



Celebrating 10 years and 1.3 Million Books Site Update

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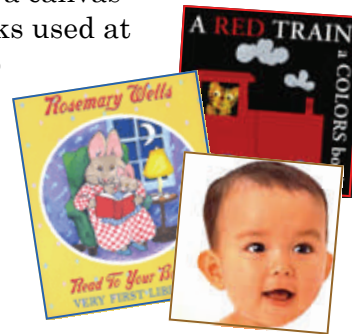
New Babies, New Books



“When stories are part of children’s lives from birth, the children benefit in three important ways....these benefits are that stories enrich children’s lives, strengthen relationships, and support emerging literacy.” Brickmayer, Kennedy and Stonehouse, 2007.

Before a baby arrives at a doctor’s office for her first well child visit she’s already been introduced to Raising Readers thanks to hospitals and birth centers across Maine.

Every family in Maine receives a canvas tote filled with books at a child’s birth. Like the books used at well child visits, the books in the newborn totes also change over annually. In the next few months, families will start receiving three great new books at their baby’s birth. Simple board books such as these offer simple text and vibrant pictures perfect for sharing with a very young infant.



Did You Know?

The nurturing and one-on-one attention from parents during reading aloud encourages children to form a positive association with books and reading later in life. (Source: reachoutandread.org)

Please Post\Share

Keep everyone at your site in the loop by posting or sharing this newsletter with all staff.

Questions?

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Our Way of Saying Thanks

By sharing books from birth, we create a love of books and reading and help prepare children to succeed in school, and in life. Children in Maine receive this gift every day thanks to the healthcare providers who give them books and the parents who read to them.



As we celebrate the 10th Anniversary of Raising Readers, we want to recognize the tremendous support the program has received from our participating sites. We literally could not do it without you. In early May, watch for a box with the Raising Readers birthday cake on the outside. Each site will receive a collection of books for their waiting rooms plus other goodies to help celebrate ten years of books and reading.

Check out the 10th Anniversary Video Trailer on our homepage. You could show it at staff meeting or send the link to staff members (or others) to view on their own. Look for it under **What’s New** at www.raisingreaders.org.



www.raisingreaders.org