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## **Copperas Cove Police Department Badges and Books**

The Copperas Cove Police Department would like to recognize Officer Codi Nunez for his work in starting the Badges and Books Program. The program was developed as a result of Officer Nunez seeking ideas to better connect with the community through his passion for reading. He wanted to not only help address childhood literacy but also help children discover the rewards of reading.

Officer Nunez first started by reaching out to the community for book donations. The response was overwhelming and served as a true reflection of the many great citizens that make up our community. Since the Department received more book donations than anticipated, Officer Nunez was able to meet his goal of getting books into the hands of elementary children before the summer break.

Thanks to our partnership with the Copperas Cove Independent School District, Officer Nunez was allowed to set up a table at Halstead Elementary School this morning and begin giving books out to children so they would have something to read over the summer. Officer Nunez took the time to interact with the children as they picked out the books that were most interesting to them. He learned there are more children than he expected that also share his love of reading, making his efforts even more rewarding.

Officer Nunez has further demonstrated why he is such a valued member of our team and we are fortunate to have him serving the citizens of Copperas Cove.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the many citizens who, without hesitation, donated books to the program. The donations provided for a successful program launch, and we look forward to participating with more local schools in the near future.

