



Addressing the Needs of Spanish-Speaking Families

Beginning of the Year:

The following letters have been translated in Spanish, and are available for download at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/rtm/my-first-books/>

- Introduction Letter to families from library/ICfL explaining the program (required)
- Template of letter that partner can send to families explaining the program

Books and Bookworms:

- There will be a Spanish version of each monthly “Bookworm” for each age group. The Book of the Month and the text are the same; songs, rhymes, and fingerplays will be customized for each theme or skill. The Spanish versions will be available for you to print at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/publications/bookworm/>.
- We have chosen some titles this year in a bilingual format. (However, the selection of quality bilingual titles in the price range and quantities we need is very limited.)
- When possible, we will provide a Spanish translation of the non-bilingual titles with your monthly cover letter. These translations will be in PDF format, and will **not** be posted on our website. These translations can be printed/copied by you or your partner and attached to “The Bookworm” or inserted into the book itself. These translations are to be used **only** for this program and purpose.

Parent Workshop/Family Event

- If you are not a Spanish-speaker it is advised that you elicit the help of someone who is fluent to help you communicate with your Spanish-speaking families:
 - Another staff person from your library
 - A teacher or support staff person from your Community Partner organization
 - A teacher or support staff person from your local school
 - A high-school or college student

End of the Program:

- A Spanish version of the end-of-program Parent Survey is available on our website at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/rtm/my-first-books/>. If you just need a few copies please feel free to print them from the website. If you need a large amount please let us know in advance and we will copy them for you.

Suggestions from Parent Surveys/Final Reports:

- Include your photo on the Intro letter or on an address label you can affix to the “What your library can do for you” section of the “Bookworm.” Spanish-speaking families may be more willing to visit the library if they know a familiar face.
- Many newcomer families do not understand the concept of a “lending library.” This may be something you will need to explain during your parent event or through translated correspondence.
- Other suggestions?