

Early Literacy *Begins With You*

Learn how to help your child get ready to read with simple activities every day.

- Talking** Talking with children is one of the best ways to help them learn language. Talk to your child in your native language.
- Singing** Songs are a natural way for children to learn about language. Songs break words into smaller parts that are easier to learn and understand.
- Reading** Reading together is the single most important way to help children get ready to read.
- Writing** Writing and reading go together. Scribbling and writing help children learn that written words stand for spoken language.
- Playing** Playing helps children put thoughts into words and think symbolically so they understand that spoken and written words can stand for real objects and experiences.

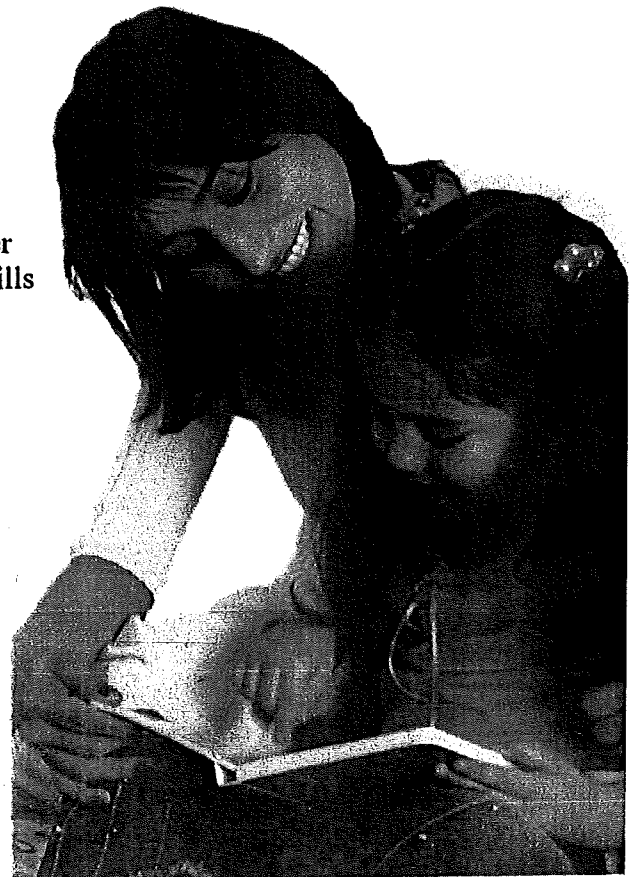
Help your child get ready to read!

Learning to read begins before children start school. From the time they are infants, children learn language and other important pre-reading skills. Developing these early literacy skills makes it easier for children to read once they begin school.

Every **CHILD**
Ready to **READ**[®]
@ your library[®]

www.everychildreadytoread.org

\$200.00



Every Child Ready to Read is a research-based family literacy class developed by the American Library Association to teach parents and caregivers how to maximize their children's early literacy development in the home. The program teaches parents as their children's first and best teachers to use the five literacy practices of talking, reading, writing, singing, and playing to help preschool children (birth -5 years old) develop skills that will help them be ready to learn to read when they begin school.

This September the Clatsop Service Center of NWRES D hosted three two-hour **Every Child Ready To Read** classes on consecutive Wednesday evenings. Approximately twenty adults and twenty children gathered to participate in this family literacy program together. Classes started with families gathering to share pizza dinner and then browsing library picture books from the Astoria library. Adults then met separately for the next hour while children played with childcare providers in the playrooms. The program was presented to the adult participants in both English and Spanish, and class materials are adapted to the participant's home language. The program included slideshow presentations, discussions, video-clip demonstrations, and activities, books, and materials that participants could take and use with their children at home.

During the last half hour, children rejoined their parents and participated in songs, games, rhymes, and shared reading activities. Families went home with free books each session, a songbook and CD of recorded or downloadable children's music, materials to practice playing with letters, words, and beginning writing—and even a gas voucher if needed to pay for gas to get to and from the class!

