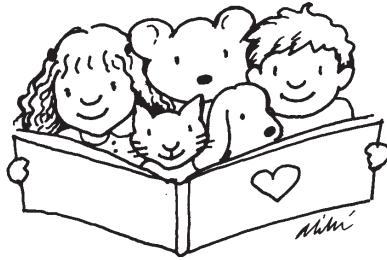


Creating a Culture of Literacy in the

(Includes ideas from the Children's Literacy Initiative.)



Classroom

✓ CHECKLIST

- I prepare for the use of picture books by reading them in advance.
- I introduce stories with a motivational technique.
- I relate children's books to other curricular areas.
- I supplement the contents of our school's collection with books borrowed from the library and other sources.
- I use community resources such as librarians, parents and other volunteers to enhance the children's literature program.
- I encourage children to discuss picture books during storytime.
- I stay current in children's literature through participation in professional conferences, reading book reviews, in-service training and/or college course work.
- When requested, I offer assistance to parents in choosing appropriate books for their children.
- I make a special effort to locate books that are relevant to classroom activities or to the interests of individual children.
- I prepare supplemental materials to accompany children's books such as puppets, dioramas, book displays and activity boards.
- I tell (rather than read) familiar stories to children.
- I encourage children's artistic responses to literature (art, drama, dance).
- I praise children's efforts to properly care for books.
- I have an area in my classroom that is designated for listening to books and recordings.
- I have created cozy places to read in our classroom.
- I select books that represent diversity in style, format, illustration and literary genre.
- I respect children's preferences and permit them to choose books to be read.
- I can identify from memory several outstanding children's book authors and illustrators.
- The picture books I read depict ethnic groups, minorities, religious groups, females, and the handicapped in positive, active roles.
- I enjoy sharing picture books with young children.

