

Building a New Generation of Readers

Building a New Generation of Readers, a statewide early literacy project designed by the Arizona State Library, provides public and school librarians with the training and materials to teach parents and childcare providers strategies for preparing children to come to school ready to read.

The Arizona State Library supplies libraries with Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library materials that are based on current federally funded research and have been evaluated and found to have significant influence on the early literacy behaviors of parents and childcare providers.



Photo by Mary Sagar

With the trainings held in 2007-08, 576 librarians and their community partners have now received training in using the research-based Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library curriculum during 24 workshops held across the state. All libraries sending staff to training received kits with the materials needed to conduct workshops in their communities. During the last year, the State Library also provided over 1500 new books to libraries that had received training previously to support their work with children 0-5, their parents and caregivers.

As a partner with the Chandler Education Foundation on the U.S. Department of Education Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC) grant, the State Library received funding to provide early literacy information and training directly to parents. Working with local public and school librarians, 74 workshops on early literacy were held statewide for 1015 parents and caregivers.