The P.A.R.E.N.T.S. Program Guide is meant for organizations that provide parenting education to adults with low levels of English literacy. Adults who are developing and practicing their own learning skills, while in the process of teaching their children, can benefit from the P.A.R.E.N.T.S. Program.

From the perspective of family literacy, parents and parent figures are seen as the first and most important teachers of the children in their lives. The P.A.R.E.N.T.S. Program can help these adults function as effective teachers by showing them how to use children’s picture books as basic tools to do that teaching.

The P.A.R.E.N.T.S. Program uses carefully selected children’s picture books, with quality illustrations and high discussion value, in 15 one-hour lessons, to address a variety of issues important to parents and parent figures. These include setting goals, what children need, child development, language acquisition, role modeling, discipline vs. punishment, siblings, peer groups, and more. Participants practice reading aloud the children’s books and discuss the parenting issues presented in them.

The P.A.R.E.N.T.S. Program Guide can make your job easier, more effective and fun for you and your participants.

Jane Curtis has a Masters in Special Education from Columbia University. After teaching emotionally disturbed children and then peer counseling to adults, she began a career in family literacy. In 1990, she implemented the Families for Literacy Program at the San Rafael Public Library in Marin County, California. In 1993, she undertook a two-year project bringing family literacy into corrections with the creation of the F.A.T.H.E.R.S. Program for incarcerated men at San Quentin State Prison. She has developed training materials for Staff Development Institute at the California Department of Education to incorporate family literacy into adult education. She also wrote T.O.O.L.S. for Work, a curriculum for low literate adults leaving welfare, and co-authored the worktexts which accompany the family literacy instructional video series produced by INTELECOM of Pasadena, California.
P.A.R.E.N.T.S.
Parental Adults: Reading, Encouraging, Nurturing, Teaching, Supporting

Program Guide

Resources
for parents
and caregivers
to support
their children’s
eyearly learning

By Jane Curtis, M.A.