



Australian Council
of State School
Organisations Inc.



Australian Parents Council Inc

A Directory of Family Resources

Parent Participation in Literacy and Numeracy Learning

**Australian Council of State School Organisations
(ACSSO)**

Australian Parents Council (APC)

Second Edition

November 2005

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Introduction

This Directory is aimed at providing families with direct and easy access to resources to assist them to support their children's literacy and numeracy learning at home. It is not intended as a resource for the teaching of literacy and numeracy, but it is hoped that it will be of use to educators and education administrators in advising parents on resources they can use to help their children at home.

The resources included are restricted to those that can be used directly by parents to help their children. They do not include programs that parents can access or purchase so that other people can be engaged to help their children. Nor do they include resources and programs that impact indirectly on literacy and numeracy development, such as those that assist parents to support the health and nutrition of their children.

The Directory includes mainly on-line resources but also includes other print sources and some video materials. The resources are mainly directed at primary school age children although some are for secondary school children. The Directory is not intended to be comprehensive but to provide a selection of resources from an extraordinary range of resources that is available, especially as internet resources are expanding rapidly.

The Directory has been substantially revised and updated since the first edition. Many websites have changed and additional material has become available. It also includes a new section on resources for parents to help children with special learning needs.

The Directory consists of six parts.

- ❖ Part 1 consists of Australian based materials designed to assist parents in supporting the learning of their children.
- ❖ Part 2 consists of overseas resources to assist parents in supporting the learning of their children.
- ❖ Part 3 lists selective resources for parents to assist children with special learning needs. It includes materials for families from Indigenous backgrounds, non-English speaking backgrounds, English as a Second Language (ESL) and students with special learning difficulties.
- ❖ Part 4 provides a selected range of programs designed to support parent involvement in the literacy and numeracy learning of children.
- ❖ Part 5 provides a selection of books, on-line guides and other resources for parents.
- ❖ Part 6 provides access to a selected range of published research findings that may be of interest to parents.

The focus is largely on the directory of Australian resources in Parts 1 and 3. The directory of overseas resources, parent involvement programs, guides for parents and research papers are very selective because there is a vast range of material available that could be included and the primary purpose of the Directory is to assist parents in helping their children with literacy and numeracy.

All care has been taken to ensure that the links to websites are current. Feedback on additional sites of use to parents or changes to sites in the directory is invited. If you would like to recommend a literacy/numeracy resource for parents, e-mail to: admin@acssso.org.au.

ACSSO and the APC gratefully acknowledge feedback on the first edition; and also thank all those agencies and individuals who provided input suggestions for the development of this second edition.

The Directory was compiled by Trevor Cobbold. The project was supported by a grant from the Australian Department of Education, Science and Training.

Part 1: Australian Resources to Assist Literacy and Numeracy Learning at Home

Government Agencies

Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training

Literacy and Numeracy: Signposts to Success.

This pamphlet emphasises the importance of literacy and numeracy to parents and other interested parties. It informs readers about the national literacy and numeracy benchmarks; the advances in literacy and numeracy assessment and reporting, the value of reporting on student achievement against the benchmarks to parents, what parents can do to assist their children and where to obtain additional information. It has been distributed to all primary and secondary schools in Australia.

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/school_education/publications_resources/profiles/literacy_and_numeracy_signposts_to_success.htm

<http://www.gu.edu.au/school/cls/clearinghouse/>

Numeracy: Families Working It Out Together, The Opportunities are Everywhere

The Australian Government has funded the publication of three brochures and a poster to promote the importance of numeracy learning to parents. The brochures target different age groups – the early years, and the middle and later years of primary school. Sample copies have been distributed to every primary school in Australia. The brochures are also available from the National Clearinghouse for Literacy and Numeracy Research.

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/school_education/publications_resources/literacy_numeracy/numeracy_families_working_it_out_together.htm

<http://www.gu.edu.au/school/cls/clearinghouse/>

My Read

The My Read website provides resources on teaching reading in the Middle Years (4 – 9). Although the site is primarily directed at teachers, it provides a range of material that is of use to parents in supporting their children's literacy development.

<http://www.myread.org/index.htm>

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

This national website supported by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Science and Training provides links to resources for parents to help with the literacy and numeracy learning of their children.

http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/2005/for_parents.htm

Australian Capital Territory

Department of Education and Training

Never Miss a Chance

This is a program that is focused on providing parents/carers with information on early language and literacy development. The program provides all participating families with a pack containing two children's books, one fiction and one non-fiction, and some stationery materials. During the program parents/carers explore some 'fun' ideas for sharing these books with their children. A video is also available and workshops are held each year. The video is available for loan from all ACT government preschools and primary schools, and ACT Libraries.

<http://www.decs.act.gov.au/schools/litparents.htm>

Parent Link

Parent Link is a website for parents sponsored by the The Office for Children, Youth and Family Support in the ACT Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services. It provides a range of parent guides on-line including advice on literacy.

<http://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/default.htm>

The literacy guides are:

More Than Reading and Writing

http://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/parentguides/parentg_morethanreadingwriting.htm

Why Stories are Important

http://www.parentlink.act.gov.au/parentguides/parentg_whystoriesareimportant.htm

New South Wales

Department of Education and Training, Professional Support and Curriculum Directorate

Literacy materials

The NSW Department of Education and Training website provides some brief tips to parents in helping their children to read at home.

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/gotoschool/a-z/readingtoyourchild.php>

The Department also has a series of pamphlets available on-line.

Why is it Good to Help Your Child at Home

http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/wil.htm

Reading With Your Child at Home

This pamphlet is available in 26 languages other than English.

http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/rwycah.htm

Helping Your Child with the Premier's Reading Challenge

http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hycwtprc.htm

Helping Your Child with Writing

http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hycww.htm

Helping Your Child with Spelling

http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hycws.htm

How is Talking and Listening Taught?

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hitalt.htm

Helping Your Child with Literacy in Years 5-8

This brochure is available from the Department of Education and Training and schools. It is not available on-line.

The Professional Support and Curriculum Directorate site provides several brochures for parents to help their children with various aspects of literacy learning, some of which are also available on the Department's website.

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/English/index.cfm?u=3&i=38>

The brochures are available as PDF files as follows:

Reading with Your Child at Home: Ideas for Parents of Young Children

http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/English/files/Eng_REHOME.pdf?CFID=178689&CFTOKEN=49311653

Helping Your Child with Spelling

http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/English/files/Eng_Spelpbro.pdf?CFID=178689&CFTOKEN=49311653

Helping Your Child with Writing from Kindergarten to Year 12

http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/literacy/files/Lit_folwparent.pdf?CFID=178689&CFTOKEN=49311653

How is Talking and Listening Taught?

http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/literacy/files/Lit_799FOLTandLParent_brochure1.pdf?CFID=178689&CFTOKEN=49311653

Working Successfully With Parents in Literacy Years 5 – 8

http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/English/files/Eng_WSWP.pdf?CFID=178689&CFTOKEN=49311653

Numeracy materials

Parents Count Too

This is a series of pamphlets published on-line by the Professional Support and Curriculum Directorate. The pamphlets outline activities that can be used at home to support mathematics learning at school. They provide guidance for lower primary students are also based on around everyday events such as cooking, gardening or reading with your child or even on family outings.

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=3&i=58&kla=Maths>

The pamphlets can be downloaded at the following pages.

Helping Your Child With Counting

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=73&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Arithmetic

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=74&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Shapes and Objects

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=75&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Measuring Length and Area

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=76&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Measuring Volume and Mass

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=77&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Measuring Temperature and Time

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=78&kla=Maths>

These pamphlets are also available on the *Department of Education and Training* website. https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/index_list.htm

Count Me in Too

This is a numeracy project operating across New South Wales primary schools. It is designed to assist teachers to broaden their knowledge of how children learn mathematics by focusing on the strategies students use to solve arithmetic tasks. It includes an on-line resource that contains a separate page for parents with activities to do with children at home and a children's page.

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/math/countmein/index.htm>

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/math/countmein/parent.htm>

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/math/countmein/children.htm>

Board of Studies

The Board of Studies website provides advice to parents on how to support their children's learning in primary school in reading, spelling, talking, listening and writing. A **Parent's Guide to English** is available on-line which includes advice about how to help your children at home in reading, writing, spelling, talking and listening.

<http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/parents/index.html>

http://www.bosnsw-k6.nsw.edu.au/parents/parents_index.html

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

This site has several downloadable brochures for parents on literacy and numeracy learning. <http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/parentb.htm>

The brochures are downloadable as PDF files as follows:

Helping Your Child with Literacy

<http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/pdfs/a5liter.pdf>

Helping Your Child with Numeracy

<http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/pdfs/a5numer.pdf>

Helping Your Child in Year 7 with Literacy and Numeracy

<http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/pdfs/yr7broch.pdf>

Northern Territory

Department of Employment, Education and Training

The large-print **Raising a Reader** series of pamphlets provide accessible, information to parents about how children learn to be literate readers and writers. Practical tips, reading and writing strategies, and titles suitable for different ages are suggested. Also included is a one page flyer, *Is my child ready to read and write?*

- ***Raising a Reader: An information and ideas sheet about early literacy for parents of babies.*** This resource focuses on ways to introduce books and the reading process babies.
- ***Raising a Reader: An information and ideas sheet for early literacy for parents of toddlers.*** In addition to strategies to develop letter and word recognition, there is also an introduction to the writing process.
- ***Raising a Reader: An information and ideas sheet about early literacy for parents of school-aged children.***
- ***Raising a Reader: Is my child ready to read and write?*** Some valuable pre-reading skills and understandings are outlined to assist parents with their child's reading development.

<http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/education/parents/index.shtml>

- Also available in hard copy from the Northern Territory Department of Employment, Education and Training (contact address page 70)

Department of Health and Community Services

Northern Territory Families Website <http://www.families.nt.gov.au/asp/index.asp>

Click on 'Sheet Library' on the navigation bar to access the following:

- **Tip Sheet 52: *More than reading and writing*** - explores ways families can be involved in the literacy development of their children
- **Tip Sheet 51: *Growing and Learning in the Family***
- **Tip sheet 33: *Learning to Talk***
- **Tip Sheet 57: *Why stories are important?*** Information on the role of stories and strategies for parent involvement in the reading process.

Information booklet for parents applying for home education:

http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/education/home_education/home_education_info_booklet.pdf

Queensland

Queensland Studies Authority

Hand in Hand

This is an early literacy and numeracy information package for parents published by the Queensland Studies Authority. It highlights how everyday family experiences can help their children's literacy and numeracy development. The package includes a video, a series of six topic cards and a handbook. The video shows how everyday aspects of living can be opportunities for literacy and numeracy development. It also highlights the importance of parents and teachers sharing information and working together. The topic cards give more detail about literacy and numeracy and offer practical ideas for parents through experiences such as going shopping, bath time, sharing a meal, visiting friends, keeping in touch and playing.

The package is not available on-line and there is a charge for it.

<http://www.qsa.qld.edu.au/early/preschool/hand.html>

Department of Communities

Putting Families First

This is a website for parents of young children and it provides a range of guides for parents, including specific guides for reading with babies and toddlers.

<http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/family/familiesfirst/tipsheets/index.html>

http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/family/familiesfirst/tipsheets/tipsheet_stories.html

There are also two downloadable guides on reading.

Growing and Learning in the Family

<http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/family/familiesfirst/publications/documents/pdf/growinglearning.pdf>

Once Upon a Time

<http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/family/familiesfirst/publications/documents/pdf/onceupon.pdf>

South Australia

Department of Education and Children's Services

Literacy and Numeracy Network

This website contains a site for parents that provides answers to frequently asked questions and gives guidance about how to help children's learning at home. It provides specific advice on helping children to learn to read.

<http://www.thenetwork.sa.edu.au/parents/index.htm>

http://www.thenetwork.sa.edu.au/parents/helping/hearing_reading.htm

Online Literacy

This website is designed for student use in the middle years. It can be accessed independently by students, utilised by teachers to support literacy learning and used by parents to assist children at home. It includes examples, explanations, advice and support for literacy development in all learning areas.

<http://www.thenetwork.sa.edu.au/chill/index.htm>

<http://www.thenetwork.sa.edu.au/chill/english.htm>

ECLIPSE

Early Literacy includes Parents, Staff and Education (ECLIPSE) is a literacy resource developed by the SA Department of Education and Children's Services for parents of children aged from 3 to 5 years. It aims to support the development of literacy skills in the early years by focusing on the partnership between parents and early childhood educators. It consists of a book, easy to read charts and literacy information sheets for parents and educators to use together. Early literacy cards provide examples of how parents can support their children's early literacy learning in the home and the community. Simple practical ideas are given. The package is available for purchase from the Curriculum Corporation.

<http://www.curriculum.edu.au/>

http://www.curriculum.edu.au/catalogue/product.php?cat_id=547

Growing and Learning in the Family

This resource was been developed by the SA Department of Education and Children's Services for parents and carers. It looks at children's learning and the way parents, family members and other involved adults support children's learning. It also gives information about the different stages of children's development in the first five years with suggestions for activities that will support their learning at each stage. It consists of a booklet and loose activity sheets and is available for purchase from the Curriculum Corporation.

<http://www.earlyyears.sa.edu.au/>

<http://www.curriculum.edu.au/>

http://www.curriculum.edu.au/catalogue/sa/product.php?cat_id=665

Child and Youth Health

Child and Youth Health provides on-line assistance to parents on topics such as literacy, why stories are important and reading with babies. Most of the guides are available in the **Parent Easy Guide** series of pamphlets published by Parenting SA.

<http://www.cyh.com/Default.aspx?p=1>

<http://www.cyh.com/SubDefault.aspx?p=98>

More Than Reading and Writing

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetails.aspx?p=114&np=122&id=1601>

Why Stories are Important

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetails.aspx?p=114&np=122&id=1552>

Reading with Babies

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetails.aspx?p=114&np=122&id=1910>

Parenting SA

Parent Easy Guides

Parenting SA publishes a series of guides for parents that provide simple, easy-to-read information on many of the issues faced by parents from birth through adolescence, including one on literacy development. The guides have been developed from research in conjunction with appropriate experts and are widely used throughout Australia.

<http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/pegs/>

http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/pegs/peg_category_title.asp?peg_category_id=9

Guides that are specifically related to literacy are:

More Than Reading and Writing, Parent Easy Guide 52

<http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/pegs/Peg52.pdf.html>

Why Stories are Important, Parent Easy Guide 57

<http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/pegs/Peg57.pdf.html>

Right From the Start: Loving Reading with Your Baby

This is a picture book published by Parenting SA and Child and Youth Health that is distributed to all families with a new baby in South Australia. Based on latest research, it brings together many of the things babies need most to grow and develop - closeness, safety, touch, seeing, hearing and learning about sounds, as well as gradually learning what they mean. It is about relationship building as well as early literacy. The book is designed to assist parents to have a positive shared reading experience with their baby from a very early age.

The book is not available on-line but can be ordered from Parenting SA or Child and Youth Health.

<http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/shop.asp>

<http://www.cyh.com/SubContent.aspx?p=149>

Tasmania

Department of Education

Helping Parents Support Their Children's Learning

This brochure contains a review of the research looking at parent support for children's learning in general, some useful resources and an action research approach to reviewing school practice. The brochure was produced by the Department's Parent Participation Project and is available on-line.

