



A Bright Future For Every Kindergartener

Hosting a Ready, Set, Kindergarten
program at your library

Carson

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About us...

- We love paletas and ice cream
- Work @ BCL

What is Ready, Set, Kindergarten at BCL?



- 6-week series of “enhanced storytimes”
- Each week focuses on a different readiness skill
- Talk to parents
- Brooklyn Public Library

Why do we do Ready Set Kindergarten at BCL?

- Local libraries + State Library = Early Learning Division of Oregon Department of Education (ODE)'s big picture
 - Ready to Read grants from the State Library
 - Early learning hub support at the State and regional level
- Libraries + Early Literacy = Kindy readiness
 - Establish a connection with local schools
 - Improve kindy readiness scores
 - Statewide letter name recognition – upper 14.5, lower 12.1
 - Statewide letter sound recognition – 8.2



School readiness domains of BSD

- Love of learning, curiosity, creativity
- Social & emotional development
- Language and communication skills
- Literacy
- Basic math concepts



IMPROMPTU DANCE PARTY!!!



How we got started with RSK



- Getting staff on board
- Building staff collection
- Giveaway books=\$

Warm Fuzzies # 1



"I first met Jagger when he came to my Ready, Set, Kindergarten session. A couple of weeks ago I saw Jagger and his parents at Trader Joe's in line ahead of me. Jagger was very excited to see me. His mom explained that I was a 'rock star' in Jagger's eyes and that I had probably just made his entire day."

-Sandy Carson-Fitzgerald, Rock Star

Marketing at Kindy Round Ups

The power of a FREE book!

- Ready to Read grant funds
- Parents facing unknown
- A bit scary experience for the child
- A book to read together all summer

Grant required 60 second ad,
schools happy to partner for free
books



General outline of a session



- Be flexible
- Have fun
- Build relationships

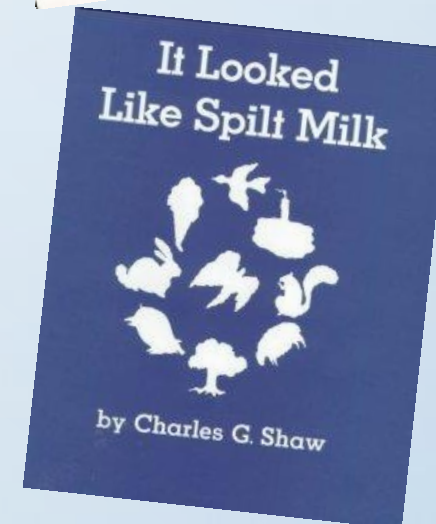
Session one: TALK

Parent Takeaway

- Talk, Talk, Talk!
- Encourage child to be a “little scientist”
- Describe things
- Make predictions

Take Home Activities

- Color Hunt
- Cloud watching/popcorn ceiling
- “I Spy”



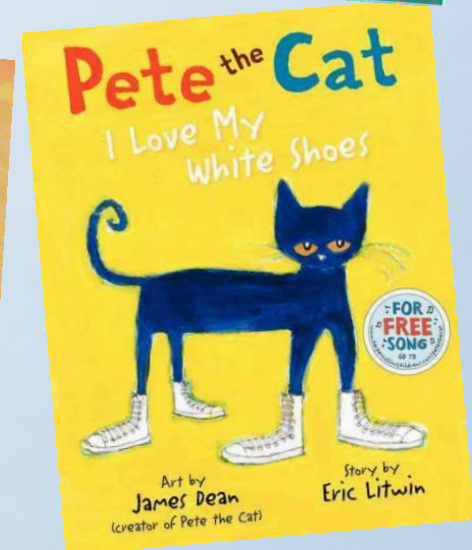
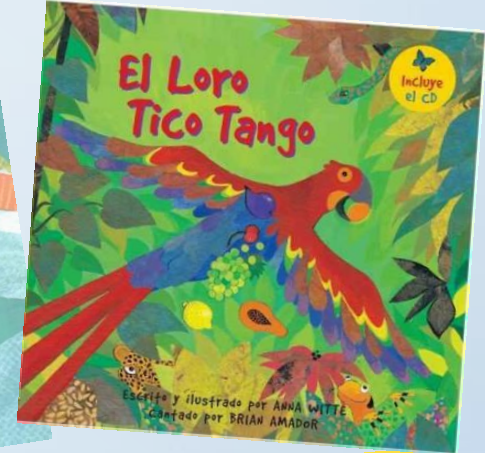
Session two: SING

Parent Takeaway

- Singing and chanting rhymes
- Helps hear smaller sounds in words
- Prepping child to sound out words

Take Home Activities

- Illustrated songs & rhyming books
- Sing & Dance
- Share poetry



IMPROMPTU DANCE PARTY!!!



