Dear Friends,

These stories are especially for you...

Thank you for sharing our vision and helping to make it a reality! And thank you for sharing your stories of how Family Reading Partnership has made a difference in your lives.

As the following "Share Your Stories" demonstrate, together we have touched the lives of so many children and families in our community, helping to connect them with the joy of books over and over again.

We appreciate the support of our community as we continue to place beautiful books into the hearts and homes of area families and help give children the foundation to love and learn to read.

~ Your Friends at

Family Reading Partnership

We're ten years old! 1997-2007

Hello Family Reading Partnership, My family just loves you!

Our children have the *Big Red Barn, Tickle Tickle* and *Maybe My Baby* from you through our Dr. Each of these books was a favorite of our children because they were at just the right developmental stage to enjoy them. We used these books as guides for finding other books to read to them.

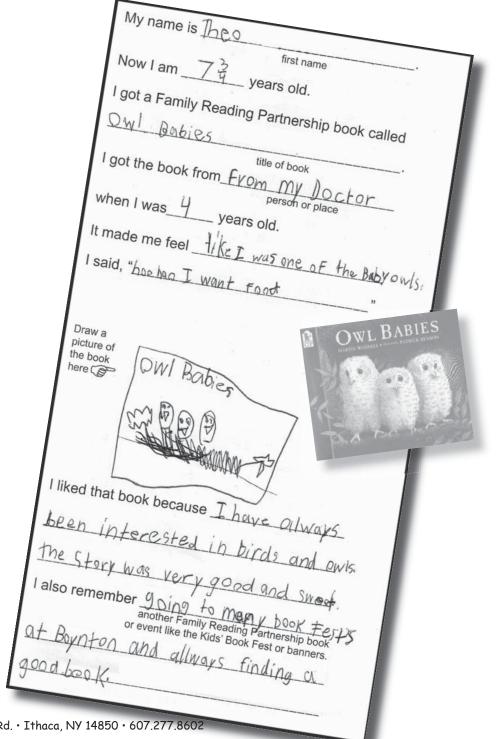
I can't think of one special thing about the Family Reading Partnership, but I know the FRP improves our life in a million little ways. When I go through the check out line at Wegman's my 4 and 2 year old sit on a bench and look at books from the red bookshelf. This may seem like a small thing, yet it makes a big difference in my day. This means that I will be able to get through the grocery line without a tantrum, or whining tired out kids. It is something they look forward to and a way to escape the hubbub of the grocery store by diving into a book.

We also find solace in you at doctor's offices and waiting rooms around Ithaca. My children make a mad dash for the corner with books at the Ithaca Bakery. It was here that we discovered *Blueberries for Sal* and *One Berry Two Berry Pick me a Blueberry*. Two treasures my children cherish.

The posters are wonderful, the calendars are a staple in our house...I can't put it eloquently, but we are deeply appreciative for you. Through WIC my children have received wonderful books through the FRP as well.

Thank you, thank you for all you do!

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From a parent:

I Like It When was given to my son at the doctors. We loved reading the book together, though I never knew if my son followed

One night we were on the page, "I like it when you give me a hug." My son suddenly gave me a big hug. It made my day! I realized that though he took some time to express himself, my son was following what we read.

My son, who is now two, also loves Big Red Barn. When he got the book from our doctor he was very happy and wanted to read it immediately. He loves to make all of the sounds of the animals as we read, and also count as we go through the book.

He also likes it when all the animals go to sleep and he knows it is time to sleep as well. "Night, night!"



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From a family:

How wonderful that the FRP seems to be everywhere in the community – from the natal wing in the hospital to the schools, downtown streets and numerous destinations in town.

Books always seem to be only an arm's length away with the Family Reading Partnership!





From a parent:

Our family has shared the love of children, family, community and books each year at the Book Fest.

FRP has helped us teach our daughter that books and reading are a part of everyday life.

She loves books!



From a mother:

I really loved reading Maybe My Baby with my son. It brought tears of joy to me as he interacted with the photos and I read such an encouraging message. We pass old books on to others to share, but this one I am saving for my son to read to his own children.

From a young girl:

My daddy read this book for me over the phone when I was living with my mommy in the Virgin Islands so I could fall asleep every night.
He is a good daddy. All the Colors of the Earth

From a new mom:



When I was 5 months pregnant my husband and I started telling our daughter the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We read it to her every night at bedtime.

When she was born I had a C-section, so my husband was with our daughter while I was still in the O.R. He didn't know what to say at first and then he said "In the light of the moon a little egg lay on a leaf..." she looked right at him!

When we got the book to take home we couldn't wait to show her the pictures. Now our daughter is 18 months and she often asks to read the book!