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/ooe/ppp/families/pack5.htm>

Literacy is Everywhere

This is a video which is used in working with families of early childhood students.

The Office of Curriculum, Leadership and Learning (OCLL) of the Department of Education has published a kit for parents covering the early years of schooling. The kit is distributed to all schools in Tasmania and includes pamphlets on early literacy and numeracy which can be accessed from the Early Years Program page through parent information.

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/ocll/elsupport/earlyyears/earlyyrs.htm#parent>

The OCLL has also published a guide to young children's learning to contribute to shared understandings amongst professionals and as a basis for discussion of children's learning with their families.

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/ocll/currcons/default.htm#essconnections>

The English curriculum page also provides some brief suggestions for parents to help with literacy learning.

<http://www.discover.tased.edu.au/english/parents.htm#child>

Victoria

Department of Education and Training

Parent Link

This website provides access to information and resources of interest to parents of school-age children. Its Life Events page has links to a variety of information for parents to help with literacy and numeracy learning at different stages of school.

<http://www.det.vic.gov.au/det/parents/intro.htm>

<http://www.det.vic.gov.au/det/parents/lifeevents.htm>

Specific pages relating to literacy and numeracy are:

Early Years Numeracy

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/ch/generic/LifeEvents/LifeEvents.asp?PG=51>

Early Years Literacy

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/ch/generic/LifeEvents/LifeEvents.asp?PG=50>

Thinking Strategies in Numeracy

This is a website developed for families of young children. This website gives background information on thinking strategies in numeracy as well as listing practical ideas on how families can support their children's development in this area and access to additional resources. The website also answers commonly asked questions about thinking strategies in numeracy.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/num/strategies/index.htm>

The Department's Early Years website provides online access to a wide range of materials for parents to support the literacy and numeracy development of their children in the early and middle years of school.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/>

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/parents.htm>

A series of pamphlets is provided on-line, several of which are available in languages other than English.

The Step into Prep – A Guide for Parents

This booklet is designed to assist parents to prepare their children for school.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/Steprep.htm>

Literacy and Numeracy in the Early Years of Schooling (Prep-Year 4): A Guide for Parents

This guide is designed to provide information for parents on literacy and numeracy and how families can support these developments in partnership with schools.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/lit/partrans.htm>

Beginning Prep the Next Step: A Guide for Parents

This booklet outlines the information that a Prep teacher gathers to help plan children's teaching and learning programs and how parents can contribute to this process.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/pdf/Begin%20Prep.pdf>

Helping Your Child to Learn

This booklet is a guide for parents of children in the early years of schooling to help with literacy and numeracy.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/news/atoz/pdfs/HelpPrim.pdf>

Reading Recovery: A Guide for Parents

This booklet outlines the Reading Recovery program to parents and provides suggestions on how parents can help their children with reading at home.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/rr/parentsguide.htm>

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/pdf/RRparbook.pdf>

Handwriting in the Early Years of Schooling

This booklet suggests ways in which parents can support their child's handwriting development.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/handwriting.htm>

Living and Learning

This is a guide for families of young children designed to use fun and games to develop literacy and numeracy skills for young children.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/livelearn.htm>

Numeracy in the Early Years of Schooling

This booklet that outlines the mathematics taught in the early years of schooling (P-4) and explains how parents can help in their child's numeracy development.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/numey.htm>

The Department has also produced videos to assist parents help with their children's learning at home. They are:

Reading Together

This is a video that demonstrates effective strategies that parents can employ when reading to children. Helpful hints are provided for parents who wish to read together with their children at home, as well as valuable advice for parents, helpers and aides who assist with reading in classrooms. It can be purchased from the Curriculum Corporation.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/lit/readtog.htm>

<http://www.curriculum.edu.au/>

Early Numeracy: Exploring Maths Together

This video demonstrates aspects of maths in everyday life. It provides helpful hints for parents and shows ways they can support their children in making connections between home and school. It can be ordered from the Curriculum Corporation.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/numprogram.htm>

http://www.curriculum.edu.au/catalogue/product.php?cat_id=1322

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

This site provides a range of activities and ideas that can be shared with parents/carers to support children's literacy and numeracy development at home in the early and middle years of school.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/litnumweek/>

Better Health Channel

Literacy and children

This is a fact sheet for parents on literacy learning for young children. It provides advice for parents in helping their children's learning and where to get help.

http://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/bhcv2/bhcarticles.nsf/pages/Literacy_and_children?OpenDocument

Western Australia

Department of Education and Training

Life's Launching Pad

This pamphlet provides ideas and information to parents on ways to support young children's learning before they start school. It is available from the Department of Education and Training but is not available on-line.

Home is Where the Start Is

This is a pamphlet to help parents support the learning of young children at home. It is available from the Department of Education and Training but is not available on-line.

Department of Community Development

The Department's parenting website page provides a range of advice for parents of young children. It includes **Parenting Tips** and **Play and Learning Activities**.

<http://community.wa.gov.au/Resources/Parenting/>

Parenting Tips

This website provides information and ideas for parents of children of different ages. It includes information and advice on learning development and reading.

http://www.fcs.wa.gov.au/content/parenting_information/tips/default.htm

Play and Learning Activities

This page provides access to several play and learning activity sheets with ideas for playing with kids. It includes one on books and stories.

<http://community.wa.gov.au/Resources/Parenting/Play+and+learning+activities.htm>

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

Talk Play and Learn

This is a brochure for parents that focuses on the interrelationship between talking, playing and learning for young children.

http://nationalliteracyandnumeracyweek.ais.wa.edu.au/resources_talk_play_learn.shtml

Parent Organisations

Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO)/Australian Parents Council (APC)

Literacy: Parents Make the World of Difference

This booklet is jointly published by ACSSO and APCI. The leaflet shows parents how they can play a vital role in supporting their child's literacy development by doing simple, everyday things within the family and home. It can be accessed on-line.

<http://www.acsso.org.au/>

Professional Organisations

Australian Association for the Teaching of English

The Association publishes a range of materials for parents on literacy and numeracy. They include two pamphlets for parents and cards that provide practical ideas for parents who want to help their children with their reading. These materials are not available on-line but are available for purchase from the Association.

<http://www.aate.org.au/>

The two pamphlets available are:

Literacy and Numeracy: Doing Things with Your Children

This a four-page pamphlet of ideas for parents.

<http://www.aate.org.au/Catalogue/other.html>

Never Too Young to Read

This pamphlet outlines ways to engage babies and toddlers with print.

<http://www.aate.org.au/Catalogue/other.html>

The cards are: **How to Support Your Beginning Reader**, **How to Support Your Developing Reader** and **How to Read to Your Baby**.

Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers

The Association of Mathematics Teachers provides resources for the teaching of numeracy and mathematics. Although primarily intended for teachers, some of the resources can be used at home by students and parents. The student resources page provides access to a range of mathematical games and puzzles. It also provides links to other sites with games, puzzles and other enrichment activities.

<http://www.aamt.edu.au/>

<http://www.aamt.edu.au/resources/student/links/>

Reach for the Stars

This is an Australia-wide activity associated with National Literacy and Numeracy Week. It is designed for students from pre-school through to junior secondary, and provides an opportunity for students across the pre-school or school to be involved in a single event with a numeracy focus. While designed for participation by schools, the activities provided on-line can easily be used by parents at home to help with their children's numeracy learning. The 2005 activities are constructed around a "money trail" (a line of coins) and explore mathematics and numeracy with their coin collection.
<http://www.aamt.edu.au/projects/reachforthestars/2005/index.html>

Early Childhood Australia

Formerly known as the Early Childhood Association of Australia, Early Childhood Australia has recently upgraded its website to provide an extensive range of resources for early childhood professionals and for parents of young children. The Supporting Best Practice page provides links to resources that include help with the literacy development of children in the early years. Follow the link to Language and Learning.
http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/supporting_best_practice/supporting_best_practice.html
http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/everyday_learning_and_play/language_and_learning/

Learning to Read

This booklet provides help and ideas for parents on how to help children to learn to read. It can be ordered from Early Childhood Australia.
<http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au/shop/Results.cfm?category=15>

Early Childhood Learning Resources

The purpose of the Early Childhood Learning Resources Project is to develop, pilot and distribute a set of high quality, innovative early childhood resource materials that nurture and support early literacy and numeracy development of children from birth to five years. It is funded by the Australian Government. The work is being undertaken by Monash University, University of Melbourne, Curriculum Corporation and Early Childhood Australia.

A number of resource materials will be developed. They will address the learning needs of all young children: boys and girls; those in low socioeconomic areas, rural and remote regions and Indigenous communities. The materials will be suitable for use in a wide range of settings – at home as well as in playgroups and other early childhood services and programs that support young children and their parents. It is anticipated that resources will gradually become available from the end of 2005.
<http://www.curriculum.edu.au/eclearning/index.htm>

Research Institutes, Universities

Clearinghouse for National Literacy and Numeracy Research, Griffith University

The Clearinghouse provides public access to the products of research funded by the Australian Government Department of Education, Science and Training Grants for National Literacy and Numeracy Strategies and Projects Programme. The research projects are particularly relevant for teachers in primary and secondary schools as well

as for professional development personnel, policy makers, tertiary students and academics. It provides on-line access to a range of pamphlets for parents and other resources on literacy teaching and learning. These are listed on the Publications page. <http://www.gu.edu.au/school/cls/clearinghouse/>

Magazines, On-line Newsletters

Parent Update

This is a free email newsletter for parents published by the Victorian Department of Education and Training. It is directed at informing parents about broad education issues and developments in Victoria, but includes articles on literacy and numeracy learning. <http://www.det.vic.gov.au/det/parentupdate>

Schools and Parents

Published by Education Queensland for parents. It is published twice a year and covers a broad range of topics, including literacy. <http://education.qld.gov.au/publication/reporting/parents/index.html>

Other

Count Us In

This is a website of the Australian Broadcasting Commission that provides access to games to help young children understand basic number concepts. <http://www.abc.net.au/countusin/>

Daisy Maths

This website is designed to help children learn to enjoy mathematics. It is aimed at children aged 3 to 12. It is a maths learning program that can be downloaded and installed on the home computer. <http://www.daisymaths.com.au/>

K-Zone

This is a children's website that includes games and puzzles that help numeracy learning. <http://www.kzone.com.au/>

Mem Fox

The website of Mem Fox, children's author, provides advice for parents and teachers on reading learning, including the Ten Read-Aloud Commandments. <http://www.memfox.com/welcome.html>

Part 2: Overseas Resources to Assist Literacy and Numeracy Learning at Home

Canada

Government agencies

British Columbia Ministry of Education

Math for Families: Helping Your Child with Math at Home

This guide for parents provides suggestions for ways families can support math at home.

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/numeracy/resources.htm#math>

http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/numeracy/resources/math_families.pdf

Ontario Ministry of Education

Helping Your Child Learn to Read – A Parent Guide

This guide is intended to help children from Kindergarten through Grade 3 improve their reading skills. It contains tips that parents can use to encourage young children to read and to love reading. It will be most useful for parents of young children who are just beginning to read. It is available online.

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/earlyreading/index.html>

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/earlyreading/readingguide.pdf>

Helping Your Child Learn Math – A Parent Guide

This guide is intended for parents to help children improve their math skills. It suggests simple activities that parents can do with their young child to explore math at home. It will be most useful for parents of children in Kindergarten through Year 3. It is available online.

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/earlymath/index.html>

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/document/brochure/earlymath/mathguide.pdf>

United Kingdom

Government agencies

Department for Education and Skills

A Little Reading Goes a Long Way

This is an on-line guide to parents to help with their children's reading.

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/read/>

Parents: Partners in Learning

This is a general guide for parents to support their children's learning at home. It includes suggestions for helping literacy and numeracy learning. It can be downloaded free.

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DfES+0747+2004G&>

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DfES04142004G.pdf>

Engaging Fathers

This booklet summarises research and information available on engaging fathers in their children's learning. It is directed at teachers, but provides ideas and suggestions for engaging fathers in children's learning at home.

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/familyandcommunity/workingwithparents/engagingfathers/>

<http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/doc/6726/ACF21C0.pdf>

Parents Centre

The Parents Centre is a website for parents provided by the Department for Education and Skills. It provides information for parents about their children's learning both in and out of school. It covers a broad range of topics, including help with children's reading. The website is organised by age group and advice on reading and writing with children is provided for ages 3-5 and 5-7. It also provides access to booklets on helping children with reading.

<http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/>

<http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/foragegroup/3to5years/>

<http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/foragegroup/5to7years/>

<http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/publications/>

A Guide to Supporting Reading for Parents of Primary School Children

<http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/publications/?asset=document&id=12822>

http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/_files/7944687B3DAAA1F71B077D7B7C260B20.pdf

A Guide to Supporting Reading for Parents of Secondary School Children

<http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/publications/?asset=document&id=12825>

http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/_files/F4073C7EBA47ADBC38285661343C7E4D.pdf

Bookstart+

This booklet shows how books can be used creatively to help build language skills, social skills and literacy skills for very young children.

http://www.parentcentre.gov.uk/_files/5130B3DC34FDFEE5F36E151768036F17.pdf

Read Together

This website for parents is operated by the Scottish Executive. It provides advice to parents in helping children to read, a guide to books for various age groups and an online reading together booklet.

<http://www.readtogether.co.uk/>

Non-government organisations

The Basic Skills Agency

A range of publications and videos can be purchased from this site for parents to help their children's literacy and numeracy development.

<http://www.basic-skills.co.uk/site/page.php?cms=0&p=678>

A separate website of the Agency, **Read and Count**, provides on-line resources designed for parents to use with children aged 3-5 to support their early literacy and numeracy development. They show how a child learns early reading and maths,

provides ideas for activities to do together, gives advice on how to recognise your child's progress and indicates the resources for literacy and numeracy learning that are available. All the activities are specifically designed so they can be done as part of the everyday routine.

<http://www.read-count.org/>

It has online guides for reading and numeracy.

Read and Write Together

<http://www.read-count.org/nof/read/index.htm>

Count and Figure It Out

<http://www.read-count.org/nof/count/index.htm>

British Association for Early Childhood Education

The Association has a range of publications for parents of young children, including helping with reading and mathematics. The publications are not available online but can be purchased from the Association.

<http://www.early-education.org.uk/>

<http://www.early-education.org.uk/1leaflets.htm>

It also has pamphlets available online to help parents with early reading and numeracy learning.

Maths is Everywhere

http://www.early-education.org.uk/pdf/EE_maths.pdf

The Road to Reading

http://www.early-education.org.uk/pdf/reading_lflt.pdf

The Child Literacy Centre

The Child Literacy Centre provides help for parents learn about the reading process so that they can support their children in developing reading skills and to enable parents who are worried about their child's progress to receive expert, personal advice and specific tips for helping.

<http://www.childliteracy.com/>

Help Them Read

Help Them Read is aimed at supporting parents to overcome children's reading difficulties. It provides an on-line system of lessons and tests to help adults tutor children and other adults who have reading difficulties. The starting level is determined initially through simple reading tests which are supplied free of charge. Once the starting point is determined a set of lessons and instructions can be ordered on-line and can then be accessed at any time to order subsequent sets of lessons. Once you have purchased lessons, they become accessible from your account, at any time.

