

# Ready To Learn

The mission of the Community Idea Stations' Ready To Learn program is to prepare children for success in school through the reach of Public Broadcasting. Ready To Learn has an impact! Studies show that after attending a Ready To Learn workshop:

- Parents become better television gatekeepers for their children.
- Families spend more time together reading and doing other education-related activities.
- Families make more frequent trips to libraries and bookstores.

The objectives of Ready To Learn are to:

1. empower parents to become their child's first teacher,
2. promote healthy television viewing habits, and
3. instill a literacy mindset among families and caregivers.

The Community Idea Stations' Ready To Learn program provides services to thousands of children and their families. These services include the following:

- ***PBS Kids Award-Winning Programs*** – The Community Idea Stations broadcasts over twelve hours each weekday of commercial-free, **educational** children's television programming.
- ***Workshops*** – In the past year, The Community Idea Stations Ready To Learn staff provided 193 workshops for parents, childcare providers, and early childhood professionals impacting over 17,000 children. Our workshops focus on using television as a learning tool and are based on the Ready To Learn View, Do, Read learning triangle. That encourages parents and caregivers to view quality children's television programs with their children, read books to their children related to some theme in the show, and do activities with their children related to the theme.
- ***Special projects*** – The Community Idea Stations sponsors special projects and events periodically throughout the year to encourage reading. We have partnered with libraries, museums, bookstores, hospitals, and other literacy partners to help foster a love of stories and reading. The *Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest* is a favorite.

- ***Children’s Book Distributions*** – Each adult attending a Ready To Learn workshop receives a free children’s book. We also work with our literacy partners to distribute books on a monthly basis throughout the school year. In the past year, we distributed over 15,000 free new books to children in our viewing area.
- ***PBS Supporting Publications and Websites*** – The Ready To Learn staff distributes PBS related materials at workshops. These materials offer child growth and development information and additional activities to improve literacy skills. The Community Idea Stations’ website also links to PBS Kids, PBS Parents, and PBS Teacher Source websites.

Interested in learning more about Ready To Learn workshops?

Ready To Learn is committed to fulfilling the education goal that all children will attend school ready to learn. To achieve this goal, The Community Idea Stations’ Ready To Learn staff offers workshop that combine books, exciting, interactive hands-on activities, and educational television. Each workshop features:

- Video clips – to highlight selected segments of PBS programming that will illustrate its curricular goals.
- Training – to help parents, early childhood educators, or childcare providers use media effectively in the learning environment.
- Activities – to develop educational experiences that will extend the learning introduced in the PBS programming.
- Literacy tips – to encourage the use of books as a means for developing language skills, social skills, and a love of learning through reading.

The workshops offered are:

**“View, Do, READ!” (Overview Workshop)**

*Ready to Learn’s* “View, Do, and Read” learning model is introduced to the audience as a way to combine selective television viewing **with activities** that stimulate creative learning and reading age-appropriate books. General information about PBS KIDS programs and *Ready To Learn* is included in this participatory workshop. ALL AUDIENCES.

**Making the Most of Screen Time**

This informative workshop is designed to teach the audience about media literacy and the effects it has on young children. Video clips will be viewed and participants will investigate the various

images children see on television. Learn about TV that teaches, and how to use it as an educational tool. Activities for extending the learning will be presented. ALL AUDIENCES.

### **Literacy**

#### **Language To Literacy (ages 0-3) or Sesame Street Beginnings: Talk, Read, and Write! (ages 4-7)**

Our literacy workshops bring exciting news about how you can support a child's language development right from birth! These workshops will provide the tools to help children along the exciting path from listening and speaking—to reading and writing! We'll offer activities, information and tips for making literacy a fun part of everyday life. PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF CHILDREN

### **Music Works Wonders**

Join *SESAME STREET Music Works Wonders* in encouraging children to explore, create, and grow with music. This workshop is designed to provide the audience with tools and activities that will bring music to life for young children, as they discover new ways to make, learn from, and appreciate music. ALL AUDIENCES.

### **Between the Lions Workshop**

"Come in Between the Lions..." and learn about this hugely popular series, aimed at helping children learn to read. Let us introduce you to the "mane" characters and provide you with creative ideas for using **BETWEEN THE LIONS** as part of your curriculum. Hear why educators across the country are ROARING about **BETWEEN THE LIONS!** PARENTS AND EDUCATORS OF CHILDREN AGES 5-7

### **Everyday Math & Science**

This workshop will offer ways to help children explore, ask questions, problem solve, investigate, count, measure and experiment as they develop the foundation for a lifetime of math and science. PARENTS AND EDUCATORS OF CHILDREN AGES 4-7.

### **Healthy Habits for Life**

This workshop provides information about how to nurture healthy habits in children using activities, recommended books, and interactive television programming. Topics discussed include nutrition, hygiene, exercise, rest, and relaxation. ALL AUDIENCES.

- **ALL WORKSHOPS DO REQUIRE THE USE OF A TV/VCR/DVD.**
- **These workshops are available in Spanish in certain areas of the state.** Please call for more information.

To schedule a *Ready To Learn* workshop or to receive more information, please call your local Ready To Learn Coordinator at 804-560-8134.