

# Family Literacy Program

Elementary I and II

empowering parents to become active participants in their child's education at home and at school

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Family Literacy: Elementary consists of two 12-week programs designed to empower Hispanic parents by teaching them English literacy skills and parenting skills.

# **Program Objectives**

- Educate parents on how to support their child's education
- Build parent & child emergent literacy skills
- Improve communication between parent, child, and school
- Provide <u>language training for parents</u> that is focused on life and work skills
- Expand vocabulary through <u>parent</u> and child reciprocal learning time



"This was the first week that I helped my daughter with her homework. The first time that I was aware of and asked about her homework. It was like a game, we both laughed together. When we finished she wanted to keep going so we looked up words we didn't know in the Sed de Saber books."

- Mayra H., Participant Gilbert USD

## 3 Part Program

### **Parents Learn English**

Parents study Sed de Saber's interactive, English for Everyone language books independently and receive instructional support and practice opportunities.

In *Elementary I*, parents receive English for Everyone books 1 - 3. Parents complete the series with books 4-6 during *Elementary II*.





### Parents and Children Learn Together

Parents & children work at home on literacy and vocabulary activities.

There are multiple activities for each week that incorporate themes from the parenting skills sessions. Parents and children work together with:

- English for Everyone & Picture Dictionary: books to develop vocabulary and communicative phrases using real-life scenarios.
   Role play, read aloud and interactive games accompany the voice record and compare feature.
- Family Workbook: home activities for parents and children to facilitate emergent literacy skills and vocabulary development
- **Fridge Words:** child's educational tool to learn letter names and sounds to build over 325 three-letter words.

## **Parenting Skills**

Parents participate in weekly parenting classes (guided sessions) to help them develop parenting skills.

The sessions focus on three core concepts:

- Learning Strategies
- Educational Opportunities
- Life Skills



# Parenting Skill Themes

The following chart demonstrates a breakdown of the Family Literacy Themes by semester.

	Elementary I	Elementary II
Learning Strategies	<ul><li>Reading with Your Child Part 1</li><li>Reading with Your Child Part 2</li><li>Family Time</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Partner with Your Child's Teacher</li> <li>Homework Strategies</li> <li>Reading Strategies</li> <li>Math Strategies</li> </ul>
Educational Opportunities	<ul> <li>Understanding School Communication</li> <li>School Resources</li> <li>Standardized Tests</li> <li>Getting Involved</li> <li>Talking to Your Child's Teacher</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Benefits of Parental Involvement</li> <li>Understanding the School System</li> <li>School Programs</li> <li>Planning for Your Child's Educational Success</li> </ul>
Life Skills	<ul> <li>Establish a Learning Environment in the Home</li> <li>Give Praise and Reinforcement</li> <li>Establish a Routine and Good Homework Habits</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clear Rules and Expectations</li> <li>Healthy Lifestyle</li> <li>Living and Learning as a Bilingual Family</li> </ul>

<sup>&</sup>quot;Before I wasn't very involved in things that had to do with the school but the other day my daughter brought home a school flyer inviting us to a meeting with the Tucson superintendent. I went because of the Sed de Saber program. Now I know these things are important."

# 2 Delivery Options

#### **Home Edition**

Families learn at home with phone support from Sed de Saber.

- Guided Sessions led by Sed de Saber tutors. Twelve weekly group conference calls focus on parenting skills that build a learning environment in the home.
  - Multiple times available per week plus a recorded version for non-attendees.
- Bi-weekly, personalized tutor sessions to provide parents with English language practice and support with home activities in the Family Workbook.
- An on-site orientation meeting introduces parents to the program. The
  meeting is held on-site and led by a Sed de Saber representative

#### **Classroom Edition**

Parents are brought into a classroom setting to receive instruction.

- A modular, fully scripted Facilitator Guide to aid the program leader during classroom instruction. Facilitator Guide includes:
  - Guided Session Lesson Plans and handouts for 12 weeks of instruction.
  - Language Development Tools including language and vocabulary practice activities and quizzes used to check for language learning.
- A train-the-trainer session that prepares facilitators to deliver the program and helps them to understand the Sed de Saber instructional approach.
  - Includes one set of facilitator materials.

# Program Feedback

"The feedback I have received so far has been very positive, both from the parent group, the principal at the site, and the facilitators."

Bethany H., Director of ELL Florence USD

"I consider this program to be very special and different. It makes the parents understand that they need to be involved in order for their children to be successful in school. They now understand that they need to participate in school activities, know what their children are learning, and have a good relationship with their children's teachers."

MaryCruz R., Facilitator - Parent Liaison Paradise Valley USD

"All our parents in the Sed de Saber program have gained so much confidence that they feel more comfortable participating in our P.T.O. (Parent Teacher Organization). Before they were behind the scenes and now they are playing a more active role. It is music to our ears. They are utilizing the skills learned with the Sed de Saber program. They are now role models for other parents. A lot of the children of the parents participating in the program are being reclassified from ELL."

Lucy W., Community Parent Liaison Tucson USD

"I used to put my children to bed at 9PM, now I have them going to sleep at 8PM and they are so much more rested. It is easier to get them up in the morning and my son, who almost never ate breakfast, is having a smoothie or cereal and has so much more energy."

Martina D., Participant Gilbert USD "Our parents are more self-reliant and more involved. They feel more comfortable being in the classroom with the teacher because of their increased English skills, so now they are volunteering in the classroom."

Carol K., ELL Teacher Gilbert USD

"Before I never read with my children but since participating in the Sed de Saber program I now read with my daughter every evening. If I forget she asks me, "Mommy are you going to read me my bedtime story?" So, I stop what I am doing and we curl up in bed together to read."

Luz, Participant Tucson USD

"The parents like the program very much. It is helping them become more conscientious of the need for them to be more devoted. For example, one mother commented that after her husband gets home and has had dinner, he takes his two kids in the bedroom with him and they do the homework together and study and repeat words."

Lillianna F., Facilitator - Parent Liaison Florence USD

"My children and I just played the restaurant game from the workbook. I normally play games with my son, games he learns at school. Usually he teaches me the game, this time I got to teach him the game. At first he didn't want to play but once we started he liked it very much. He wanted to play again at dinnertime and again in the morning. Now he asks, 'Mom when are we going to play another?' and I tell him, 'whenever you want.'"

Maribel, Participant Gilbert USD