<http://www.helpthemread.co.uk/>

National Literacy Trust

The National Literacy Trust has a comprehensive page for parents on helping their children with reading. It includes an extensive list of resources for parents in talking to their baby and helping with the reading of 3-5 year olds and school-age children. It also provides a list of internet resources for different age groups. A site to explore.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/index.html>

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/database/parentindex.html>

Oxford Reading Tree

Oxford University Press has a website with resources to help with children's reading. A page for parents provides resources which can be downloaded.

<http://www.oup.co.uk/oxed/primary/ort/parents/>

At Home with Oxford Reading Tree: A Guide for Parents.

http://www.oup.co.uk/pdf/oxed/primary/ORTParentGde_0603.pdf

Peers Early Education Partnership

PEEP is an early learning intervention which aims to improve the life chances of children in disadvantaged areas. Its purpose is to raise educational attainment, especially literacy, by supporting parents and carers in their role as first educators. It has publications and videos available for purchase.

<http://www.peep.org.uk/Parents/index.html>

Reading is Fundamental, UK

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), UK is an initiative of the National Literacy Trust that helps children and young people (aged 0 to 19) to realise their potential by motivating them to read. It delivers targeted literacy projects that promote the fun of reading, the importance of book choice and the benefits to families of sharing books at home.

It includes a separate site for parents with advice on reading with their children, or supporting them once they are older. It includes general tips for parents in helping with reading, answers to frequently asked questions, advice sheets on helping different age groups to read and advice on choosing books for children. The frequently asked questions section covers topics such as teenagers losing interest in reading, dyslexia and special educational needs, as well as reading with pre-school children. The advice sheets include one for helping older children to read.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/rif/index.htm>

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/rif/parentsandcarers/index.htm>

Schoolzone

Set up by parents and teachers, this site provides internet materials which teachers, students and parents can access. It provides a large range of learning games in a number of learning areas, including literacy and numeracy, that can be used at home to help children's learning.

<http://www.schoolzone.co.uk/>

<http://www.schoolzone.co.uk/resources/learninggame/index.asp>

Talking Point

Talking Point provides information and advice to parents and professionals about speech, language and communication difficulties in children. It provides information

about speech and language difficulties, answers to frequently asked questions and access to a range of publications.

<http://www.talkingpoint.org.uk/home.asp?type=4>

Professional organizations

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education

The Centre for Literacy in Primary Education provides services and training for schools, teachers and parents in literacy education. It has publications for parents to help support their children's development as readers and writers that can be ordered on-line.

<http://www.clpe.co.uk/index.html>

http://www.clpe.co.uk/familylearning/family_main_05.html

Read it Together

This booklet for parents and carers about children learning to read and write features parents from five families talking about how they help their children at home. It explains the process of literacy learning and offers practical suggestions for things to do with your child.

<http://www.clpe.co.uk/publications/public21a.html>

Sharing Stories Together

This simply written, illustrated booklet provides suggested ways to develop young children's pleasure and interest in stories, books, reading and writing from the earliest years.

<http://www.clpe.co.uk/publications/public21a.html>

Research institutes, universities

University of Dundee

Parents in Education

This site focuses on parents as educators, home-school links, family learning, education for parenthood, and related topics. It aims to connect information about research and practice, to enhance progress in bringing home and school together in partnership. While not specifically directed at providing information on parent involvement in children's literacy and numeracy development, its quarterly newsletter provides information on new research and developments.

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/fedsoc/ParentsInEducation/#top>

University of York

Count On

This website includes a large number of maths challenges for older students and games and activities for younger children. The site is managed by the University of York for the UK Department of Education and Skills.

<http://www.counton.org/index.html>

It All Adds Up

This is an online brochure on the Count On website for parents who want to help their primary school age children improve their maths skills. It contains useful tips, advice and answers to frequently asked questions.

<http://www.mathsyear2000.org/resources/>

<http://www.mathsyear2000.org/resources/it-all-adds-up/>

Other

BBC Schools

The BBC has a webpage for parents which provides advice to parents on a range of school matters, including supporting children's learning at home in literacy and numeracy. Other pages provide activities for different age groups designed to assist literacy and numeracy learning. These can be accessed through the specific age group pages.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/work/primary/literacy/index.shtml>

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/parents/work/primary/numeracy_and_science/

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/preschool/>

Literacy

Age 4-11

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/4_11/literacy.shtml

Age 11-16

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/11_16/english.shtml

Numeracy

Age 4-11

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/4_11/numeracy.shtml

Age 11-16

http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/11_16/maths.shtml

Cool Math for Kids

Cool Math for Kids provides a range of math activities for families. It has a page for parents with ideas and resources for helping with maths.

<http://www.coolmath4kids.com/>

<http://www.coolmath4parents.com/>

MathsNet

MathsNet is an independent educational website that provides free mathematics resources. Its aim is to offer truly interactive resources that are both wide and deep in terms of their applicability and usefulness. It provides a range of mathematical games and puzzles that can be used by parents and students.

<http://www.mathsnet.net/index.html>

Parents Online

Parents On-Line is a website to help parents with children through their primary school years. It provides a range of downloadable modules of resources to help at home. These include games, activities and printable worksheets to support literacy and numeracy learning. The site also has a wealth of other information to help parents of primary school age children.

<http://www.parents.org.uk/index.html?parents-welcome.html&2>

<http://www.parents.org.uk/index.html?parents-welcome.html&2>

United States

Government agencies

U.S. Department of Education

A parents' site provides access to a range of information and ideas for parents, including helping their children's reading.

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/landing.jhtml?src=fp>

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/read/resources/edpicks.jhtml?src=ln>

The **Helping Your Child** publication series aims to provide parents with the tools and information necessary to help their children succeed in school and life. These booklets feature practical lessons and activities to help their school aged and preschool children master reading, understand the value of homework and develop the skills necessary to achieve. The series includes booklets on helping your child with pre-school, helping your child with reading and helping your child with numeracy. They are available online.

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/tools-for-success/index.html>

Helping Your Child Become a Reader

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/reader/index.html>

Helping Your Preschool Child

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/preschool/part.html>

Helping Your Child Succeed in School

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/succeed/index.html>

Helping Your Child With Mathematics

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/help/math/index.html>

Reading Tips for Parents

This booklet that addresses topics such as: How Can I Help My Child Be Ready to Read and Ready to Learn? Includes How Do I Know a Good Early Reading Program When I See One? Simple Strategies for Creating Strong Readers; and The Five Essential Components of Reading.

<http://www.ed.gov/parents/read/resources/readingtips/index.html>

Ready Set Read

The Ready Set Read Childhood Learning Kit was developed by the Department of Health and Human Services, the Corporation for National Service, and the Department of Education to advance President Clinton's challenge to help every child in America read independently and well by the end of the third grade. It includes a booklet for parents that is available online.

<http://www.ed.gov/Family/RSRforFamily/index.html>

Partnership for Reading

The Partnership for Reading is a collaborative effort by three federal agencies - the National Institute for Literacy, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, and the U.S. Department of Education - to bring the findings of evidence-based reading research to the educational community, families, and others with an

interest in helping all people learn to read well. It provides information on the research, principles about reading instruction suggested by the research, and products for parents, teachers, administrators, and policy-makers. It publishes several guides for parents on reading by young children and these can be downloaded from the site. It also has a page on answers to questions about reading which is of interest to parents.

<http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/index.html>

http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/questions/questions_about.html

A Child Becomes a Reader: From Birth to Preschool

This booklet offers advice for parents of children from birth to preschool on how to support reading development at home, and how to recognize preschool and day care activities that start children on the road to becoming readers.

<http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/publications/earlychildhood.html>

A Child Becomes a Reader: K – 3

This booklet provides advice for parents of Kindergarten to Year 3 children on how to support reading development at home.

<http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/publications/k-3.html>

Put Reading First

This is a brochure that provides an overview of the findings of the National Reading Panel and suggests ways parents can reinforce reading instruction at home with everyday activities and interactions.

<http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/publications/k-3.html>

Wisconsin Literacy Education and Learning Network Source

The Wisconsin Literacy Education and Reading Network System (WiLEARNNS) is an extensive site designed to support the people nurturing and teaching children and adults to be accomplished readers. Parents, childcare providers, teachers and tutors will find research based information that explains that learning to read starts with a child's developing a sense of language as they listen, speak, are read to, read, and write. WiLEARNNS provides practical information, a list of resources, and links to other websites supporting educators and parents as they work with learners of all ages engaged in the process of reading. The most convenient access to the site for parents is through the Families page, which provides direct links to a wide range of information for parents on language development, emergent literacy and phonemic awareness. It provides advice, ideas and activities for supporting reading development.

<http://wilearnns.state.wi.us/apps/>

<http://wilearnns.state.wi.us/apps/default.asp?cid=471>

Non-government organisations

Clearinghouse on Reading, English and Communication

The Clearinghouse publishes **Digests** which are short reports providing a basic introduction and overview, together with major pertinent references, on a wide range of topics of prime interest to educators. Several Digests have been published on reading and literacy and on writing instruction, many of which provide useful information for parents.

<http://reading.indiana.edu/www/indexdb.html>

Children's Literacy Development: Suggestions for Parent Involvement [Digest #86]

This Digest provides a short introduction to ideas and resources to help parents support their children's literacy learning at home.

Parent Support of Early Literacy Development [Digest #164]

This Digest is intended to help parents support young children's literacy learning. It begins with definitions of literacy, then follows with suggestions for parent involvement in children's early literacy development. Additional resources for supporting young literacy learners are included.

Family Information Center

This site provides access to a large range of information and materials for parents to take an active part in their children's learning development. It also provides access to the **Helping Your Child** series published by the US Department of Education.

<http://reading.indiana.edu/www/indexfr.html>

Educational REALMS

Educational REALMS (Resources for Engaging Active Learners in Mathematics and Science) is a new organization created in 2004 after the discontinuation of the federally funded ERIC Clearinghouse for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education. It provides access to resources previously published by the Clearinghouse.

The site includes a page for parents that provides activities to do with children to help mathematics learning as well as links to books, articles and other websites. The site is currently being reorganised and relocated. For developments, check the following web address.

<http://www.stemworks.org/>

The site did include **ERIC Digests** which provide a short introduction and guide to resources on topics relating to science, mathematics and environmental education. Several Digests are aimed at providing information and advice to parents in helping their children's learning in these areas. However, they are not available at present on the site, but can be obtained by searching the full ERIC archive at: <http://www.eric.ed.gov/>

Doing Mathematics With Your Child [Digest 94-3]

This Digest provides resources that will enable parents to help develop their children's abilities to do mathematics, while at the same time encouraging more positive attitudes toward mathematics. The resources are divided into three areas: (1) activities initiated in the home; (2) activities initiated at school; and (3) special curriculum development projects that promote parent involvement.

Helping Your Child Learn Math [Digest 98-14]

This Digest shows parents how they can help their children with mathematics and provides a range of on-line resources.

Family Education Network

Family Education Network is an online parent network of learning and information resources, personalized to help parents, teachers, and students of all ages take control of their learning and make it part of their everyday lives.

<http://familyeducation.com/home/>

Literacy

There are several pages with advice on helping children with reading, fun ways to support reading learning and a screening tool for parents to assess their child's reading skills. The site also provides free software for reading and other activities.

<http://familyeducation.com/article/0,1120,64-16986,00.html>

<http://familyeducation.com/topic/front/0,1156,64-21186,00.html>

http://familyeducation.com/article/0,1120,23-25466,00.html?promo_home

<http://www.smart-estore.com/default.asp?storeid=914120&c=FEN003>

Numeracy

Advice and suggestions for parents to help with numeracy and mathematics learning at home is provided through the web pages for specific grades. Each site has advice and suggestions together with games and activities.

Pre-K – 2

<http://familyeducation.com/channel/0,2916,63,00.html>

3 – 5

<http://familyeducation.com/channel/0,2916,66,00.html>

6 – 12

<http://familyeducation.com/channel/0,2916,69,00.html>

Institute for Urban and Minority Education

The Institute has taken over the archives of the ERIC Clearinghouse on Urban Education. The archives include **ERIC Digests** and **Parent Guides** published by the Clearinghouse, some of which provide information to parents on literacy and numeracy learning.

http://iume.tc.columbia.edu/eric_archive.asp

Helping Underachieving Boys Read Well and Often [Digest 176]

While mainly directed at teachers, this Digest outlines boys' interests in literacy and provides activities for parents.

http://iume.tc.columbia.edu/eric_archive.asp?show=1

http://iume.tc.columbia.edu/eric_archive/digest/176.pdf

Family Math for Urban Students and Parents [Digest 146]

Family mathematics programs, based on family literacy programs, successfully teach math skills to both children and their parents. This digest describes specific strategies for teaching family mathematics.

http://iume.tc.columbia.edu/eric_archive.asp?show=1

http://iume.tc.columbia.edu/eric_archive/digest/146.pdf

National Center for Family Literacy

Family literacy programs help parents help their children succeed. In family literacy programs, adults and children learn side by side. Children develop the language and literacy skills they need with the support of their parents or primary caregivers, who also have the opportunity to improve their own skills. The National Center for Family Literacy produces a wide range of material and resources on family literacy programs, including some guides for parents.

<http://www.famlit.org/>

<http://www.famlit.org/Resources/ReadingTips/index.cfm>

A Parent's Guide to Reading With Your Child

This on-line article provides 10 tips to bring up a book lover.

<http://www.familit.org/Resources/ReadingTips/ParentsGuide/index.cfm>

Age Appropriate Tips at a Glance

This online article provides tips to guide parents of babies and toddlers, preschoolers, and beginning readers. Follow the links for further advice.

http://www.familit.org/Resources/ReadingTips/ParentsGuide/Age_Appropriate_Tips/index.cfm

StudyDog

StudyDog is a computer-based reading development program that is available free through the NCFL to teachers, literacy practitioners, and parents. It is a supplemental reading program designed for children from Pre-K to 2nd Grade. The program can help a child master the core reading skills if the child is ready to learn to read or is as much as a year behind in reading at school. It focuses on specific early reading skills that children need to practice and accomplish in order to become successful readers.

StudyDog teaches these skills by combining multimedia and game-like activities with a curriculum and instructional method proven effective for Kindergarteners and for first and second graders. It can be downloaded from the website.

<http://www.familit.org/studydog/index.cfm>

National Coalition for Parent Involvement in Education

The NCPPIE supports the involvement of parents and families in their children's education. It provides a list of resources for parents on literacy development, and other issues, published by other organisations and contact details.

http://www.ncpie.org/Resources/resources_by_subject.cfm?resourceTypeID=16

North Central Regional Educational Laboratory

The North Central Regional Educational Laboratory publishes **Critical Issues**, an online series of publications that synthesizes research on an issue critical to educators working to improve their schools. Each issue sets goals and an action plan for stakeholders who are engaged in a specific school improvement issue.

<http://www.ncrel.org/>

Addressing the Literacy Needs of Emergent and Early Readers

This Critical Issue provides an understanding of the literacy acquisition of young children and suggests strategies that can help children become successful, confident readers and writers.

