacy initiatives, etc.), book purchases, or equipment purchases (such as Lego, software and digital media). Connections to positive literacy outcomes should be demonstrated in the funding request.

Sarah Rosalind Badgley (1998-2001)
Sarah never learned to read, but she adored books and her local public library. In July 2001, at the age of three, she was killed in an automobile accident. Her parents, Susan and Kerry Badgley of Kemptville, Ontario, initiated the Fund in her memory.

Past Recipients
2017  Nation Municipality Public Library, St Isidore Branch, Bilingual Storytime
South River-Machar Union Public Library, South River-Machar Union
Public Library Updating Children's Collection
Serpent River First Nation Public Library, Preschool Literacy
Bruce Mines & Plummer Additional Union Public Library, Kids book Club
(Cub Club)