Session three: Read



Parent Takeaway

- Read books your child enjoys (funny is queen!)
- You are your child's most important teacher.
- Reading should be a pleasurable experience.

Take Home Activities

- Character puppets
- Wordless picture books

Session four: WRITE

Parent Takeaway

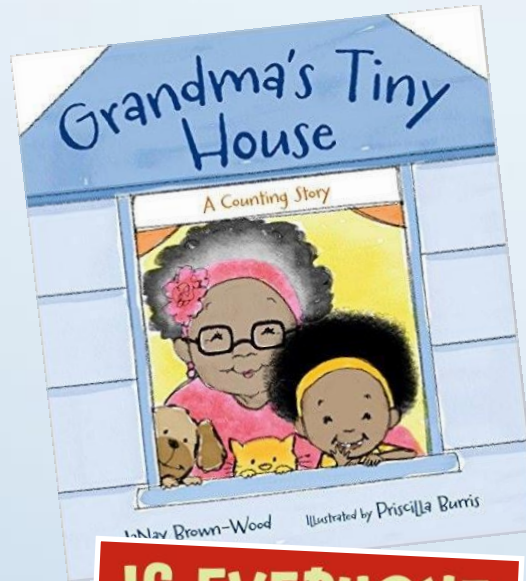
- Children like watching you write
- Play with writing materials
- Practicing the alphabet

Take Home Activities

- “A is for Apple” game
- Family Mailbox
- Grocery List



Session five: Play



Parent Takeaway

- Play is how your child learns about their world.
- Children should have plenty of opportunity to play with other children.
- Play with math concepts

Take Home Activities

- Make a treasure chest
- Measure your world
- Shape art

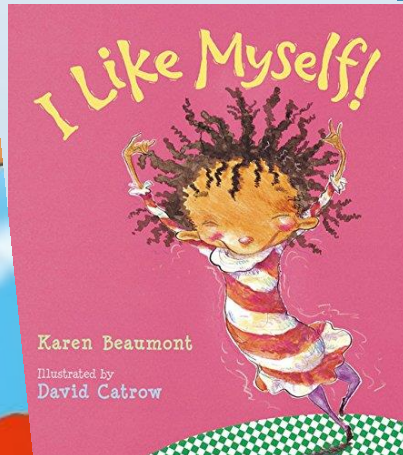
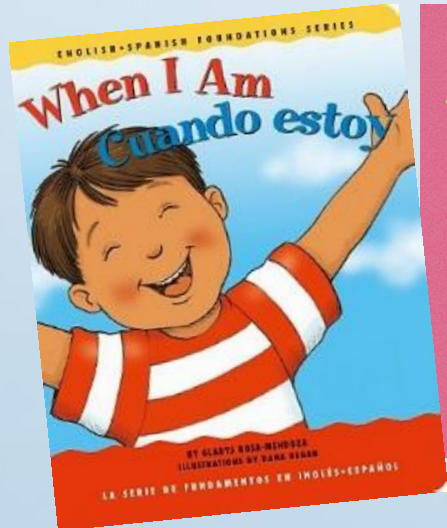
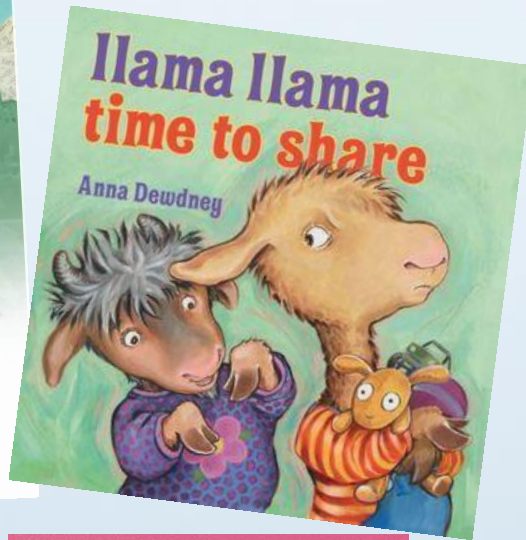
Warm Fuzzies #2

“During the first couple of sessions, Jamie was very reserved, stayed close to her mother and barely spoke. By the end of the sixth week she was sitting in the front, raising her hand, and singing along to the songs. Her mother told me she looked forward to coming every week and often sings the songs at home!”

