



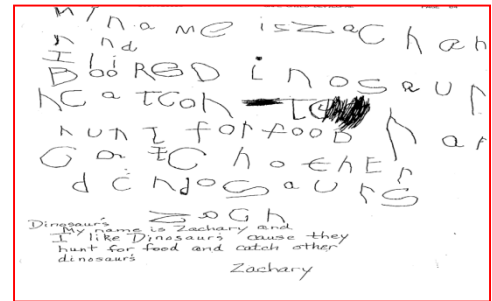
2010-2011 Literacy Buddy Program

Dear Classroom Teacher:

We are very excited to have you participate in the Literacy Buddy Program this year. Over 1000 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 for the 2010-2011 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, last name initial, age and facility name will be printed clearly on the letter.** These letters will be submitted to the coalition no later than **10/15/10** 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. You will be sent a spreadsheet that needs to be maintained with dates of books received and letters sent by the children.**

- The children will correspond with the adult buddy at **least 3 times** over the months of October 2010 through May 2011.
- 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.
- The contact number for Literacy Buddies is 210-6886, e-mail is LiteracyBuddies@elcofswfl.org.

Thank you for your interest in the Literacy Buddy Program!

Kathleen Reynolds
Kathleen Reynolds, Ph.D
CEO, Early Learning Coalition of SW Florida

Jill Corbett
Jill Corbett, MA
Assessment Coordinator



APPLICATION FORM
FOR *LITERACY BUDDY PROGRAM*

(Deadline 10/15/10)

Please print or type the following information

Facility Name:			
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Telephone Number:		E-Mail:	
Contact Person:		Classroom Teacher:	

Number of *Buddies* Requested in this Packet: _____

*****Important Note:** For each child requesting a buddy, a note from that child – either self-written or written with scribing underneath in the child's own words must be attached.

I have read the above agreement and understand what is requested of me for my students to be involved in this project. If I have any problems, I will let the Early Learning Coalition know immediately.	
_____	_____
Signature of facility representative	Date

Child's First Name & First Initial of Last Name	Child's Age	Child's Sex

Return to: Early Learning Coalition *Literacy Buddies Project*
 The Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida
 5256 Summerlin Commons Way, Suite 201
 Fort Myers, FL 33907
 OR FAX TO: 239-267-4109
 OR E-MAIL: LiteracyBuddies@elcofswfl.org



