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Build a Solid Literacy Foundation with Strong Home/School Partnerships

January 19, 2010 – Maupin House Publishing, Inc. – Fostering a strong home/school partnership can make the single, most positive difference in building a solid foundation for a child’s reading success—and ensure a vital emergent literacy program in preschool and kindergarten.

The two new titles from Cathy Puett Miller, noted emergent literacy consultant, give preschool/kindergarten programs the resources they need to bridge early literacy programs at school with families at home and to create a solid home/school partnership that supports emergent literacy development every day, all the time.

The affordable home/school set pairs two copies of the professional title, *Before They Read: Teaching Language and Literacy Development through Conversations, Interactive Read-alouds, and Listening Games*, with twenty copies of the family title, *Anytime Reading Readiness: Fun and Easy Family Activities That Prepare Your Child to Read*. The result is an integrated approach that creates a seamless partnership between school and home.

Before They Read focuses on helping early childhood teachers understand the phonological journey of the young child and includes techniques that inform instruction for read-alouds, developing listening skills, and nurturing open-ended conversations.

Anytime Reading Readiness shows families how to create a literacy-rich home and incorporate easy-to-do literacy activities and games during chores, family outings, or car rides – all while respecting the reading readiness level of each child.

By using both titles together, preschool and kindergarten classrooms can work with families to:

- Focus on three big ideas for building the skills every child needs to get ready to read: oral language development through rich conversations, interacting with print through read-alouds, and playing with and listening to the sounds and patterns of language (phonological awareness).
- Take best advantage of the play-oriented learning style of young children, showing parents *and* teachers how to incorporate play-based games and activities that build strong skills in a deliberate way while respecting the level of literacy development of each child.
- Use teacher- and parent-friendly checklists to help evaluate where a child is along the road to reading.

About the Author: Cathy Puett Miller, the Literacy Ambassador®, is a sought-after speaker and trainer. She can be reached at tla@readingisforeveryone.org or through her website, www.readingisforeveryone.org.

The Home/School Literacy Partnership Set, MH# 118, is \$239. It is available through Maupin House: 800-524-0634 or at www.maupinhouse.com.

