



HIPPYUSA®
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters

THE HIPPY CURRICULUM

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) is a home-based, parent involvement program that brings early learning educational materials into the homes. The program provides solutions that strengthen families and help preschool children realize success by beginning school ready to learn. HIPPY USA believes that all parents want what is best for their children and that parents play a critical role in their children's education. HIPPY believes that parents and children, with support, can overcome obstacles to learning and strengthen their bond with each other. The model is designed to remove barriers to participation in education. HIPPY's primary goal is to increase vulnerable children's success in school and, ultimately, in life.



The HIPPY Curriculum, designed for children ages 3, 4 and 5, contains activity packets that cover 30 weeks (30 weekly packets in ages 3 and 4, 15 bi-weekly activity packets in age 5), a total of twenty-six storybooks and a set of 20 manipulative shapes. In addition to these basic materials, supplies such as scissors and crayons are provided for each participating family. The program uses trained coordinators and community-based home visitors who go into the home and role play the activities with the parents. They also provide support for each family throughout their participation in the program.



The research based activities are developmentally appropriate for children, practicing skills that are sequential and progress within each year and over the three years. The age 5 activities meet early learning standards for kindergarten and have been developed to support the learning that takes place in kindergartens nationally.

The packets are written in a clear scripted format that is designed to provide guidance for parents and to ensure a successful learning experience for the parent and child working together in their own home. Parents become the facilitator in the learning process with their child. They gain confidence

through their own participation in the HIPPY program and eventually become comfortable expanding the activities and broadening the learning experiences for their child.

The HIPPY curriculum develops skills over the three-year period in key learning domains including: Early Reading Literacy, Language and Communication, Thinking and Reasoning, Mathematics, Science, Physical and Motor

Development and Social and Emotional. Learning and play mingle throughout HIPPY's curriculum as parents expose their children to early literacy skills such as:



- Phonological and phonemic awareness
- Letter recognition
- Book knowledge
- Early writing experiences

In addition, the curriculum supports early math literacy and science exploration and fosters social/emotional and physical (gross and fine motor skills) development. HIPPY introduces skills and concepts in a progressive manner, first using the physical body, then concrete objects and finally representation of objects in pictures, followed by many opportunities for practice and learning. The HIPPY storybooks bring children's literature into the home. HIPPY offers numerous opportunities for children and parents to discuss the storybooks in varied and increasingly complex ways.



HIPPY is not a curriculum of mastery, but rather a curriculum of exposure to skills, concepts and experiences with books that together constitute "school readiness" for young children. Skills and concepts are developed through a variety of activities including:

- Reading
- Writing and drawing
- Listening and talking
- Singing and rhyming
- Playing games
- Cooking and sewing
- Shapes and colors
- Exploration with a variety of materials
- Puzzles and more

The storybooks and activity packets are available in both English and Spanish for all ages. The HIPPY curricula is continually reviewed and updated in order to ensure that the materials are relevant for families and reflect current educational research findings.



In addition to the core HIPPY materials, on an on-going basis HIPPY USA develops enrichment materials that enhance the curriculum and provide additional learning opportunities for children. These activities are selected to broaden the child's enthusiasm for learning. Some of these include:

- Extension activities that expand the learning experience emphasized in the core curriculum and are attached to each activity packet.
- *Let's Play: Storybook Enrichment Activities* – hands-on activities that are age specific and relate directly to the storybooks used in HIPPY.
- *The HIPPY Enrichment Activity Book* – a selection of activities for children ages 3, 4, and 5.
- The Parents Page, included in *The HIPPY TIMES*, offers information for parents and activities to share with their child.

If you would like additional information, please go to www.hippyusa.org.