<http://www.ncrel.org/sdrs/areas/issues/content/cntareas/reading/li100.htm>

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

The Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory provides resources for educators, policymakers, parents, and the public to improve education. The resources include free booklets for parents.

<http://www.nwrel.org/>

Tips for Parents About Reading

This booklet offers practical ideas parents can use with children from birth through middle school to encourage and support reading proficiency. It also provides guidelines about what children typically can do at certain ages/stages of reading development and lists titles of kids' favourite books. It can be downloaded from the site as a PDF file.

<http://www.nwrel.org/free/detail.asp?RID=7480>

<http://www.nwrac.org/pub/tipsforparents.pdf>

Families to Help Children Learn

This booklet is for families to help their children do their best in school; take pleasure from reading, writing, and mathematics; and enjoy a richer, fuller life. It contains practical suggestions for activities and games you can play that enhance learning. These activities are designed for the extra minutes you have riding in a car or on a bus, when working around our home, or when shopping for groceries. It can be downloaded as a PDF file.

<http://www.nwrel.org/free/detail.asp?RID=9843>

<http://www.nwrel.org/cfc/publications/pdf/ways.pdf>

Parents Action for Children

Parents' Action for Children is a national non-profit dedicated to advancing the interests of families and children. Parents' Action develops parent education materials, connects parents with one another, and advocates on behalf of parents. Its website provides a range of resources for parents, including a Ready to Learn page with resources and suggestions for parents to help their children with literacy learning.

<http://www.parentsaction.org/index.cfm>

<http://www.parentsaction.org/learn/parenting/readytolearn/>

Parent Institute

The mission of The Parent Institute is to encourage parent involvement in the education of their children. It publishes a variety of materials including newsletters, booklets, brochures, and videos. Some are downloadable free and others can be purchased online.

<http://www.parent-institute.com/>

Public Broadcasting Service (PBS)

Misunderstood Minds

It is designed to give parents and teachers a better understanding of learning processes, insights into difficulties, and strategies for responding. It offers suggestions and strategies to help children who are experiencing problems in reading, writing and mathematics. It also includes a selection of books, articles and websites for teachers and parents.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/misunderstoodminds/index.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/misunderstoodminds/readingstrats.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/misunderstoodminds/mathstrats.html>

Reading is Fundamental

Reading is Fundamental is a large non-profit organization that aims to assist children and their families with the fundamental resources children need to become motivated to read. It operates a number of programs to assist parents and publishes material to assist parents to help their children's reading development.

<http://www.rif.org/>

A Parents page provides access to a wide range of material to help children's reading. Resources are classified by age group to 13 and above. Advice is provided on how to motivate children to read, choosing books, reading to children, activities and ideas to support literacy development as well as articles and books about reading. A site to explore for ideas and advice.

<http://www.rif.org/parents/>

A series of Parent Guides can be downloaded from the Parent Resources page.

<http://www.rif.org/parents/resources/parentguide.msp>

Choosing Good Books for Children of All Ages

http://www.rif.org/assets/Documents/parents/choosing_books.pdf

How to Get Preschoolers Excited About Reading

<http://www.rif.org/assets/Documents/parents/Preschool.pdf>

Reading Aloud to Your Children

http://www.rif.org/assets/Documents/parents/reading_aloud.pdf

Summertime Reading for Children of All Ages

http://www.rif.org/assets/Documents/parents/summer_reading.pdf

Reading Planet

This website operated by Reading Is Fundamental is for children and parents. It provides a wealth of games and activities to support reading development as well as booklists.

<http://www.rif.org/readingplanet/>

Shared Beginnings

This is a program operated by Reading Is Fundamental that helps young parents develop their children's early language and literacy skills. A series of activities gives parents practice in reading aloud to their children and planning early learning experiences that stimulate language development in infants and toddlers. Parents also learn how to choose picture books that their children will enjoy. Access to the program is available by application.

<http://www.rif.org/what/sharedbeginnings/default.msp>

Family of Readers

This is a family reading program operated by Reading Is Fundamental that focuses on educationally at-risk children, from birth through elementary school, and their families. It helps parents develop the skills and self-assurance to take a leading role in supporting their children's reading and learning while their children learn to love books. Access to the program is available by application.

<http://www.rif.org/what/familyofreaders/default.msp>

Reading Rockets

A project of WETA, the public broadcasting station in Washington DC, this site provides detailed information about learning to read and strategies for supporting struggling readers at home, at school, and in the community. It is a site for parents to explore. It offers a wealth of news, practical information, expert advice, and resources for parents and others.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/>

Teaching Kids to Read

This part of the Reading Rockets website includes a site for parents that provides advice and resources on helping their children with reading at home. It includes advice on reading with your child and reading aloud. There is also a separate activities page with lots of suggestions to support reading development.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/lp.php?SSID=2>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/lp.php?CID=5>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/lp.php?SSID=25>

Helping Kids Who Struggle

This page on the Reading Rockets site provides advice and resources for parents of children who are struggling with reading. It includes suggestions to make reading at home rewarding and enjoyable for children.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/lp.php?SID=2>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/lp.php?CID=8>

<http://www.readingrockets.org/lp.php?CID=28>

Ready Web

Ready Web is a resource for parents and educators in preparing children for school. It includes a Tips for Parents page that has online publications that provide advice to parents in helping children learn to read.

<http://readyweb.crc.uiuc.edu/index.html>

Helping Your Child Learn to Read

This booklet has reading activities for children from infancy to age 10. It is available online.

<http://readyweb.crc.uiuc.edu/library/1993/read/helppread.html>

Schwab Learning

25 Fun Ways to Encourage Reading

This pamphlet outlines fun and engaging activities parents can use to motivate their children to read and instill a lifelong love of reading. It is for parents of elementary school-aged children.

<http://www.schwablearning.org/articles.asp?r=434&g=4>

<http://www.schwablearning.org/pdfs/25funways2BW.pdf?date=9-12-03>

Professional organizations

American Academy of Pediatrics

This website provides online materials to support early literacy development. It includes an age-by-age guide to learning to read.

<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/literacy.cfm>

“Read Me a Story” Reading Check-up Guide

This is an online guide on the stages of early reading development. It is designed to give parents practical information about how to help children to grow up reading. It consists of a series of “Reading Checkups” to evaluate children’s progress through six stages of reading development, from picture-pointing to independent reading. Each check-up describes the knowledge and skills that most children demonstrate at a given stage, and suggests how they can be nurtured.

<http://www.aap.org/family/readmeastory.htm>

Helping Your Child Learn to Read

This pamphlet offers encouragement and advice for parents of preschool children and stresses the importance of reading aloud and making books available. Year-by-year suggestions for reading activities, the school's role, and recognizing symptoms of dyslexia are covered as well. It is available for purchase from the Academy.

<http://www.aap.org/healthtopics/literacy.cfm>

International Reading Association

The International Reading Association is a professional membership organization dedicated to promoting high levels of literacy for all by improving the quality of reading instruction, disseminating research and information about reading, and encouraging the lifetime reading habit. It has published a wide range of material for professionals and parents. Parent resources include guides to help with reading for beginning readers. Some of these can be directly downloaded as PDF files from the site while others can be purchased on-line from the Association. It also provides an extensive list of website resources for teachers and parents.

<http://www.reading.org>

http://www.reading.org/resources/issues/focus_beginning.html

Beginning Literacy and Your Child: A Guide to Helping Your Baby or Preschooler Become a Reader

This booklet supports the belief that it's never too early to start a child on a literacy journey. Strategies are offered for talking to babies, demonstrating reading to babies, and for turning the home into a supportive literacy environment. It can be purchased online from the Association.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>

http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=1028&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

Books Are Cool! Keeping Your Middle School Student Reading

This booklet offers strategies for parents with a child who is going through a difficult time of personal, physical, and social growth. Strategies are offered for helping a child prioritize reading and find time to read and for finding appropriate reading materials. It can be purchased online from the Association.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>

http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=1030&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

Enjoy the Playground of Books: Tips for Parents of Beginning Readers

This brochure for parents gives helpful information about the importance of encouraging children's early attempts at reading, and provides tips on helping children grow as readers and writers.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>

http://www.reading.org/downloads/parents/pb1019_playground.pdf

Families at School: A Handbook for Parents

This handbook helps parents to develop literacy with children at home. It explains the importance of reading and writing and how children learn about literacy, and recommends books for both parents and children. Step-by-step instructions show you how to design games,

puzzles, arts and crafts, and other activities to help children learn about the world. It can be purchased online from the Association.

http://marketplace.reading.org/products/IRA_Book_Subject.cfm?ID_Subject=16
http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=248&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

Get Ready to Read: Tips for Parents of Young Children

This brochure is for parents establish the building blocks for reading for very young children. It provides helpful information about the importance of reading aloud to young children and encouraging reading activities in the home before a child enters school.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>
http://www.reading.org/downloads/parents/pb1017_ready.pdf

I Can Read and Write! How to Encourage Your School-Age Child's Literacy Development

This booklet provides advice to parents on how to read with their elementary-age child, allowing the child to participate in the reading. The booklet also shows how to make the home a reader-friendly environment, initiate writing activities with a child, and make family trips to the library.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>
http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=1029&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

Library Safari

This brochure encourages parents to make trips to the library with their young children. Exploring the library gives children access to books and many more learning opportunities: magazines, videos, the Internet, computer instruction, community information, art exhibits, and craft classes, to name a few.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>
http://www.reading.org/downloads/parents/pb1032_safari.pdf

Make the Reading-Writing Connection: Tips for Parents of Young Learners

This brochure provides simple activities, some of which can be executed during daily household activities, that will help parents encourage their children to write.

Parents know that reading aloud daily to their children is important for developing literacy, but what else can parents do to help their children become better readers? Writing activities help reinforce and further develop reading skills.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>
http://www.reading.org/downloads/parents/pb1038_connection.pdf

Parents, Teens, and Reading: A Winning Combination

This booklet offers strategies for parents who must deal with older children whose time may be limited and who may not be as concerned about reading as they are about friends and their social lives. The booklet recommends that parents be creative and encourage their child that any reading is good reading, whether it be books, magazines, or Internet sites. It can be purchased online from the Association.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>
http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=1031&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

Summer Reading Adventure: Tips for Parents of Young Readers

This brochure gives ideas for parents to sustain reading by their children during the summer holidays. It provides suggestions for ways of weaving reading into family activities.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>

http://www.reading.org/downloads/parents/pb1023_summer.pdf

What Is Family Literacy? Getting Involved in Your Child's Literacy Learning

This brochure outlines programs and resources to help families foster their children's literacy from infancy to adolescence. In addition to program descriptions and contacts, the brochure lists books and websites for parents and children.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>

http://www.reading.org/downloads/parents/pb1044_involved.pdf

National Council of Teachers of English

The NCTE website includes a page for parents that provides advice and resources for parents to help their children with reading. The resources include booklists for children of different ages.

<http://www.ncte.org/parents>

Parent's Guide to Literacy for the 21st Century: Pre – K Through Grade 5

This book uses clear, everyday language and classroom examples to explain and illustrate some of the key concepts and terms in literacy acquisition and education. A variety of fun and practical activities is suggested for parents to do at home with their children. It can be purchased online from the NCTE.

<http://www.ncte.org/store/books/language/105478.htm>

Parent to Parent: Our Children, Their Literacy

This book helps parents become active participants in their children's literacy development. It provides information for parents to facilitate their children's learning. Each chapter begins with questions parents frequently ask about speaking, listening, reading, writing, and spelling. It provides a number of strategies that help children develop as writers and spellers, such as having children write grocery lists, use message boards, or participate in written conversations. It can be purchased online from the NCTE.

<http://www.ncte.org/store/books/reading/106268.htm>

Read Together: Parents and Educators Working Together for Literacy

This is a position statement of the NCTE that provides guidelines for parents to help their children with reading and a suggested booklist.

<http://www.ncte.org/about/over/positions/category/lit/107659.htm>

<http://www.ncte.org/parents/links/113371.htm>

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics

Figure This!

This is a website provides a range of resources for parents to help their children at home with mathematics. It has mathematical challenges for families providing interesting math challenges that middle school students can do at home with their families. The

Family Corner page provides downloadable brochures for parents to help with mathematics at home.

http://www.figurethis.org/about_ft.htm

http://www.figurethis.org/challenges/challenge_index.htm

http://www.figurethis.org/challenges/math_index.htm

http://www.figurethis.org/fc/family_corner.htm

National Education Association

The NEA website has a section for parents about how to get involved in and improve their children's education. It contains several guides to parents on helping with reading, numeracy and science.

<http://www.nea.org/parents/nearesources-parents.html>

A Parent's Guide to Raising Ready Readers

<http://www.nea.org/parents/raisingreaders.html>

A Parent's Guide to Helping Your Child Learn to Read

<http://www.nea.org/parents/learntoread.html>

A Parent's Guide to Helping Your Child With Today's Math

<http://www.nea.org/parents/math.html>

A Parent's Guide to Raising Scientifically Literate Children

<http://www.nea.org/parents/science.html>

Reading Tips for Parents. This covers tips for parents of pre-school children, Kindergarten to Grade 3 and Grades 4 – 6.

<http://www.nea.org/parents/readingmattershome.html>

Reach Out and Read

Reach Out and Read is a program for pediatricians that promotes early literacy by bringing new books and advice about the importance of reading aloud into the pediatric exam room. It includes a resources guide to promoting early literacy development and reading tips for parents.

<http://www.reachoutandread.org/>

<http://www.reachoutandread.org/resource.html>

http://www.reachoutandread.org/resource_tip.html

Magazines, On-line newsletters

Parents and Children On-line Together

Parents and Children Together is published by the Family Information Center at the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English and Communication. The magazine's goal is to further the cause of family literacy by bringing parents and children together through the magic of reading. It features original stories and articles for children, suitable for reading aloud. A special section for parents features resources on issues related to children's development and literacy learning, as well as reviews.

<http://reading.indiana.edu/www/indexfr.html>

Parent Talk

Parent Talk provides access to research findings in education and ways for parents to help their children in a variety of learning areas, including reading. It is published by the Family Information Center at the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English and Communication.

<http://reading.indiana.edu/www/indexfr.html>

Other

ABC Teach

This website provides resources for teachers and parents, including materials, games and puzzles for literacy and numeracy learning.

<http://abcteach.com/index.html>

Between the Lions

This website provides interactive and fun learning opportunities for children aged 4-9. Parents of young children will find useful guides and opportunities to help their children learn to read, including a special page on tips for literacy learning. Features include: weekly adventures, word helper, recommended books, literacy resources, colouring pages, lettering guides, games to print and more.

<http://pbskids.org/lions/>

<http://pbskids.org/lions/tips/>

First Steps

This site provides a very structured program for parents to read to their children from a very young age. It includes information, guidelines, questions and answers and book lists to encourage reading from infancy through the teen years.

<http://www.firststeps.com/home.htm>

FunBrain

This site provides games, puzzles and activities to support mathematics learning. It includes a page for parents.

<http://www.funbrain.com/>

<http://www.funbrain.com/parents/index.html>

Get Ready to Read

Get Ready to Read is a site devoted to providing parents, teachers and others with the tools to support the development of early literacy skills.

