Womb Literacy

Just as it’s never too late to learn literacy skills, it’s never too early either...
Womb Literacy

- Encourage expecting families to develop daily literacy habits and learn about early literacy skills

- Educate expecting parents on their role as their child’s first teacher

- Enable expecting parents to develop a network of support
ALL **B E F O R E** THE CHILD IS BORN

**S O I T C A N B E C O N T I N U E D**

**A F T E R** THE CHILD IS BORN
Womb Literacy Will Not

- Enable babies to read and write in the womb
- Enable babies to be born knowing how to read and write
Once Upon a Time...

- Based on my own personal experiences
- Struggle to start a daily reading routine
- Survival Mode
“Reading should not be presented to a child as a chore, a duty. It should be offered as a gift.”

~ Kate DiCamillo
Current Early Literacy Programs

- Born to Read
- Reach Out and Read
- Every Child Ready to Read
Statistics

- Fewer than half of parents (48%) in the United States read to their younger children daily.

- 35% of children entering kindergarten today lack the basic language skills needed to learn to read.

- Children who read on grade level by the end of third grade are more successful in school, work, and in life.

Source: http://www.reachoutandreadiowa.org/fastfacts/
Statistics

- 66% of 4th graders were not proficient in reading (2013 national average)

- 83% of African American 4th graders were not proficient in reading (2013)

- 54% of Children were not attending preschool (2011-13 national average)

Womb Literacy

Baby Fair

Stork Story Time

Read to the Bump
Sponsorship

Mercy Hospital
(Iowa City)
sponsored
tote bags
Activities

- Car seat safety checks
- Vision screenings
- Photo booth
- Spinal Screenings
Door Prizes
Feedback

“I thought the baby fair was a great success. I look forward to future fairs.” - Andrea R. (Vendor)

“I thought it was a wonderful event. I hope all libraries catch on to this way of serving our communities.” - Kristin B. (Vendor)

“I feel more comfortable in my role as a new mom now.” – Amanda L. (Expecting Parent)
Stork Storytime

- Geared towards expecting parents
- Learn about early literacy skills and how children learn them
- Build confidence in their role as their child’s first teacher
- Start building a network of support

http://www.clipartbest.com/clipart-RidKAddi9
Six Early Literacy Skills

- Print Motivation – I love books
- Enriched Vocabulary – I know words
- Print Awareness – I see words
- Phonological Awareness – I hear words
- Letter Knowledge – I know my ABCs
- Narrative Skills – I tell stories
5 Ways Kids Learn

- Talking
- Reading
- Singing
- Listening
- Playing
Storytime Formats

**Baby Storytime:**
- Theme: seasonal
- Welcome: sing song
- Library component: Read books/rhymes
- Free play: play with toys and other children

**Stork Storytime:**
- Theme: early literacy skill
- Welcome: explain concept
- Library component: Guest speaker with library tie in
- Social time: form networks of support
Stork Storytime

For New & Expecting Parents

How to Learn Through Play

*Sunday, October 11; 2:30p*

Dr. Karla McGregor will share how children can develop a strong vocabulary & the role that playing has in their children’s learning and development.

Importance of Babbling

*Tuesday, November 10; 7p*

Mary Lukas will share how talking to babies will help develop an awareness of sounds, letter knowledge & eventual speech.

Just as it’s never too late to learn literacy skills, it’s never too early either!
Print Motivation

Fun with Puppets

Have fun with simple puppets!
Help your child color in the bear.
Cut out and paste onto a popsicle stick or craft stick.
Your child can use this simple puppet to re-tell a favorite story or make up one of his/her own.

Action Rhyme

Make up actions to go with the words
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, shut the door.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, count to four.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, reach up high.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, wink one eye.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, put away your shoes.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, that will do.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your nose.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your toes.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, climb in bed.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, rest your head.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, turn out the light.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, say, "Goodnight."

Try this at home:

- Let your child choose the book he/she wants to read.
- Stop reading if your child loses interest. A few short reading times that are enjoyable are better than a long experience.
- Create a comfortable environment in which to share books with your child.
- Put books within easy reach so your child can choose them on his/her own.

Courtesy of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me program and your public library.
Weekly Storytimes:

Tuesdays: 10a:
**My Baby Storytime**
For infants from birth-24 months & parent/care giver

Wednesdays: 10a:
**Storytime**
For preschoolers

Thursdays: 7p:
**PJ Storytime**
For families

Fridays: 10a:
**Tot Time**
For children from 2-4 years

Saturdays: 11a:
**Saturday Storytime**
For families

*Try all the storytimes to see which is the best fit for your family.

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**What is Womb Literacy?**

Womb literacy is an initiative we have created that will educate expecting families on the role they play in their child's early literacy development. By learning about these literacy skills and developing daily literacy habits, like reading to their child before they are born, families will have the knowledge needed to continue them after baby arrives and feel more confident as their child's first teacher. Just as it's never too late to learn literacy skills, it's never too early either.

www.northlibertylibrary.org
(319)626-5701
Read to the Bump

- OBGYN doctors distribute books & early literacy information to expecting moms at their 6-9 month prenatal appointments

- Encourage expecting families to develop a reading routine before baby is born

- Baby builds personal library before birth
Baby’s Library

- **Guess How Much I Love You** by Sam McBratney
- **Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown
- **Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?** by Bill Martin, Jr.
- **Hello My Little One, It’s Me Your Father** by Elvin R. Freytes (Founder of MaJenDome)
Year Two and Beyond

- Implement Read to the Bump
- Secure Funding
- Baby Literacy Area
- Waddle Walk
Implementation at Your Library

- Your community
- Form partnerships
- Borrow resources
Jennifer Jordebrek  
Assistant Director  
North Liberty Community Library  
jjordebrek@northlibertyiowa.org  
319.626.5731