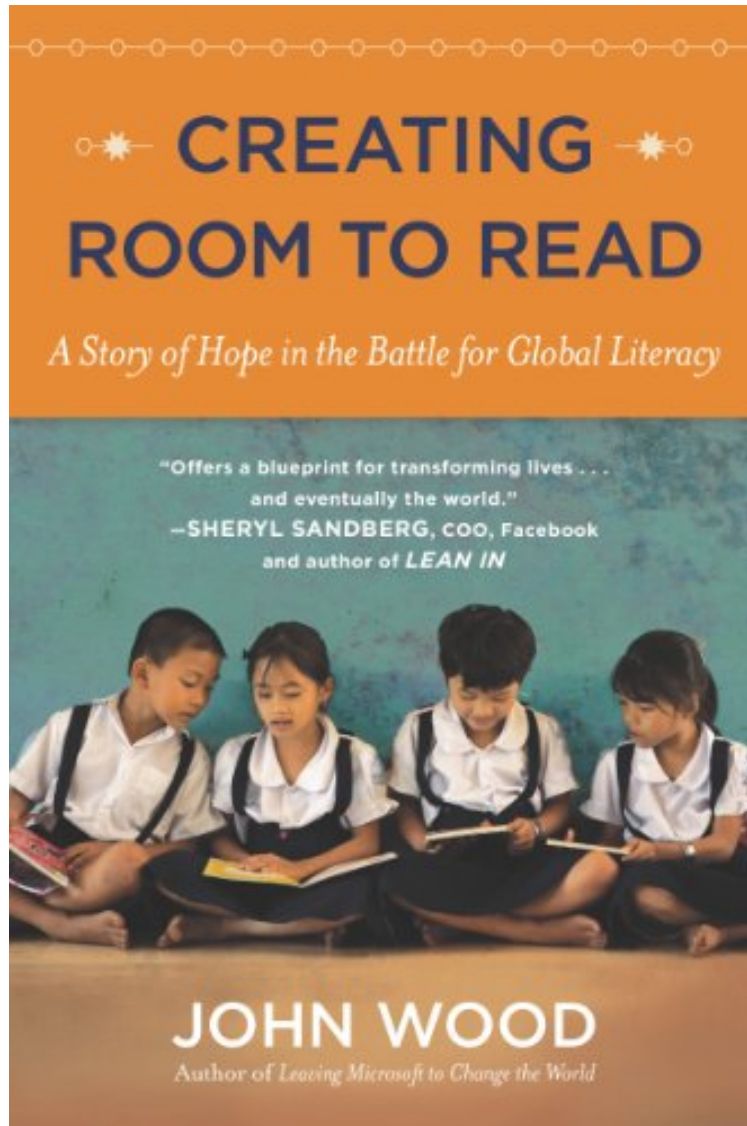


[Free pdf] Creating Room to Read: A Story of Hope in the Battle for Global Literacy

# Creating Room to Read: A Story of Hope in the Battle for Global Literacy

John Wood

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**John Wood : Creating Room to Read: A Story of Hope in the Battle for Global Literacy** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Creating Room to Read: A Story of Hope in the Battle for Global Literacy:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Great lessons from one of the world's most successful NGOsBy bheffnerCreating Room to Read is the worthy successor to John Wood's first book, Leaving Microsoft to Change the World, which made 's list of Top Ten business narratives in 2006. This book picks up where the first book left off,

chronicling Room to Read's evolution from its start-up years to its growth to become one of the most highly admired and most effective NGOs on the planet. (The Global Journal just cited Room to Read as one of the top 100 NGOs in the world, for the second year running.) The book includes fascinating accounts of the experiences of some of the key employees who have helped to build the organization. Anyone who has worked in the developing world will appreciate the level of commitment and passion it has taken for these staffers to get the job done on behalf of the children they serve. The book recaps Room to Read's efforts to adapt and embrace change as it grows, in a wildly dynamic economic environment. It's rare that a book recounts experiences that did not go so well. (See the chapter on the start-up year in South Africa.) But Wood's candor in addressing these issues and his growth as a leader provide valuable lessons for other organizations, lending to the credibility of this impressive book. What you'll remember most are the heart-melting personal stories of the kids (and families) whose lives are being forever transformed by a shot at an education. This book is a great read for anyone who needs to be reminded that even if no single individual can solve all the world's problems, one inspiring and committed leader can change the lives of millions.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A Movement for a Change: Educate to Fight against Poverty (Book Review : Creating Room to Read) By Bandita John Wood is one of the founders of the organization Room to Read. He has authored two books; the first one is Leaving Microsoft to Change the World published in 2011. His first book recollects the memory of visioning and getting started with the mission as Room to Read. The core belief of the organization is just six words: World Change Starts with Educated Children. John Wood had minutely explained and beautifully articulated key events while trekking to Nepal, visiting a school with few or no books in the library, and the basic rights of children to read. He explained how his individual mission of helping one small school in rural Nepal by collecting and sending books from his home expanded to a bigger idea of helping some more in the same country and to other countries in Asia and Africa by creating a strong team. Room to Read now represents an esteemed nonprofit promoting education, gender equality and literacy worldwide. Wood has kept the same enthusiasm, minute explanation, and a convincing argument for the readers to visualize the goal and also inculcates a motivation to offer a helping hand in any form to make this world a better place to live.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A five-star sequel! By Crystal Loved Leaving Microsoft to Change the World and the sequel is even better! Inspiring. Loved reading the inspiring stories of the communities and people supported through Room to Read's work. As a business junkie, really enjoyed reading about the funding and business challenges as well. Have always appreciated the transparency of Room to Read. A non-profit that's run like a business. Now that's where I want to put my money! I've been a donor since just before Leaving Microsoft and continue to support the organization because of the greatness of the work that John and the entire Room to Read organization are doing to change the world. Creating a "youth-quake." LOVED that phrase in the book. Well done John. A(nother) check is in the mail. :)

The inspirational story of a former Microsoft executive's quest to build libraries around the world and share the love of books—what's happened since John Wood left Microsoft to change the world? Just ask six million kids in the poorest regions of Asia and Africa. In 1999, at the age of thirty-five, Wood quit a lucrative career to found the nonprofit Room to Read. Described by the San Francisco Chronicle as "the Andrew Carnegie of the developing world," he strived to bring the lessons of the corporate world to the nonprofit sector—and succeeded spectacularly. In his acclaimed first book, *Leaving Microsoft to Change the World*, Wood explained his vision and the story of his start-up. Now, he tackles the organization's next steps and its latest challenges—from managing expansion to raising money in a collapsing economy to publishing books for children who literally have no books in their native language. At its heart, *Creating Room to Read* shares moving stories of the people Room to Read works to help: impoverished children whose schools and villages have been swept away by war or natural disaster and girls whose educations would otherwise be ignored. People at the highest levels of finance, government, and philanthropy will embrace the opportunity to learn Wood's inspiring business model and blueprint for doing good. And general readers will love *Creating Room to Read* for its spellbinding story of one man's mission to put books within every child's reach.