<http://www.getreadytoread.org/>

It has a Parents page that provides skill-building activities, resources, early literacy information and other material tailored to parents' needs. It also provides advice to parents on how to talk to health care professionals and educators about promoting early literacy for their children. It provides links to a range of downloadable early childhood and early literacy resources that can be used by parents at home with their children.

http://www.getreadytoread.org/sub_parents.php

Interactive Mathematics Miscellany and Puzzles

An extensive mathematics website with activities, puzzles and exercises for all ages.

<http://www.cut-the-knot.org/index.shtml>

Kids Domain

This children's website has games and activities to support literacy and numeracy learning.

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/brain/index.html>

Kid Source

This website provides access to a series of rated articles for parents to help their child's learning at home. It includes articles on helping with reading, writing and mathematics.

<http://www.kidsource.com/kidsource/pages/ed.k12.html>

Math.com

Math.com is dedicated to providing revolutionary ways for students, parents, teachers, and everyone to learn mathematics. The site offers exploratory and recreational introductions to the world of numeracy and mathematics that will lead to deeper understanding and enjoyment. It has a parents' page which provides free lessons in mathematics, homework advice and guides to helping children at home with mathematics.

<http://www.math.com/index.aspx>

<http://www.math.com/parents.html>

Reading Tutors

This website provides tutor program coordinators with ready-made packets for all the major areas of reading development. Many children need extra help outside the classroom to be good readers and successful students. Reading-tutors provides that something extra. Reading-tutors is a low-cost, easy-to-use collection of professionally developed resources for all types of reading tutor programs. The downloadable materials are designed for use by anyone who tutors children in need of extra reading instruction, including parents. The program consists of nearly 400 downloadable lesson packets, each with complete resources for assessment and a well-structured tutoring session.

<http://www.reading-tutors.com/>

Sites for Parents

This website lists hundreds of other sites for parents, including many that provide access to resources to help children's literacy and numeracy learning at home.

<http://www.sitesforparents.com/index2.html>

Part 3: Resources to Assist Learning at Home for Students with Special Learning Needs

Indigenous Children

The resources listed here include material that is specifically directed at assisting Indigenous families to help their children with literacy and numeracy learning.

Government agencies

South Australia

Department of Education and Children's Services

The Department has a website devoted to Aboriginal education and it includes resources to assist children's literacy development. The **Early Learning** series of books were developed to ensure that Aboriginal children have access to culturally appropriate books which reinforce appropriate stages of vocabulary and grammar development in young children. They can be purchased from the Department and can be ordered on-line.

<http://www.aboriginaleducation.sa.edu.au/pages/cg0000492/>

<http://www.aboriginaleducation.sa.edu.au/pages/Community/>

<http://www.aboriginaleducation.sa.edu.au/pages/Educators/>

Child and Youth Health

Child and Youth Health provides on-line assistance to Aboriginal parents, including a guide on storytelling which is also available from the *Parenting SA* website.

Aboriginal Storytelling

<http://www.cyh.com/HealthTopics/HealthTopicDetails.aspx?p=114&np=122&id=1982>

Parenting SA

Parent Easy Guides

Parenting SA publishes a series of guides for parents that provide simple, easy-to-read information on many of the issues faced by parents from birth through adolescence, including one on literacy development. The guides have been developed from research in conjunction with appropriate experts and are widely used throughout Australia. Several guides are designed specifically for Aboriginal families.

<http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/pegs/>

http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/pegs/peg_category_title.asp?peg_category_id=10

One guide is on storytelling for Aboriginal families.

Storytelling, Parent Easy Guide 9

<http://www.parenting.sa.gov.au/pegs/9a.pdf>

Victoria

Department of Education and Training

Koorie Students in the Early Years

This video is designed to support early years teachers, parents and families, Koorie education workers and whole school teams implementing the Early Years Literacy Program with Koorie students. Within each component, the features of the Early Years

Literacy Program that support Koorie students are demonstrated. The video also includes information about the network of support that exists across Victoria to support Koorie students. It can be purchased from the Curriculum Corporation.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/lit/eyskoorie.htm>

http://www.curriculum.edu.au/catalogue/product.php?cat_id=1318

Other organisations

Australian Association for the Teaching of Reading

The Association has published a series of books to help kids learn to read – both Indigenous and non Indigenous. The stories deal in a relaxed and often amusing way with issues that affect the lives of all children: culture, family, self esteem, pride, setting goals and working towards them, good health, humour, tolerance and school attendance. It also has a series of titles for older readers. The books can be purchased from the Association.

<http://www.aate.org.au/>

<http://www.aate.org.au/Catalogue/indigenous.html>

Australian Broadcasting Commission

Message Club

This is a website for Indigenous children. It includes activities to help literacy and numeracy, including reviews of books for young children.

<http://www.abc.net.au/messageclub/>

http://www.abc.net.au/messageclub/just_fun/

http://www.abc.net.au/messageclub/good_reading/

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Website

This is a general website with an extensive range of resources on education about and for Indigenous people. It includes materials, resources and strategies for the teaching and learning of Indigenous students. While directed primarily as resources for teachers it will be of interest to parents. It also includes an extensive list of literacy related resources and materials.

<http://www.natsiew.nexus.edu.au/lens/index.html>

<http://www.natsiew.nexus.edu.au/lens/teachingandlearning/index.html>

<http://www.natsiew.nexus.edu.au/lens/literacy/index.html>

Non-English Speaking Backgrounds

This section provides resources for parents in languages other than English.

Government agencies

Commonwealth

Department of Education, Science and Training

Literacy and Numeracy: Signposts to Success.

This pamphlet published by the Australian Government emphasises the importance of literacy and numeracy to parents and other interested parties. It informs readers about the national literacy and numeracy benchmarks; the advances in literacy and numeracy assessment and reporting, the value of reporting on student achievement against the benchmarks to parents, what parents can do to assist their children and where to obtain additional information. It has been distributed to all primary and secondary schools in Australia.

Translations of the pamphlet in fifteen community languages (Arabic, Bosnian, Cambodian, Chinese, Croatian, Dari, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, Vietnamese) are available.

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/school_education/publications_resources/profiles/literacy_and_numeracy_signposts_to_success.htm

Numeracy: Families Working It Out Together, The Opportunities are Everywhere

The Australian Government has funded the publication of three pamphlets and a poster to promote the importance of numeracy learning to parents. The pamphlets target different age groups – the early years, and the middle and later years of primary school. Sample copies have been distributed to every primary school in Australia.

Translations of the brochure in fifteen community languages (Arabic, Bosnian, Cambodian, Chinese, Croatian, Dari, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Russian, Serbian, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, Vietnamese) are available.

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/school_education/publications_resources/literacy_numeracy/numeracy_families_trans.htm

New South Wales

Department of Education and Training

The Department has published a series of pamphlets to assist literacy learning at home for children from non-English speaking backgrounds. The pamphlets are available online in Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Vietnamese.

Why is it Good to Help Your Child at Home

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/wil.htm

Reading With Your Child at Home

This pamphlet is available in 26 languages other than English.

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/rwycah.htm

Helping Your Child with the Premier's Reading Challenge

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hycwtprc.htm

Helping Your Child with Writing

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hycww.htm

Helping Your Child with Spelling

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hycws.htm

How is Talking and Listening Taught?

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/hyc_rwss/hitalt.htm

Professional Support and Curriculum Directorate

Parents Count Too

This is a series of pamphlets that outline activities that can be used at home to support mathematics learning at school. They provide guidance for lower primary students are also based on around everyday events such as cooking, gardening or reading with your child or even on family outings. Each one is available in 22 different languages other than English.

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=3&i=58&kla=Maths>

The pamphlets can be downloaded at the following pages.

Helping Your Child With Counting

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=73&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Arithmetic

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=74&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Shapes and Objects

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=75&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Measuring Length and Area

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=76&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Measuring Volume and Mass

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=77&kla=Maths>

Helping Your Child With Measuring Temperature and Time

<http://www.curriculumsupport.nsw.edu.au/primary/index.cfm?u=4&i=78&kla=Maths>

These pamphlets are also available on the **Department of Education and Training** website.

https://www.det.nsw.edu.au/languagesupport/documents/index_list.htm

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

This site has several downloadable pamphlets for parents from non-English speaking backgrounds on literacy and numeracy learning. The pamphlets are available in Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Turkish and Vietnamese.

<http://www.nlnw.nsw.edu.au/parentb.htm>

Queensland

Department of Communities

Putting Families First

This is a website for parents of young children. It has a series of practical guides available on-line in six languages other than English: Arabic, Bosnian, Croatian, Chinese, Serbian and Vietnamese. **Growing and Learning in the Family** includes help for parents on children's literacy development.

<http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/family/familiesfirst/otherlanguages/index.html>

South Australia

Department of Education and Children's Services

Growing and Learning in the Family

This resource looks at children's learning and the way parents, family members and other involved adults support children's learning. It also gives information about the different stages of children's development in the first five years with suggestions for activities that will support their learning at each stage. It is available from the Department in seven languages other than English: Bosnian, Croatian, Khmer, Serbian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese.

<http://www.earlyyears.sa.edu.au/>

<http://www.curriculum.edu.au/>

http://www.curriculum.edu.au/catalogue/sa/product.php?cat_id=665

Victoria

Department of Education and Training

Thinking Strategies in Numeracy

This is a website developed for families of young children. This website gives background information on thinking strategies in numeracy as well as listing practical ideas on how families can support their children's development in this area and access to additional resources. The website also answers commonly asked questions about thinking strategies in numeracy. The material is available in 15 languages other than English.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/num/strategies/index.htm>

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/num/strategies/languages.htm>

The Department's Early Years website provides online access to a wide range of materials for parents to support the literacy and numeracy development of their children in the early and middle years of school. It includes a series of pamphlets is provided on-line, several of which are available in languages other than English.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/>

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/parents.htm>

The following pamphlets are available in 15 languages other than English

The Step into Prep – A Guide for Parents

This pamphlet is designed to assist parents to prepare their children for school.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/Steprep.htm>

Literacy and Numeracy in the Early Years of Schooling (Prep-Year 4): A Guide for Parents

This guide is designed to provide information for parents on literacy and numeracy and how families can support these developments in partnership with schools.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/lit/partrans.htm>

Handwriting in the Early Years of Schooling

This pamphlet suggests ways in which parents can support their child's handwriting development.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/handwriting.htm>

Living and Learning

This is a guide for families of young children designed to use fun and games to develop literacy and numeracy skills for young children.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/livelearn.htm>

Western Australia

National Literacy and Numeracy Week

Talk Play and Learn is a pamphlet for parents that focuses on the interrelationship between talking, playing and learning for young children. It is available on-line in Chinese, Arabic, Serbian and Vietnamese.

http://nationalliteracyandnumeracyweek.ais.wa.edu.au/resources_talk_play_learn.shtm

Other organizations

Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO)

Literacy: Parents Make the World of Difference

This booklet is jointly published by ACSSO and the Australian Parents Council. The leaflet shows parents how they can play a vital role in supporting their child's literacy development by doing simple, everyday things within the family and home. It is published in ten languages other than English. It can be accessed on-line.

<http://www.acsso.org.au/>

ESL Students

Parents who don't speak English fluently are sometimes reluctant to read and speak to their children, because they are concerned about their children's success in school. However, children with rich literacy and language experiences in any language are better prepared to learn to read in English than children who don't have such experiences. There is a huge range of online resources for learning English. This is a very small sample of what is available. The resources are in English.

Australian Council of TESOL Associations

The Council is the national co-ordinating body for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). Its website has a range of resources for the teaching and learning of English. It is directed at teachers of ESL but it includes a links page to a variety of sources that may be of interest to parents.

<http://www.tesol.org.au/>

Interesting Things for ESL Students

This web site is for people studying **English as a Second Language (ESL)** or **English as a Foreign Language (EFL)**. There are quizzes, word games, word puzzles, proverbs, slang expressions, anagrams, a random-sentence generator and other computer assisted language learning activities.

<http://www.manythings.org/>

International Reading Association

Help Your Child Learn English as a Second Language

This booklet includes sections on your child's self-concept, the value of speaking English and your home language, and how to help your child learn to read. The booklet also contains numerous resources for parents and children, including books and Internet sites. It can be purchased online from the Association.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>

http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=1056&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

English Forum

This website provides information, resources and web links for ESL students and interactive English language exercises.

<http://www.englishforum.com/00/>

To Learn English

This site provides access to a large amount of free materials and resources to learn English.

<http://www.tolearnenglish.com/>

Reading Rockets

This US website provides advice and suggestions to educators and parents of children learning English.

<http://www.readingrockets.org/lp.php?CID=8>

Yahoo

The Yahoo directory on English as a Second Language provides access to a variety of online lessons and tutorials for beginner, intermediate and advanced English learners.

http://dir.yahoo.com/Social_Science/Linguistics_and_Human_Languages/Languages/Specific_Languages/English/English_as_a_Second_Language/Lessons_and_Tutorials_Online/

Children with Learning Disabilities

There is a huge range of website resources on learning disabilities and supporting children with those needs. The resources listed here are very selective and only include those that provide materials and resources for parents of children with learning disabilities. It should be noted that the term "disability" has a different meaning in the United Kingdom from that in Australia and USA.

Three extensive resource sites for parents of children with learning disabilities and special learning needs are:

Family Village: A Global Community of Disability-Related Resources

<http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/index.htmlx>

National Dissemination Center for Children With Disabilities

<http://www.nichcy.org/>

Special Needs Project

<http://www.specialneeds.com/default.asp>

Australia

Australian Federation of SPELD Associations

The **Specific Learning Difficulties Association (SPELD)** is a non-profit-making association of parents and professional persons interested and involved in advancing the education and general well-being of children and adults with specific learning difficulties. It disseminates information to support the needs of children and adults who have specific learning difficulties and those who teach and care for them.

Several state SPELD associations provide access to publications to assist professionals and parents in identifying and supporting children with learning difficulties. For example, the SPELD NSW publications page provides resources to help children with learning difficulties. It has an extensive range of publications of interest to parents of children with learning difficulties that are available for purchase. The Victorian SPELD and SA SPELD provide on-line advice on the identification of specific learning difficulties and also have a range of publications available for purchase to help parents assist children.

<http://www.speldnsw.org.au/index.html>

<http://www.speldvic.org.au/index.htm>

<http://www.speldvic.org.au/resources.htm>

<http://www.speld-sa.org.au/slds.html>

<http://www.dyslexia-speld.com/>

Down Syndrome Association of Victoria

Practical Teaching Strategies

This is a set of five books, originally developed for children with Down syndrome, which outlines the steps needed to acquire basic mathematical skills. The mathematical skills are outlined in a clear and logical sequence to enable teachers, parents and carers to help their child to gain basic mathematical skill knowledge. The books follow a sequence according to skill levels and the program can be entered at any level relevant to the skills of the individual child. The set of books can be purchased from the Association.

<http://www.dsav.asn.au/>

http://www.dsav.asn.au/dsp_shop.cfm

Down Syndrome Association of Queensland

The Association provides educational resources for parents of children with Down Syndrome, including links to many other sites.

<http://www.dsaq.org.au/>

Down Syndrome Society of South Australia

The Society has several publications to assist the learning of children with Down Syndrome, including literacy and numeracy development. Most of them are directed at teachers but are also relevant to parents supporting the learning of their children at home. These publications can be ordered from the Society.

