

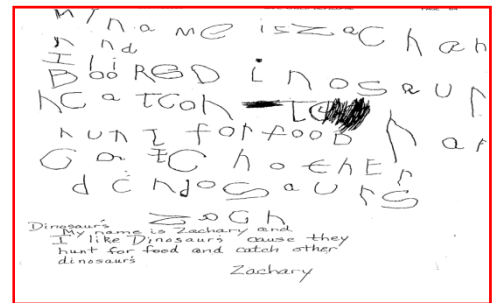


2009-2010 Literacy Buddy Program

Dear Classroom Teacher:

We are very excited to have you participate in the Literacy Buddy Program this year. Over 1100 children were matched with adult volunteers who wrote letters and sent books to young children in SW Florida last year. You will want to be aware of the following expectations and a few changes for the 2009-10 program year:

- Children age 3 through 5 years may be registered for the program.
- Each child will create their own initial "letter" to an adult buddy describing (in words or pictures at their appropriate level) an area of interest such as a certain animal, plants, activities, special friendships, etc. If necessary, the classroom teacher will scribe the child's explanation of their letter or picture. The child's first name, initial of the last name and age will be printed clearly on the letter. These letters will be submitted to the coalition no later than **11/1/09** with the attached application.



➤ Each time the child receives a letter and book, the **classroom teacher will be responsible** to help the child write an appropriate thank you note (or picture) with another area of interest indicated to assist the adult buddy in choosing a new book for the child. The child care facility will send the thank you note directly to the adult buddy promptly so the volunteer knows the child received their letter and book.

➤ The children will correspond with the adult buddy at **least 3 times** over the months of November 2009 through May 2010.

- Children who discontinue your program will be reported immediately to the Coalition so that the volunteer can be notified of the change.
- Please remember that your contact may be the only one these community members have with child care. You will want to make a good impression to encourage their continued participation as well as presenting your facility as a leader in the community.
- If you have questions, please call Jill Corbett at 239-267-4105 ext. 59.

Thank you for your interest in the Literacy Buddy Program!

Kathleen Reynolds

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