Empowers Families  
Unites Communities  
Builds Capacity

Read and Rise Workshop  
Tuesday @ 7 p.m.  
School Library  
Bring journal!

Read and Rise Cultivates Literacy
Read and Rise is a comprehensive literacy solution that unites homes, schools, and communities around the common goal of developing literacy skills in young children. Based on the latest research, Read and Rise raises awareness of the specific literacy needs of children from diverse backgrounds and builds replicable models of literacy-rich communities.

Designed to support families and child care providers, Read and Rise strengthens communities and cultivates literacy.

Read and Rise is influenced by the ecological model of human development,¹ which suggests that the most important systems in a child’s development are those that are closest to where the child lives. By scaffolding learning across schools, families, and the community, Read and Rise supports the most influential systems in a child’s life and helps to build and reinforce positive literacy practices.

Research suggests that the power of a child’s academic success lies in the strength of his or her relationships. Engaging stakeholders in a child’s life across their key networks at home, school, and in the community, helps build long-term academic success and a sense of resilience.

**For Families:** Read and Rise reinforces the important role that families play in their children’s literacy development through the use of targeted and frequent literacy activities that emphasize family strengths, culture, language, and traditions.

**For Communities:** Read and Rise serves as an anchor, providing a unified approach for child care providers such as early child care centers, Head Start programs, and other community-based organizations to nourish literacy and language development, building the capacity of organizations to provide the services that children and families need.

**Read and Rise Outcomes**

- shifts attitudes, knowledge, and behavior of families, educators, and community leaders in support of children’s early literacy skill development
- empowers and engages families and educators to use the strengths and traditions of homes and communities as literacy-building opportunities
- provides a comprehensive, adaptable model for homes, schools, and communities to become literacy-rich environments

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Read and Rise helps to ensure that all children have the opportunity to be successful in school and beyond.

Read and Rise improves adults’ skills, attitudes, and behaviors to increase support of children’s early literacy development.

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A child from a family rich in books is 19% more likely to complete university than a comparable child growing up without a home library.

– Research in Social and Mobility, February 2010.
From the day a child is born, parents and family members can begin to support literacy development, paving the way for success in school and life.

At the heart of the Read and Rise program is a series of conversation workshops. The workshops are call “conversations” because they encourage families to talk and learn from each other. Read and Rise fosters understanding about the family’s role in supporting language and literacy development by encouraging intentional use of literacy development practices in the home. Research suggests that families are the most important influence on a child’s language and literacy development.

Parents who participated in the workshops felt more connected to their child’s school.
—Osceola County, Read and Rise program case study

Dialogue helps to facilitate learning in both children and adults. That’s why Read and Rise developed workshops that focus on conversation. By sharing experiences, stories, and wisdom, all families participating in the workshops learn fun strategies that nurture their children’s love of reading and create a foundation for future academic success.

Families are the most important influence on a child’s literacy development.
Family Workshops

Based on the latest research on literacy development, the Read and Rise family workshop model:

- helps parents become more aware of—and confident in—their role in supporting their children’s early literacy skills
- increases parental awareness of the importance of culture, language, and everyday activities in the development of their children’s literacy experience
- enlightens families to become more purposeful and intentional in applying what they already know, and shares strategies for gaining new knowledge
- engages parents in developing best practices and activities to help their children expand their oral and phonetic literacy development

Workshops encourage parents to create home-based literacy activities that align with the building blocks of reading.

Parents are given goals to help enhance their child’s literacy skills through their cultural traditions and practices. Parents sign their weekly goal sheets as a sign of their commitment.
Early child care programs and child care centers like Head Start, Boys and Girls Clubs, and YMCAs play a critical role in fostering children’s literacy development.

Read and Rise child care provider conversations give educators the tools and strategies to engage families and involve them as partners in the development of their children’s literacy and love of reading and learning.

The Read and Rise child care provider workshops provide simple, enjoyable, and effective ways for early educators to work together as they develop a better understanding of how they can nourish their students’ growing literacy.

Working in partnership with families is a main theme of all the workshops. Whether participants work in their homes, in day care, or in preschool settings, these workshops help them develop the knowledge and skills they need to work with families and form a circle of care around our children.

89% of parents and caregivers surveyed in participating schools said their weekly family hour now consists of reading books for fun.

—Houston ISD Read and Rise case study
Based on the latest research on literacy development, the Read and Rise child care provider conversations:

- deepen the understanding of early literacy learning for child care professionals
- provide strategies and tools that help providers boost parental involvement
- help children connect with cultural aspects of life while supporting their emergent language and literacy skills
- provide hands-on, practical literacy activities for use in classrooms and other child-centric spaces

Families, communities, and child care centers need to share resources and knowledge to create an environment for children that is rich in language, learning, and books. Child care providers build confidence and develop strategies and tools for family involvement.
Read and Rise builds community capacity by supporting and facilitating early language development in young children through educator training, parent workshops, and family and community resources.

How It Works

The Training
Designated facilitators are trained in Read and Rise program implementation, best practices, and product configurations by a Scholastic literacy consultant.

Program materials are available in English and Spanish.

Read and Rise Conversation Workshops are built around six sessions:

- **Session 1:** The Importance of Family and Community Partnerships
- **Session 2:** Culture, Tradition, and Everyday Experiences
- **Session 3:** The Power of Storytelling
- **Session 4:** Fun with the Sounds of Language
- **Session 5:** Family and Community Strengths
- **Session 6:** Celebrate Literacy Success
The Workshops

Family Conversations workshops train facilitators to teach families the importance of literacy development. At Child Care Provider workshops, facilitators learn how to help providers understand and support their students’ families. Participants receive a journal for notes and strategies.

Facilitator Guide

Introduces effective strategies for strengthening home-to-school connections and creating literacy-rich environments. The guide provides step-by-step details for the six workshop sessions and a variety of other useful resources.

Journals

Allow participants to reflect on the messages, themes, and experiences shared in the workshops by way of writing, drawing, and scrapbooking.

Family Guide

Beautifully illustrated and featuring a variety of age-specific stories, this guide serves as both a facilitator’s instructional tool, and a take-home resource for families and educators. Each chapter in the guide offers targeted tips for parents to foster learning at home.

Family Fun Cards and Books

Age-appropriate books and engaging activities for children aged 0 to 2, 2 to 5, and 5 and up.

Putumayo World Playground: A Musical Adventure for Kids

Helps create a diverse, culturally enriched setting that ties in music and reading activities for the family and child.

Reading Together Guides and Book Packs

Age-specific literacy tips for parents paired with great titles encourage families to read together while strengthening their ability to teach literacy development.

Take-Home Resources

Building home libraries and creating text-rich spaces with both children-friendly materials and parental resources is integral to the success and sustainability of the Read and Rise program and its participants.
Family & Community Engagement

CHECKLIST

☐ Define your goals for literacy development.

☐ Identify your team and your audience.

☐ Research the best ways to implement the program in your district or community.

☐ Promote your kick-off event and workshops.

☐ Build capacity by implementing a sustainable Read and Rise model that best suits your needs.

☐ Track and measure program performance.

Planning and implementation worksheet available at scholastic.com/FACE

For more information: call 800.387.1437, or visit scholastic.com/FACE