<http://www.downssa.asn.au/indexf.html>

Learning Difficulties Coalition of NSW

The Learning Difficulties Coalition consists of parent organisations which provide advocacy and support across the state for students and for parents of those with learning difficulties and associated disorders including AD/HD, dyslexia, dyspraxia, Tourette Syndrome, Autism and Aspergers Syndrome, Velo-Cardio-Facial Syndrome and anxiety disorders. Offers support and information to parents. It operates a Parent Helpline and has several publications available for purchase to assist parents of children with learning difficulties.

<http://www.learningdifficultiescoalition.org.au/>

Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children

The Institute provides information and services to parents of visually and hearing impaired children, including material to support their education.

http://www.ridbc.org.au/information/families/vi_help.asp

Signbank

Signbank is an interactive dictionary of Auslan (Australian Sign Language), the language of the deaf community of Australia. Whoever you are; a deaf person, deaf student, sign language interpreter, student of Auslan, or a parent of a deaf child, this website provides access to this developing visual language.

<http://www.auslan.org.au/>

Speech Pathology Australia

Speech Pathology Australia is the national body for the speech pathology profession in Australia. It has published several fact sheets on speech and literacy development, which are available on-line.

<http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au/Content.aspx?p=42>

United Kingdom

British Dyslexia Association

The Association provides information for parents of dyslexic children, including information on helping with school homework, mathematics.

<http://www.bda-dyslexia.org.uk/extra3.html>

Dyslexia Institute

The Dyslexia Institute provides information on dyslexia and access to a range of resources to support children with learning disabilities.

<http://www.dyslexia-inst.org.uk/>

Waterstone's Guide to Books for Young Dyslexic Children

In conjunction with Waterstone's Bookshops, the Dyslexia Institute has also produced a parent guide to books for young children with dyslexia. It provides advice to parents about helping their children to read and an annotated list of suitable books for dyslexic children. It is available on-line.

http://www.dyslexia-inst.org.uk/water_guide.htm

<http://www.dyslexia-inst.org.uk/pdf/files/waterstones.pdf>

I CAN

I CAN is a charity that helps children with speech and language difficulties across the UK. It provides a range of resources for parents and professionals to help overcome speech and language difficulties in young children. It has several information sheets for parents available on-line.

<http://www.ican.org.uk/index.asp>

http://www.ican.org.uk/information_centre/information_sheets.asp

National Deaf Children's Society

Helping Your Deaf Child to Learn

This is a guide for parents of deaf children. It provides advice on helping deaf children with reading and numeracy. The guide can be downloaded free.

http://www.ndcs.org.uk/information/education/helping_your_deaf_child_to_learn/index.html

http://www.ndcs.org.uk/docs/PUB_helping_your_deaf_child_to_learn_UK_2004.pdf

United States

American Foundation for the Blind

The Foundation website has a specific page for parents as teachers. It provides online advice for parents in helping the language development of young children who are visually impaired. It also gives guidelines for parents to help the toddler or preschooler be ready for more formal learning experiences in school

<http://www.afb.org/default.asp>

<http://www.afb.org/Section.asp?SectionID=8&TopicID=197>

Braille Bug

The American Foundation for the Blind created the Braille Bug website to teach sighted children about braille, and to encourage literacy among all children. Children can explore a variety of interactive activities that challenge them to decode simulated braille letters, words, and numbers on the screen. Children who are blind or visually impaired can enjoy the activities on the Braille Bug website right along with sighted children.

However, they will need special software and/or hardware on their computers.

Directions are provided on the website.

<http://www.afb.org/braillebug/>

Blind Children's Fund

The Blind Children's Fund provides parents and professionals with information, materials and resources to help teach and nurture infants and children who are visually impaired. They include materials to help literacy learning.

<http://www.blindchildrensfund.org/index.asp>

Braille Through Remote Learning

Braille through Remote Learning is an online instructional program that provides teachers, parents, and others with a series of three integrated online courses in braille and braille transcribing. The program is designed to offer the braille student the right instruction (almost all aspects of braille) at the right time (self-paced) in the home or workplace. By combining electronic technologies, quality materials, and expert instructors, the program has as its goal the provision of a complete braille instructional program to those who have an interest in some or all aspects of braille codes.

<http://www.brl.org/>

Family Education Network

The Family Education Network provides information, advice and resources for parents of children with learning disabilities.

<http://familyeducation.com/subchannel/0,2794,23-121,00.html>

HiP Publishing Group

The HiP Publishing Group is a US non-profit educational organization that produces educational print and electronic materials for deaf and hard-of-hearing children and teens. Its mission is to make information accessible to all deaf and hard-of-hearing youth through reading. Its resources include an online magazine for deaf and hard-of-hearing children aged 8 to 14 years.

<http://www.hippublishing.org/>

Kids Domain

This children's website has a separate webpage of resources for parents of deaf children to help with learning sign language. They include online games, downloadable materials and links to other websites.

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/brain/read/sign.html>

Learning Disabilities Association of America

The Learning Disabilities Association has a special website for parents. It includes a wide range of resources and ideas for parents to help children with learning disabilities.

<http://www.ldanatl.org/aboutld/parents/index.asp>

Learning Disabilities Online

This website provides a large range of information and support resources for teachers and parents of students with learning disabilities. It includes a separate site for parents which includes several toolkits for helping children with reading, writing and mathematics. These are available online. It also provides access to a range of books and videos that can be purchased online.

<http://www.ldonline.org/>

<http://www.ldonline.org/article.php?max=20&id=0&loc=15>

Schwab Learning

This website has a range of material to assist parents in identifying and managing learning difficulties and disabilities. It includes online resources to help with children's reading and writing. It includes a **Parent's Guide to Learning Disabilities**.

<http://www.schwablearning.org/>

<http://www.schwablearning.org/articles.asp?r=753&g=4>

V.I. Guide

This is a valuable site for parents of visually impaired children. It is operated by a parent of such a child and is aimed at parents. Most websites on children with disabilities are aimed at professionals and directing parents to professional help. This site contains a wealth of information on many topics pertaining to parenting and teaching a child with visual impairments, including access to a variety of support materials to help literacy development. It provides links to resources that parents can use at home.

<http://www.viguide.com/>

Woodbine House

Woodbine House is a specialist publisher of books on disabilities for parents, teachers and professionals. It has several titles for parents to help children with learning disabilities with literacy and mathematics learning. Titles include **Teaching Conversation to Children with Autism, Teaching Math to Children With Down Syndrome, Teaching Reading to Children with Down Syndrome**. A range of children's books are also available. All titles are available for purchase online.

<http://www.woodbinehouse.com/default.asp>

Older Children

There are very few accessible resources for parents to help older children with reading difficulties. When children are in the primary grades their parents often take an active role in helping them learn how to read. Then, as reading moves from the basic skills to comprehension, parents find it is more difficult to help children grow into strong and confident readers. These websites provide resources and strategies for parents to remain support their children's literacy learning and development.

International Reading Association

Parents, Teens and Reading: A Winning Combination

This booklet offers strategies for parents who must deal with older children whose time may be limited and who may not be as concerned about reading as they are about friends and their social lives. The booklet recommends that parents be creative and encourage their child that any reading is good reading, whether it be books, magazines, or Internet sites. It can be purchased online from the Association.

<http://www.reading.org/resources/tools/parent.html>

http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=1031&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

Literacy Matters

Literacy Matters is aimed at supporting the literacy development of middle grades and secondary school students, especially those students who are struggling to succeed. The primary audience is teachers, but it also has a parent's page that provides web resources for them to support literacy learning at home. It also includes recommended literature for older readers as well as resources to help with reading, writing and vocabulary.

<http://www.literacymatters.org/parents/index.htm>

<http://www.literacymatters.org/parents/ideas.htm>

<http://www.literacymatters.org/parents/home.htm>

Schwab Learning

This site provides an on-line guide for helping older children with reading difficulties that includes an article on some basic advice on how parents can help.

<http://www.schwablearning.org/articles.asp?r=877&g=4>

http://www.schwablearning.org/pdfs/expert_feldman.pdf?date=12-11-03

Young Adult Library Services Association

This is a division of the American Library Association directed at supporting teenage reading. It provides access to publications and website resources for young adults and their parents. Part of the site is no longer maintained but it includes a pamphlet for parents with tips to encourage reading by teenagers.

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/teenreading.htm>

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/dataresources/dataresources.htm>

<http://www.ala.org/ala/yalsa/teenreading/tipsenc/tipsencourage.htm#>

<http://www.peel.edu.on.ca/parents/tips/documents/tip-literacysec.pdf>

Part 4: Programs to Support Parent Participation in Literacy and Numeracy Learning

Australia

Developing Literacy Partnerships

Developing Literacy Partnerships is a parent education program that is conducted by teachers. The purpose of the program is to provide parents with the opportunity to explore how children learn during the early years and how they as parents may continue to support their children's literacy development through a partnership between home and school. Strong links are made between children's literacy learning in the home and their experiences in the early years classroom. The program can be purchased from the Department of Education and Training of Victoria.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/lit/litpart.htm>

Early Numeracy: Developing Partnerships

Early Numeracy: Developing Partnerships is a short course designed to support the home-school partnership. Four interactive sessions conducted by teachers provide parents with the opportunity to investigate:

- how children learn maths;
- maths at home and school;
- how to make learning maths fun and easy;
- ways of working together to support learning.

Details about the program are available from the Victorian Department of Education and Training (see Contacts page below).

Effective Partners in Secondary Literacy Learning

The Effective Partners in Secondary Literacy Learning (EPISLL) was an outgrowth of the Talk to a Literacy Learner Program that was developed in response to the former TTALL parents' need for assistance with their secondary aged children. The program format is similar to that for TTALL and involves 12 interactive 2 hour sessions over a period of approximately 6 weeks. The program was introduced into the schools in 1993 and since then 87 schools have used the program including some in New Zealand, Northern Ireland and the USA. To order, contact Trevor Cairney at

t.cairney@newcollege.unsw.edu.au or t.cairney@uws.edu.au.

Family Mathematics Program (FAMPA)

FAMPA is widely used in Australian schools to encourage parents and children to do mathematical activities together, enabling parents to show interest in mathematical learning to their children and allowing the discussion of mathematical ideas to become part of the parent child relationship. At a Family Maths event, a parent and child come together and participate together in a range of mathematical activities. Further information can be obtained from State and Territory Departments of Education. Some information about the program is available from the website of the Victorian Department of Education.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/num/ENRP/wholeschdes/homeschcomm.htm>

First Steps

First Steps is a whole-of-school approach to literacy learning and a positive way of planning the next steps for each child's learning. First Steps was developed by the Western Australia Department of Education and Edith Cowan University. It provides frameworks, or maps of development, called Developmental Continua, that link the monitoring, assessment and data gathering on student performance to the planning and delivery of the teaching and learning program. These detail maps provide support for all children regardless of age. The resources include a Parent as Partners book designed to help schools encourage and support parents' involvement in their children's literacy development. It is available from the Edith Cowan University Resources for Learning website.

<http://www.ecurl.com.au/src/firststep-frameset.html>

Flying Start

Flying Start is a school-based program of the Tasmanian Department of Education that supports the literacy development of young children. It includes a specific component to engage parents in literacy learning at home and in school.

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/literacy/flyingstart/Default.htm>

Home Instruction Program for Pre-school Youngsters (HIPPY)

HIPPY is a successful early childhood program for families from educationally and financially disadvantaged communities. It provides parents with the confidence and skills necessary to actively participate in their child's education, development and overall wellbeing. HIPPY programs empower parents as the primary educators of their children in the home and encourage a love of learning prior to beginning school, maximising chances of successful experiences. HIPPY is about parents spending regular time each day with their child doing fun, educational activities. A Home Tutor, also a parent and in the same community with a preschool child, provides weekly activity packets. Home Tutors are employed and trained on a weekly basis to teach other parents how to teach their children. Further information is available from HIPPY Australia.

<http://www.hippyaustralia.org.au/>

Learning Together

Learning Together is a program operated by the South Australian Department of Education. It acknowledges and supports the important role that parents and families play in children's learning. It aims to establish a number of community Learning Together programs integrated with other family and children's services. Each program is run by early childhood educators who work in partnership with children under four years and their families or caregivers. Established within a common framework, service responses are determined by the needs of families and their local communities. Parents, site and local agency leaders collaborate in the design, management and delivery of the service.

<http://www.earlyyears.sa.edu.au/>

Lift Off With Language

Lift Off With Language is an early literacy program targeting phonological awareness. The program is based on early identification and intervention for students regarding reading development, before they fall behind. Direct, classroom instruction implemented by a speech pathologist as the facilitator is the model. Teachers are provided support and training to meet the literacy needs of their young students. Parents are involved in the program as well.

<http://www.ozchild.com.au/welcome.htm>

http://www.ozchild.com.au/programs_new_programs.htm#lift

Maths PACT

Maths Parents and Children Together (PACT) is a package of home mathematics activities combined with teacher support so that schools can involve parents in mathematics education with a minimum of effort. Maths PACT is based on the idea that students and parents can work at home to collect mathematical information which can be used by teachers in the classroom. It helps students by taking mathematics out of the classroom into the real world, it helps parents be involved in their children's learning and it helps teachers by enlisting parent support and by providing access to a wide range of mathematics data for use in the classroom. The program is available from Quality Education Services, Hobart.

http://www.southcom.com.au/~rex_stoessiger/qest1.html

National Accelerated Learning Program

The National Accelerated Literacy Program is a highly supportive approach to English literacy teaching. It was developed by Associate Professor Brian Gray and Wendy Cowey, now at Charles Darwin University in Darwin. The approach, which aims to improve literacy levels for all students who are currently not achieving national benchmarks, has demonstrated significant improvements in education outcomes for Indigenous and LBOTE students.

<http://www.nalp.cdu.edu.au/>

Parents as Tutors

Parents as Tutors is a parent/teacher development course, designed to assist parents in helping their children acquire literacy skills. The video shows a variety of family and ethnic situations, while the explanation of the various components that lead to successful reading help to demystify the process for parents. Contents include the parents' role in children's learning; the importance of reading preparation; understanding reading, writing and spelling; and the importance of home/school communication in the ongoing development of literacy skills. The tutor's manual includes step-by-step instructions and contains overhead transparencies and handouts for a six session course. It is available for purchase from the Curriculum Corporation.

<http://www.curriculum.edu.au/>

Parent Partnership Program

The Parent Partnership Program (PPP) was an outgrowth of the Talk To a Literacy Learner Program (TTALL) and was designed as a vehicle to enable parents who has completed TTALL to share their insights and experiences gained as part of this program with other parents. This program has not been implemented in approximately 50 schools. Parents are trained to share their insights from TTALL with friends, neighbours and family members over 4-6 one hour sessions held in their home. The parents are provided with information resource sheets which they use to guide the informal sessions with other parents. To order, contact Trevor Cairney at

t.cairney@newcollege.unsw.edu.au or t.cairney@uws.edu.au.