-Carson Mischel



Session six: Let's Make Friends



Parent Takeaway

- Talk to your child about emotions.
- Practice gross (big) and fine (small) motor skills.
- Use books to help with life changes.
- Practice listening skills—read aloud at home.

Take Home Activities

- Emotions chart
- Collage card
- Empathy activity

Outreach – How?

- ♥ **Partners:** Family Resource Coordinators
- ♥ **Where:** FRC's helped decide
- ♥ **Promotion:** Flyers, Kindy Round-ups
- ♥ **Equipment:** Pre-packed bins with books, crafts, nametags, etc.
- ♥ **Funding:** Co-funded by the Beaverton School District
- ♥ **New this year!** RSK in Spanish



Warm Fuzzies #3

“Yara was very shy when she first attended RSK. As the week’s went by she felt more comfortable participating in songs and answering questions. Her mom shared that when Yara is at home she counts down the days to attend RSK again”

-Araceli Acosta



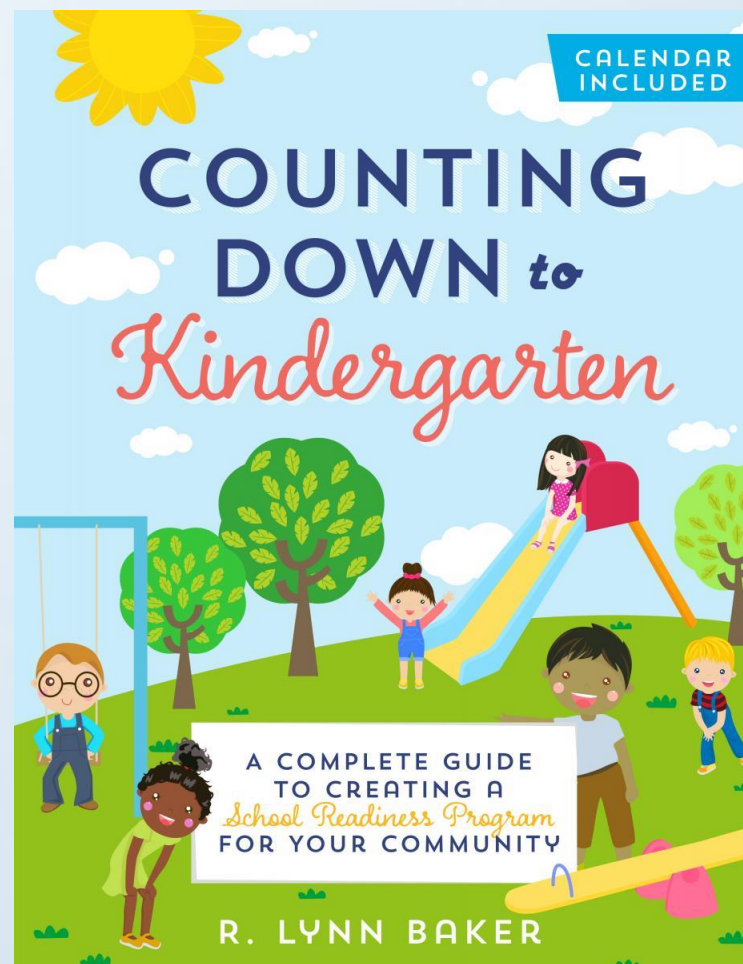
How we evaluate

- Parent Surveys – Weeks 2 & 6
- Document observations, a.k.a. “fuzzy feelings”
- Verbal feedback from parents
- Staff document what went well and what we could change next year
- Staff Meetings to recap



Year two—what we changed

- Adapted the curriculum
- Added sessions to elementary schools.
- Used Counting Down to Kindergarten to book to make some adjustments.



Bringing RSK to your library

Support staff if you will not be the one hosting

- Empower your EL pros
- Is there a service or program series staff can give up?
- One staff member per series if possible = More bonding with child & parent
- Find the funds for books (Ready to Read, School District)
- Help advertise with community partners





Questions?