Information for Community Partners

Thank you for becoming your public/school library’s partner in My First Books. The Idaho Commission for Libraries has established the following outcomes for the children and families participating in My First Books.

1. Participating children increase their access to books by starting a home library.
2. More underserved families have library cards and use the public library.
3. Participating children increase early literacy skills.
4. Parents of participating children increase their knowledge about early literacy.
5. Parents of participating children increase home literacy activities.

What partners can do to help us meet these outcomes:
- Meet with your library representative before the first distribution to determine dates, time and activities.
- If appropriate, ask parents to sign a permission form to photograph their child for program reports and publicity.
- Stay in the classroom or center with your children and actively participate in the activities and book distributions. Please do not use the library’s visit as a Prep Time.
- Work with your library representative on ways to reinforce the early literacy skills that will be featured in the book distribution activities.
- Make sure the monthly family newsletter The Bookworm goes home with the children.
- Help promote library usage with the parents of the children you serve.
- Collaborate with your library representative to help plan a My First Books Parent Workshop or My First Books Family Event.
- Brainstorm ways to help publicize this event to your parents and maximize their attendance.
- Help distribute and collect parent surveys in April/May and turn them in to your library representative. The surveys will be printed on colored paper to help them stand out.
- Fill out the partner survey and let us know how the project went from your perspective.