

GCT first graders write book about mascot

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A first grade class at Greene County Tech has taken its interest in reading to a new level. With the help of their instructor, Pam Lackey, the first graders wrote a book about the mascot that took their reading enthusiasm to new heights. The book is titled "Henry Goes to School" and describes his typical school day. The 3-year-old dog has been volunteering with the class every Wednesday since February, according to Lackey. She believes the canine is the direct result of their advancement.



"Henry listens to our children read," Lackey said. "Not only have they excelled in reading, but they have also excelled in writing and improved in math." Every Wednesday, Henry visits Greene County Tech's Primary School where the class reads to him. He also spends time with them while they study math. When they are done, he "signs" their work. The class read their book at the Endowment Foundation of Greene County's grant ceremony where nonprofit organizations received grant money to fund their activities. The class was one of the recipients, and according to Lackey they want to do more with the increased reading activity.

With the grant money we receive, we want to install a reading and writing station in our classroom, she said. "The class is also investing in its future", Lackey said "there are plans to take the look further than Greene County Tech". "We hope to publish this book and whatever money we make from it, we want to put it in the Henry Scholarship Fund." she said. "All money made from the book will go to a separate part of the foundation to fund scholarships for this group of kids."

During the grant ceremony, each child had a part of the story to read with photos projected on-screen to give listeners a visual description of Henry's school day which began with brushing his teeth and included schoolwork, recess, lunch and riding the bus.