<http://www.trevorcairney.com/>

Reading Recovery

The Reading Recovery Program is a widely used program to assist Year 1 children who need extra support in reading and writing. The development of Reading Recovery arose out of extensive school-based research conducted by Dame Marie Clay from the University of Auckland. The program began in New Zealand in 1978 and by 1983 had expanded to full implementation on a national scale. It has achieved international

recognition as a successful intervention program in Canada, UK and USA. The Department of Education and Training of Victoria has published a Reading Recovery: A Guide for Parents booklet for parents whose children are participating in the Reading Recovery Program.

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/rr/rrparbook.htm>

Successful Learning: The Parent Factor

This is a training manual and series of workshops for parent presenters published by the Australian Parents Council and the Australian Council of State School Organisations. The three workshops follow a train-the-trainer model and look at the reading experience, different roles of a reader and the writing experience. The notes are detailed and contain overheads, activity sheets, activities for the home and evaluation sheets. The manual is designed to assist parent presenters with management strategies when using the file and introducing the materials to parents in their local schools. It is available from the Australian Council of State School Organisations.

<http://www.acsso.org.au/index.htm>

Talk To A Literacy Learner

The Talk to a Literacy Learner Program (TTALL) was devised for parents and aimed to provide them with greater insights into the rules of the game that govern school. It is now in use in over 400 schools in Australia and overseas. It has been evaluated and has been shown to have positive outcomes for students and parents and leads to the building of more effective relationships between home and school. The program involves 16 two hour interactive workshops presented by a trained teacher over an 8 week period. Each session involves input concerning literacy and learning, discussion, demonstration of literacy support strategies, practice of strategies and reflection on session experiences. The program is self contained and includes complete facilitator notes, parent handbook masters, a video tape and 2 reference books. To order, contact Trevor Cairney at

t.cairney@newcollege.unsw.edu.au or t.cairney@uws.edu.au.

<http://www.trevorcairney.com/>

New Zealand

Home-School Partnership

The Home–School Partnership programme is part of the Government's national Literacy and Numeracy Strategy. In December 2000 the Government announced a new initiative to support the professional development of teachers of Pasifika students in primary and secondary schools. The Pasifika Literacy initiative is focused on achieving the goals of the Pacific Education plan across the school sector and is an integral part of the Literacy and Numeracy Strategy.

The Home–School Partnership has been a very successful programme that has emerged from this initiative. While it was initially targeted at raising Pasifika student achievement, schools involved in the programme have been able to involve other ethnic /language communities in cooperative, collaborative partnerships. Given the success of the programme the original folder of materials has been redesigned as an inclusive model for all schools to use in developing and strengthening Home–School Partnership.

http://www.tki.org.nz/r/literacy_numeracy/hsp_e.php

Prompt, Pause Praise

Pause Prompt Praise is a set of reading tutoring strategies to help older children experiencing difficulties in learning to read. These strategies help children use all sources of information available to them when they are reading from meaningful texts. The strategies were first developed by Ted Glynn, Stuart McNaughton, Viviane Robinson, and Marianne Quinn in South Auckland homes in the mid 1970s with parents of older children who were making slow reading progress at school. It is now widely used in schools in New Zealand, Australia and the United Kingdom. Information about the program can be obtained from the NZ Ministry of Education.

http://www.tki.org.nz/r/literacy_numeracy/index_e.php

http://www.tki.org.nz/r/literacy_numeracy/lit_interventions_e.php

United Kingdom

Centre for Peer Learning

The Centre for Peer Learning develops and researches tutoring systems for use by non-teachers. It includes programs for peer, parent and volunteer tutoring of reading, spelling, writing, maths, science and language and programs for family literacy and community education. The tutoring systems are active and interactive.

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/fedsoc/centres/cpl/>

Further information on the program can be obtained from a publication of the Scottish Council for Research in Education.

<http://www.scre.ac.uk/spotlight/spotlight82.html>

<http://www.scre.ac.uk/spotlight/spotlight83.html>

It's a Man Thing

This program was developed by the Community Education Development Centre in the UK. Its main focus of the program is on reading, with a further emphasis on encouraging fathers to become more active participants in their children's learning. Together, fathers and children work through the It's a Man Thing! pack, which consists of three adult and child activity books, a reading diary, a library record, a favourite books record sheet, a pen and an audio tape.

<http://www.continyou.org.uk/index.php>

<http://www.continyou.org.uk/content.php?CategoryID=261>

National Literacy Trust

The National Literacy Trust provides a list of programs being used by schools and community organisations to involve parents in reading with their children. The programs are listed under the "Initiatives" section of the "Family Literacy" page of the Parents website.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/index.html>

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/database/familindex.html>

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/socialinclusion/parents/index.html#Examples>

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/socialinclusion/parents/guidance.html>

United States

Family Math

Family Math is a program designed by the Lawrence Hall of Science at the University of California, Berkeley. It focuses on families learning mathematics together. It uses inexpensive materials of all kinds: beans, blocks, bottle caps, toothpicks, coins; are used to help people figure out ways to solve problems. Children and adults come together once a week in classes for several weeks, doing most activities in small groups with two or three families working together. They then put into practice, at home, the ideas they've developed in class. The program focuses on developing problem-solving skills and building a conceptual understanding of mathematics with hands-on materials. It is not a tutoring or after-school enrichment program for children. Further information may be obtained from:

<http://www.lhs.berkeley.edu/equals/FMnetwork.htm>

Fathers Reading Every Day

Developed by the Texas Cooperative Extension, an educational agency affiliated with the Texas A&M University System, Fathers Reading Every Day (FRED) is a program designed to encourage fathers, grandfathers, and other positive male role models to read to their children on a daily basis. The program aims to increase father involvement in children's literacy development and to improve the quality of father-child relationships.

<http://fcs.tamu.edu/families/parenting/fathering/fred/index.php>

Part 5: Resources for Parents

Parent Guides

Reading

Babies Need Books

By Dorothy Butler. Published by Butterworth-Heinemann, 1998.

This is a book for first-time parents. The author believes that books should play a crucial role in a baby's life and this book, planned as a sort of "how to" manual, devotes a chapter to each year of a child's life until school. The revised edition has been updated with an appendix of American titles alongside Butler's 475 original descriptions.

Books for the Journey

By Pamela J. Fenner, Anne J. Greer and John H. Wulsin Jnr. Published by Michaelmas Press, 2004.

This is a guidebook for adolescent readers, teachers and parents that lists and describes nearly 1500 books by genre. Selections include fiction, drama, poetry, mythology, biography and history.

Children and Parents Enjoying Reading

by Peter Branston and Mark Provis. Published by David Fulton Publishers, 1999.

This book helps teachers, parents and children to work together to make reading at home more enjoyable.

Five to Eight: Vital Years for Reading

by Dorothy Butler. Published by Bodley Head, 1994.

Written by the author of "Babies Need Books", this aims to be a guide to sharing books with young children during their early school years. It advocates a relaxed approach to the subject of learning to read, and emphasizes the importance of parents continuing to read aloud to this age group.

Good Books for Teenagers

More Good Books for Teenagers

By Agnes Nieuwenhuizen. Published by Mandarin Books, Melbourne, 1992, 1995.

Two guides with brief reviews of many books for adolescents indexed by subject and theme. Australian author.

Great Books for Boys

By Kathleen Odean. Published by Ballantine Books, 1998.

This book includes over 600 books, from picture books to novels, that are arranged by reader age from two to 14 each with a short, descriptive synopsis. Odean urges adults to provide boys with literature that reflects the widest possible range of emotions and experiences, from swashbuckling adventure to peaceful daydreaming. She chooses stories with characters of both sexes that reflect the complexity of boys' lives. She also

lists tips for reading aloud, magazines that review children's books, and a special section for books on sexuality and growing up.

Great Books for Girls

By Kathleen Odean. Published by Ballantine Books, 2002.

Odean has compiled a guide for parents and educators looking for books about girls who defy the stereotypes about females in our culture. It introduces over 600 titles, ranging from picture-story books for toddlers to biographies and novels for adolescents that depict girls and women who are self-sufficient, decisive, and assertive. Odean comments on illustrations, notes award-winning works, and points out content strengths and weaknesses. The introduction and last chapter provide advice about locating good children's books, reading aloud, etc.

Learning to Read

By Margaret Meek. Published by Bodley Head, 1982.

A very readable guide for parents which explains what is happening when a child is taught to read and shows how parents can help when a child has reading problems. There is a book list for each stage of reading. The author is an expert on the development of early literacy. Out-of-print but available from good libraries.

Oxford Companion to Children's Literature

By Humphrey Carpenter and Mari Prichard. Published by Oxford University Press, 1999.

The indispensable reference book for anyone concerned with children's books. Over 900 biographical entries deal with authors, illustrators, printers, publishers, educationalists, and others who have influenced the development of children's literature. The range of literature covered includes traditional narrative materials such as legends as romances; fairy tales; chapbooks; genres such as school stories, adventure stories, doll stories, and science fiction; ABC and other learning books; children's magazines, comics, and story papers; picture books; teenage novels; children's hymns; and children's stories on radio television and film. Other entries include: concise plot summaries, from familiar favourites like *The Secret Garden* to less well-known works such as *My Friend Mr Leaky* by the eminent scientist J. B. S. Haldane; characters, Andy Pandy to Tiger Tim, Captain Nemo to Shere Khan and Winnie-the-Pooh; literary and historical background, Puritans and penny dreadfuls, libraries and reviewers, racism and sexism; mythical and legendary creatures, trolls, dragons, witches, giants, dwarfs, and goblins; national surveys, including the USA, Germany, France, Italy, Denmark, Iceland, Canada, Australia, and India. Written both to entertain and instruct, *The Oxford Companion to Children's Literature* is a reference work no one interested in the world of children's books should be without.

Read Aloud Handbook

By Jim Trelease. Published by Penguin Books, 2001.

This top selling book is divided into two parts: the first half contains the "ways" and "whys" of raising readers; and the last half consists of an annotated bibliography of more than 1000 children's books for reading aloud, from picture books to novels and anthologies, with synopses on many of the stories and guides to the age of the audience for which it was written. Now in its 5th edition.

Reading Begins at Home

By Dorothy Butler and Marie Clay. Published by Heinemann Primary, 1987.

This short book presents easy and informal ways to prepare a child to begin reading and to help him or her respond positively to written words.

Reading Magic

By Mem Fox. Published by Pan Macmillan.

This is Mem Fox's impassioned plea to parents to read aloud to children from birth and increase their literacy with glorious results. Humorous, practical, warmly anecdotal and inspiring, *Reading Magic* shows that reading aloud for ten minutes a day can help your child be successful for life. It will help parents know what to read aloud to children, and how and when to read aloud. An invaluable guide in realising the true importance of books to all children.

Read It Aloud! A Parent's Guide to Sharing Books With Young Children

By Monty Haas and Laurie Joy Haas. Published by Reading Railroad, 2000

Aimed at helping parents with shared reading, interactive reading, word play games and dozens of useful ideas to help with word skills. The authors teach you to have more fun with children's books, wordplay, reading aloud, story time, and your child's imagination. Drawing from 25 years of communication skill development, they give you the tools, techniques, and skills to enrich communication at home through reading aloud.

Available from the International Reading Association

<http://www.reading.org>

http://marketplace.reading.org/products/tnt_products.cfm?Subsystem=ORD&primary_id=9163&product_class=IRABOOK&action=Long

Rocket Your Child Into Reading

By Jacki French. Published by HarperCollings, 2004.

The book every parent and teacher should own. One of the aims of this book is to help parents and teachers identify children's reading difficulties and then suggest ways to deal with them. It is full of useful and practical solutions and the author draws on her own experience of being dyslexic to show that there are many fun and rewarding ways to improve your child's reading abilities and stimulate a love of books.

Simply the Best: Books for 0 – 7 Years

Simply the Best: Books for 7 – 11 Years

Published by the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education.

These books provide suggestions to encourage children's enthusiasm for books and their development as readers. They include illustrated guides to choosing books which match children's interests and stages of reading. They can be ordered online from the Centre.

<http://www.clpe.co.uk/index.html>

<http://www.clpe.co.uk/publications/public26.html>

Starting Out Right: A Guide to Promoting Children's Reading Success

by M. Susan Burns, Peg Griffin, and Catherine E. Snow, Editors. Published by the Committee on the Prevention of Reading Difficulties in Young Children, National Research Council, USA.

This book identifies the most important questions and explores the authoritative answers on the topic of how children can grow into readers, including:

- What are the key elements all children need in order to become good readers?
- What can parents and caregivers provide all children so that they are prepared for reading instruction by the time that they get to school?
- What concepts about language and literacy should be included in beginning reading instruction?
- How can we prevent reading difficulties starting with infants and into the early grades?
- What to ask school boards, principals, elected officials, and other policy makers who make decisions regarding early reading instruction.

It shows how to help youngsters build word recognition, avoid comprehension problems, and more--with checklists of specific accomplishments to be expected at different ages: for very young children, for kindergarten students, and for first, second, and third grade students. Included are 55 activities to do with children to help them become successful readers, a list of recommended children's books, and a guide to CD-ROMs and websites.

Available from National Academies Press

<http://www.nap.edu/catalog/6014.html>

The Between the Lions Book For Parents

By Linda K. Rath and Louise Kennedy. Published by HarperResource, 2004.

This guide provides teaching methods and other tools to assist parents and teachers of subjects other than reading to help children in learning to read.

The New York Times Parent's Guide to the Best Books for Children

By Eden Ross Lipson. Published by Three Rivers Press, 2000.

Now in its third edition, revised and updated, The New York Times Parent's Guide to the Best Books for Children cites the top 1,001 children's books of the 20th century. The titles are divided by age range into six sections that progress from wordless books to middle reading books through young adult books. There are multiple indexes grouping books by title, author, illustrator; age appropriateness; read-aloud potential and special interests from the specific to the general.

The Reading Bug

By Paul Jennings. Published by Penguin Books, 2003.

A guide to reading and books for children by best-selling Australian children's author. Great fun.

The Rough Guide to Children's Books, 5-11

By Nicholas Tucker. Published by Rough Guides, 2002.

The Rough Guide to Children's Books 5–11 hopes to stimulate both groups: helping keen readers to discover new titles and authors, and less committed ones to find the book that suddenly makes reading seem exciting and meaningful. The books recommended have been divided into different subjects and separated according to suggested age ranges.

The Rough Guide to Teenage Books

By Nicholas Tucker and Julia Eccleshare. Published by Rough Guides, 2005.

This is an illustrated guide to the best books available for young people between the ages of 11 and 17. It contains reviews of nearly 200 individual books, ranging from classics like "Sons and Lovers" to up-to-the-minute titles like "The Beach" and "White Teeth". The emphasis is on fiction but it also includes graphic novels and narrative non-fiction. This book should be a useful resource, both for teenagers who love reading and for parents and friends looking for the perfect gift.

The World of Children's Books

By Michele Landsberg. Published by Simon and Schuster, 1988.

This book describes the basics of beginning reading and ways of sustaining enthusiasm of young readers. It provides short reviews of about 400 books for all ages and different themes. Out-of-print but available from good libraries.

Written for Children

By John Rowe Townsend. Published by Harper Collins, 1992.

For those who want to delve deeper into children's literature, this is a history of children's literature by a best-selling children's author.

Numeracy and Mathematics

Family Math

Published by Lawrence Hall of Science, University of California at Berkeley.

