



Book Work

Supporting families affected
by imprisonment (Birmingham)

Members helping at a prison have developed 'Book Work'. The prisoners with their children have the opportunity to make a personalised book for their children. They are supported by the librarian as they use the library computers to design, print, laminate and bind the books.

The books are given by the prisoners to their children during "fathers inside" family visits or posted as necessary.



The child's name and favourite toy are on the front cover, and it is appropriate to the child's age. These include colour and shape books, I can spell my name, counting books or story books written by the prisoners and personalised for their children. The books are made without Internet access.

They include rhymes for prisoners to try with their children.

*"Well I know the Hoki Coki Miss, can I include that?"
asked one prisoner!*

For general guidelines about setting up and developing outreach initiatives, go to the members' section of the Mothers' Union website www.mothersunion.org