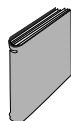




# Let's Use the Library

## What's in the library?



\***children's books** and magazines, with many in Spanish and other languages.

\***audiotapes** and **videotapes** of children's books and movies



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\***computers**

\***special programs**, including children's story hours, summer reading programs, and homework help.

\***services** for people with special needs (the library offers services for the blind, the deaf, and those who are gifted or need remedial help)

## Introduce your child to the library

\***Include children**--even toddlers--in

trips to the library, and go often.

\*Help your child get a **library card**.

\***Borrow recordings** of children's stories and songs, cassette tapes, compact discs, videotapes, even puppets and educational toys.

\*Find out if your library has **computers** and how your children can use them.



\*Encourage your children to ask for help from you and the **librarian** in finding books and materials.

\*Teach your children common sense guidelines for **behavior** in the library.

## Library Activities

\*Become a **member** for young children

\*Sign up for a library card yourself, and **check out books** to learn stories,

songs, rhymes, and fingerplays to use at home to stimulate and encourage your child's development.

**\*Get a library card for your child** as soon as possible. (Some libraries will issue a card as soon as a child can write his or her name.)

**\*Encourage your child to check out books.** This can encourage responsibility, too.

**\*Attend special programs** at the library.

**\*Get your child into reading programs** at the library. (Many children earn certificates or other awards for reading books through special library programs).

**\*Visit your children's school library,** meet the librarian, and see what it has to offer.

**\*Help out with any book fairs** the school sponsors. You'll learn a lot about children's literature that way.

**\*Enroll your child in computer courses** the library may offer.

Information was based on Helping Your Child Use the Library, from the U.S. Department of Education's Family Involvement Partnership for Learning

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**For more information contact:**



**The Center for Parent Involvement** (FCPI) was funded by the U.S. Department of Education; Goals 2000, Educate America Act from 1994-1999. Guided by an advisory board of parents and professionals, the FCPI's goal was to tap the power of parents.

The FCPI gathered information on parent needs, coordinated the information, and created a series of resources organized by theme, including fact sheets for parents and professionals, "Beyond the Basics" resources, and resource identification lists. Many of the resources have been translated into Spanish language versions, and every effort has been made to preserve the meaning and flavor of the original English documents. This series of materials provides a wealth of current information for both parents and providers; the complete set of resources can be obtained in PDF format on the Department of Child and Family Studies Website at [www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi](http://www.fmhi.usf.edu/cfs/dares/fcpi). The staff of the FCPI are hopeful that their work will continue to help children get ready to learn for many years to come.

The series' themes include:

- Family Empowerment
- Parent Involvement
- Parenting Support
- School Readiness
- Violence in the Lives of Children
- Transition to Kindergarten

The Center was one component of a project led by Hillsborough County Center of Excellence in collaboration with the Department of Child & Family Studies at USF's de la Parte Institute and the Florida Children's Forum. Other project partners include HIPPY (Home Instruction Program for Preschool Youngsters), Hillsborough County Head Start and Hillsborough County Even Start. For more information about these projects, call 813.974.4612.

Parent Involvement, Parent Tip Sheets, #7: Let's use the Library

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