This is a series of books for parents of children of different ages that help parents nurture and support mathematics learning. It includes:

Family Math

By Jean Stenmark, Virginia Thompson and Ruth Cossey.

Family Math II

By Grace Dávila Coates and Virginia Thompson.

Family Math for Young Children

By Grace Dávila Coates and Jean Kerr Stenmark.

Family Math: The Middle School Years

By Virginia Thompson and Karen Mayfield-Ingram.

Available from the University of California

<http://www.lhs.berkeley.edu/equal/equal.html>

<http://www.lhs.berkeley.edu/equal/EObkslideTest2.htm>

The I Hate Mathematics! Book

by Marilyn Burns. Published by Cambridge University Press, 1987.

This book is for non-believers of all ages. It was written especially for children who have been convinced by the attitudes of adults that mathematics is (1) impossible (2) only for bright kids (3) no fun at all anyway. This book says that maths is nothing more than a way of looking at the world and that it can be relevant to everyday life (Street maths) and fun (How many sides does a banana have?). Hundreds of mathematical events, jokes, riddles, puzzles, investigations and experiments prove it!

On-line Guides to Books for Children

General

Australian School Library Association of NSW

This site provides an extensive list of books for children of all ages from pre-school to secondary school.

<http://www.asla.nsw.edu.au/Booklists.htm>

Books for Kids

More Books for Kids

These are guides published by the Victorian Department of Education and Training for parents in choosing books for children in the early years of schooling. They provide lists of children's books to help with the selection of appropriate books at different stages of reading development. They can be accessed online at:

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/bookkid.htm>

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/pdf/booksforkids/Bookeng.pdf>

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/eys/resources/morebkid.htm>

Books for Middle Years Kids: A Guide for Parents

This guide published by the Victorian Department of Education and Training for parents provides lists of books of interest to students in the middle years (5 – 9). The lists have been carefully prepared to show parents the wide range of material being read by young people and to offer suggestions on the kinds of books that might help keep young people engaged in reading. It can be accessed on-line at:

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/mys/supportmaterials/index.htm#parent>

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/mys/pdf/BooksForMYKids.pdf>

Book Trusted

Book Trusted is a dedicated site for children's books operated by Book Trust, a UK charity aiming to promote all aspects of books and reading. The site includes a guide to children's books. It also includes lots of other information about children's books. Book Trust also publishes guides to children's books which can be purchased.

<http://www.booktrusted.com/>

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/>

Children's Book Council of Australia

The Children's Book Council of Australia aims to foster children's enjoyment of books. It provides access to a range of resources through its Links page.

<http://www.cbc.org.au/default.htm>

<http://www.cbc.org.au/links.htm>

Database of Award-Winning Children's Literature

This site provides a very extensive guide to books for children. It is a US site, but includes books published worldwide, including Australia. The site is organised to provide specific reading lists, narrow or broad, by choosing from a range of criteria such as reading age, setting, genre, historical period, gender and nationality of protagonist.

<http://www.dawcl.com/introduction.html>

OzLit for the Young

This site is part of an extensive listing of Australian literature titles.

<http://home.vicnet.net.au/~ozlit/chapt3.html>

National Literacy Trust

The National Literacy Trust of the UK provides an extensive list of literacy resources for families. Access is through the "Resources" button. The resources available include booklists for primary and secondary school students.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/index.html>

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/Database/books.html#booklists>

Reading Matters

This site is about books and ideas for children and teenagers. It is written for intelligent young readers who are keen to choose their own books.

<http://www.readingmatters.co.uk/>

Teenreads.com

This is a US site that includes some Australian titles. It provides an extensive listing of books for teenage readers and is a good resource for exploring.

<http://www.teenreads.com/>

Trelease-on-reading.com

This is the website of author Jim Trelease. It provides access to a wide range of material, including reading guides for parents, lectures on children's reading and literature, videos, recommended book lists and other resources.

<http://www.trelease-on-reading.com/default.html>

Which Book?

This is an on-line resource provided by the Department of Education and Training of Western Australia. It provides a detailed listing of books recommended for children of different ages and by topic. Teachers, teacher librarians or other professionals in the

field of children's literature have written the appraisals listed in these publications. Novels, early chapter books, picture books and audio books relevant to children or adolescents are included.

<http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au/cmisis/eval/fiction/whichbook/index.htm>

The Word Pool

This is a children's book site for parents and teachers. It provides an extensive guide to children's books, including books for reluctant readers and books for numeracy learning.

<http://www.wordpool.co.uk/>

Learning disabilities

Blind Children's Fund

This site provides a guide to children's books featuring children who are blind.

http://www.blindchildrensfund.org/products/characters_blind.asp

CanDo

This is a guide to books to use with children who have disabilities, or to use with any children when trying to educate and create a better understanding about the challenges of a particular disability, or disabilities in general. The books are classified according to disabilities.

<http://www.ucando.org/>

<http://www.ucando.org/books.html>

Dyslexia Institute

The UK Dyslexia Institute provides a graded reading book list that can be used by parents and teachers who are supporting children as they are learning to read. Children learning to read, particularly those with learning difficulties and disabilities, need books of graded difficulty that can be matched to their reading levels as they need to practise their reading skills with a wide range of books at the appropriate level. It is available on-line.

<http://www.dyslexia-inst.org.uk/graded.htm>

In conjunction with Waterstone's Bookshops, the Dyslexia Institute has also produced a parent guide to books for young children with dyslexia. It provides advice to parents about helping their children to read and an annotated list of suitable books for dyslexic children. It is available on-line.

http://www.dyslexia-inst.org.uk/water_guide.htm

<http://www.dyslexia-inst.org.uk/pdf/waterstones.pdf>

Kid Source

This site provides an extensive guide to children's literature and disability. It is intended to help parents and professionals identify books that are written about or include characters who have a disability. The list is grouped according to the following disabilities: attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), blindness, cerebral palsy, deafness, learning disabilities, serious or life-threatening conditions, physical disabilities, and other disabilities. It also lists other guides to children's books about disabilities.

<http://www.kidsource.com/NICHCY/literature.html>

National Dissemination Center for Children With Disabilities

This guide is intended to help parents and professionals identify books that are written about or include characters who have a disability. The list is grouped according to disability or issue and the suggested age/grade level is included to help determine which of these books is appropriate for your children.

<http://www.nichcy.org/pubs/bibliog/bib5txt.htm>

Other resources

Beyond Tokenism

By Trevor Cairney and Lynne Munsie. Published by Australian Reading Association, 1992.

This book is concerned with the building of partnerships between parents and schools in the literacy development of children. It outlines practical ways to involve parents as partners in this learning.

Children and parents enjoying reading: parents and the literacy hour: A teachers guide

By P. Branston and M. Provis. Published by David Fulton Publishers, 1999.

This book helps teachers, parents and children to work together to make reading at home more enjoyable. It will also help to ensure that children achieve the standards of literacy expected for their age.

Creating Partnerships for Learning

Published by the National Center for Family Literacy, 2001.

This book outlines how family literacy builds on the inextricable link between parents' education and children's academic achievement. The Families in Schools model of family literacy specifically brings at-risk elementary school children and their parents together to learn in the elementary school setting. A key to the success of the Families in Schools model is a shift in focus from viewing parents as perfunctory supporters of their children to engaging parents as learners, providing them the skills and resources to become more integrally involved in their children's education. The book offers guidance for setting the school climate and integrating family literacy into the school culture, recruitment and retention ideas, and descriptions of key roles. The book can be ordered online from the National Center for Family Literacy.

<http://www.famlit.org/Publications/member-pubs.cfm>

http://www.famlit.org/Publications/product-detail.cfm?customel_datapageid_7403=7605

Family Involvement in Literacy

By Sheila Wolfendale and Keith Topping, Editors. Published by Cassell, London, 1996.

This book reviews recent developments in parental involvement in reading and provides a compendium of current UK and international practice in family literacy. It includes a resources directory of programs to develop children's reading and family literacy.

Home-School Partnerships in Literacy Development

By Trevor Cobbold. Published by the ACT Council of P&C Associations, Parent Forum No. 4, 1997.

This paper outlines the importance of parent involvement in the literacy development of children and reviews a range of programs that involve parents in their children's literacy learning.

Pathways: A Primer for Family Literacy Program Design and Development

Published by the National Center for Family Literacy, 2000.

This practical guide traces the basic steps for starting and maintaining a quality family literacy program, from initial community assessment to strategies for success that include evaluation, recruitment and retention, and raising public awareness. It offers both new and experienced practitioners' insights to program planning based on more than ten years experience in family literacy implementation and training.

<http://www.famlit.org/Publications/member-pubs.cfm>

http://www.famlit.org/Publications/product-detail.cfm?custom1_datapageid_7403=7607

Part 6: Selected Research

Over the years, research has demonstrated that if parents read to their children, have books in the home, and hear their children read, children's reading standards improve. This part lists some selected sites which provide access to research studies which have found that parental involvement is important for children's reading development.

Australia

Clearinghouse for National Literacy and Numeracy Research, Griffith University

The Clearinghouse provides public access to research on literacy and numeracy. The research projects are directly relevant for teachers in primary and secondary schools and policy makers. However, the site provides access to a range of publications of interest to parents.

<http://www.gu.edu.au/school/cls/clearinghouse/>

Developing Partnerships: The Home, School and Community Interface

by Trevor Cairney, Jenny Ruge, John Buchanan, Kaye Lowe, Lynne Munsie. Published by the Australian Department of Employment, Education and Training, 1995.

This three volume report provides the results of a detailed mapping of family and community literacy initiatives in Australia that focus on parents with children in the primary years of schooling. The study involved: 1) a detailed survey, interviews and document analysis for 260 initiatives across Australia; and 2) intensive family case studies that examined the literacy practices of home and school and the multiple forms of support offered at school and home. An important outcome of the study was the development of a framework to guide the evaluation of existing family literacy programs, as well as the development of new initiatives. The report can be accessed on-line at the Clearinghouse for National Literacy and Numeracy Research.

<http://www.gu.edu.au/school/cls/clearinghouse/>

United Kingdom

Department of Education and Skills

The Impact of Parent Involvement of Children's Education

This pamphlet for parents summarises research that shows that parental involvement has a significant impact on children's cognitive development and literacy and number skills. Parental involvement has a significant effect on pupil achievement throughout the years of schooling. Parental involvement in a child's schooling for a child between the ages of 7 and 16 is a more powerful force than family background, size of family and level of parental education.

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=LEA+0339+2003&>

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/DFES-0645-2003.pdf>

National Literacy Trust

This page gives access to some key studies which have argued that parental involvement is vital for children's reading attainment. There is a vast amount of research in this area, and only UK studies have been cited. Access is through the "Parents" button and then the "Research" button. It includes a review of the literature on parent involvement in literacy: Parent Involvement and Literacy Achievement. The paper can be downloaded from the website.

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/index.html>

<http://www.literacytrust.org.uk/Research/consultationpaper.html>

Parents in Education

Parents in Education focuses on parents as educators, home-school links, family learning, education for parenthood, and related topics. It aims to connect information about research and practice, to enhance progress in bringing home and school together in partnership. It includes research on parent involvement in literacy development.

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/fedsoc/ParentsInEducation/>

United States

Partnership for Reading

The Partnerships for Reading website offers a database containing abstracts of approximately 460 research studies related to the teaching of reading in grades K-3.

<http://www.nifl.gov/partnershipforreading/>

Family Literacy: An Annotated Bibliography

By Barbara Hanna Wasik, Suzannah Herrmann, Randi Strosberg Berry, Dionne R. Dobbins, Anita M. Schimizzi, Tara K. Smith, and Phillip Herman. Published by National Center for Early Development and Learning, 2000.

This paper summarizes writings and research on family literacy and family literacy programs.

<http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~ncedl/index.cfm>

Family Literacy: A Review of Programs and Critical Perspectives

By Margaret Caspe. Published by the Harvard Family Research Project, 2003.

This paper provides a review of research evidence on family literacy programs.

<http://gseweb.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/fine/resources/research/literacy.html>

The Impact of Parent/Family Involvement on Student Outcomes: An Annotated Bibliography of Research from the Past Decade

By Susanne Carter. Published by the National Center on Dispute Resolution.

This is an annotated bibliography of studies of the effectiveness of family involvement programs in student learning across different curriculum areas, including reading and mathematics.

http://www.directionservice.org/cadre/parent_family_involv.cfm#read

Education Department Contacts

Australian Government: Department of Education, Science and Training

Central Office: 16-18 Mort Street, Canberra, ACT, 2600

Postal Address: GPO Box 9880, Canberra, ACT, 2601

Telephone: 02 6240 8111

Website: <http://www.detya.gov.au/default.htm> (general)

http://www.dest.gov.au/sectors/school_education/default.htm (schools)

ACT: Department of Education, Youth and Family Services

Central Office: 186 Reed St., Greenway

Postal Address: PO Box 1584, Tuggeranong, ACT, 2901

Telephone: 02 6207 5111

Facsimile: 02 6205 9333

Website: <http://www.decs.act.gov.au/>

NSW: Department of Education and Training

Postal Address: GPO Box 33, Sydney, NSW, 2001

Telephone: 02 9561 8000

Website: <http://www.det.nsw.edu.au/index.htm> (general)

<http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/index.php> (schools)

Northern Territory: Department of Employment, Education and Training

Postal Address: GPO Box 4821, Darwin, NT, 0801

Telephone: 08 8924 4452

Facsimile: 08 8924 4450

E-mail: infocentre.deet@nt.gov.au

Website: <http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/> (general)

<http://www.deet.nt.gov.au/education/index.shtml> (education)

Queensland: Education Queensland

Central Office: 30 Mary St, Brisbane

Postal Address: PO Box 15033, City East, Qld, 4002

Telephone: 07 3237 0111

Website: <http://education.qld.gov.au/>

South Australia: Department of Education and Children's Services

Central Office: 31 Flinders St., Adelaide

Postal: GPO Box 1152, Adelaide, SA, 5001

Phone: 08 8226 1527 or freecall: 1800 088 158

E-mail: decscustomers@saugov.sa.gov.au

Website: http://www.dete.sa.gov.au/decs_home.asp (general)

http://www.schools.sa.gov.au/schl_home.asp (schools)

Tasmania: Department of Education

Central Office: 116 Bathurst Street, Hobart

Postal Address: GPO Box 169, Hobart 7001

Telephone: 1300 135 513

Facsimile: 03 6231 1576

Web-site: <http://www.education.tas.gov.au>

Victoria: Department of Education and Training

Central Office: 2 Treasury Place, East Melbourne

Postal Address: GPO Box 4367, Melbourne, Vic, 3001

Telephone: 03 9637 2000 or freecall 1800 809 834

Facsimile: 03 9637 3260

E-mail: edline@edumail.vic.gov.au

Web-site: <http://www.deet.vic.gov.au/deet/> (general)

<http://www.det.vic.gov.au/det/schooled/default.htm> (schools)

Western Australia: Department of Education and Training

Central Office: 151 Royal St, East Perth

Postal Address: 151 Royal St, East Perth, WA, 6004

Telephone: 08 9264 4111

Facsimile: 08 9264 5005

Web-site: <http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au/>