


# February 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <i>HIPPY Wk #17</i>	2	3	4 Play & Learn Group Color: Pink	5	6	7
		RIF Distribution #3 & Workshop #4				
8 <i>HIPPY Wk #18</i>	9	10	11 Play & Learn Group Book: "Self Portrait"	12	13	14 Valentine's Day
15 <i>HIPPY Wk #19</i>	16 Presidents' Day 	17	18 Play & Learn Group Shape: Heart	19	20 Kindergarten Fair 	21
22 <i>HIPPY Wk #20</i>	23	24	25 NO Play & Learn Group	26	27	28 



## HIPPY TIMES

February 2009

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters  
75-127 Lunapule Rd. Ste. 11 Kailua-Kona, HI 96740  
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### Coordinator's Comments

Evaluation is a useful tool in helping keep the HIPPY program current with research trends and what children need for school success. It is also in the best interests of children and families in helping identify areas where your child may be succeeding or need additional support.

Thirty seven children enrolled in the age 4 Hawaii HIPPY programs were administered the Get Ready to Read! Screening Instrument during Fall 2007 and Spring 2008. Data was also collected from all enrolled families at the end end of the year on volunteerism and parental involvement.

Findings from the evaluation, prepared by the University of South Florida, show that 70% of parents have increased their knowledge and use of teaching skills with their HIPPY child. More than 50% of the surveyed parents reported they had participated in volunteer activities. These are just a couple of highlighted findings from the report. If you are interested in a copy of the report or would like to discuss further please contact me, HIPPY Coordinator, Shannon Ramirez at 938-5004.

### HIPPY Play & Learn Group

**Old Airport Park-  
Na Kamalei Playground**  
Wednesdays, 10:00 am –12:00 pm

#### Schedule

10:00 am Center Play  
10:30 am Role Play (Ages 3,4,5)  
11:15 am Craft / Story Time / Guest

### Love Notes...

Thank you to the Davis `ohana for their generous donation to the HIPPY Wish List



### Meet Leina'ala Henriques



Leina is so happy to see all of the returning families & is very excited to be working with all of the parents who are new to the program this year. Leina feels privileged to be working with such a great group of families who inspire her everyday. She also looks forward to making new memories and sharing new laughs with her HIPPY teammates. Leina was

recently married to her partner of nine years. The wedding took place this past summer with the couple's seven year-old daughter, Naomi, as the flower girl. Although Naomi is an only child ( for now) she likes to refer to the family's two pets (a dog & kitten) as her brother and sister. Leina says, "I believe in this program and the quality time it helps families to spend together."

## Kindergarten Fair

**Monday, February 20, 2009**  
**11:00 am - 1:00 pm**  
**Immaculate Conception Church**  
**76-5970 Mamalahoa Hwy, Holualoa**

**HELP FOR YOU & YOUR CHILD TO GET READY FOR KINDERGARTEN!!**  
Share ideas and get important information!







HIPPY is a program of Family Support Services of West Hawaii





## Reading Is Fundamental

### Simple Things Families Can Do to Help Their Child Become a Reader

- **Read to and with your children for 30 minutes every day.** It is very important to read out loud to your children before they start school. Help your children to read with you. Ask them to find letters and words on the page and talk with your children about the story.
- **Talk with infants and young children before they learn to read.** Talk with your children all day long, using short, simple sentences. Talking with them even before they can speak will help them later when they learn to read and write.
- **Help you children to read on their own.** Reading at home helps children do better in school. Have lots of children's books in your home and visit the library every week. Help your children get their own library cards and let them pick out their own books.
- **Help your child to see that reading is important.** Suggest reading as a free-time activity. Make sure your children have time in their day to read. Set a good example for your children by reading newspapers, magazines, and books.
- **Set up a reading area in your home.** Keep books that interest your children in places where they can easily reach them. As your children become better readers, make sure that you add harder books to your collection.

## Dental Health Month

**Just the Facts...** Most young children have 20 baby or milk teeth. When you grow up you should have 32 permanent teeth (these begin to come in around age 5 or 7.) Teeth are covered with hard, strong, white enamel. It's important that you keep your child's teeth healthy so that they do not decay. Healthy baby teeth lead to healthy permanent teeth!



### Enjoy this song together:

(Sing to *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*)  
 Brush, brush, brush your teeth  
 Make them pearly white!  
 Brush, brush, brush your teeth  
 At least two times at day and night.  
 Brush, brush, brush your teeth  
 Right, left, up, and down.  
 Brush, brush, brush your teeth  
 Brush decay away!

Look for your copy of the HIPPYTimes The Parent Page for more information and ideas for your family.

## AmeriCorp Members in Action



AmeriCorp members and HIPPY Home Visitors coordinated the distribution of over 500 Toys for Tots toys to children being served by Family Support Services of West Hawaii. They also coordinated with non-profit Ka'analiike and private donors to help families in need this holiday season.



## Craft Corner: Love Note Tote



### Craft Materials:

- \* 2 paper plates
- \* stapler, scissors & hole punch
- \* glue
- \* colored paper
- \* ribbon

1. Fold 2 paper plates in half, then tuck one inside the other to form a heart. Staple them together.
2. Round the top edges with scissors. Punch matching holes in the center front and back of the pocket. Glue on colored paper hearts.
3. To finish, add a strap by threading a length of ribbon through the holes and securing the ends with a knot on the inside or outside of the pocket.

Scientifically based reading research shows that it is important for preschool age children to acquire the following language, cognitive and early reading skills for continued school success:

- Oral language acquisition
- Phonological Awareness
- Print Awareness
- Alphabet Knowledge



In addition to skills, the research also identified following strategies and elements used by high quality early education programs:

- High quality oral language and literacy rich environment
- Continuous and intensive professional development
- Appropriate curriculum
- Ongoing progress monitoring that meets the needs of the child

## HIPPY Skills Box

### Dramatic Play

Engaging in pretend play or acting out a scenario

### Imagination

Creating in one's mind new images and thinking of new ideas and ways to do things.



**love** *n.* Intense affection for another arising out of kinship or personal ties; a strong feeling of attraction; enthusiasm or fondness.

## Play & Learn Group: Messy Play

HIPPY families enjoyed themselves throughout the month of December during Messy Play at the HIPPY Play & Learn Group meetings. Children got the chance to explore the fun of 'getting their hands dirty'.