

## Annual Raising a Reader Implementation Checklist

For more information, contact PVUSD RAR Coordinator: Jennifer Robinson at: [Jennifer\\_Robinson@pvusd.net](mailto:Jennifer_Robinson@pvusd.net)  
or 831-786-8274

### Get Ready



- Wash bags for a fresh appearance.
  - Go through RAR books; be sure each bag has 4 books. If you do not have enough books to put 4 books in every bag, contact Jennifer Robinson, PVUSD Raising a Reader Coordinator.
  - Set up Pocket Chart (or other system) with in/out card for each child
- Plan how you will introduce RAR to the children—remember that building children's excitement is key to the success of this program. (Refer to Teacher Binder, Section IV, Child Introduction, p.20)
  - Plan how you will introduce RAR to the parents. Remember, when parents see value in the program, book bags are returned on time and books last longer. (Refer to Teacher Binder, Section IV, Family Introduction, p.28)
  - Use Read Aloud DVD's, RAR Posters, Super Questions to promote RAR to parents.
  - Consider requesting a refresher training from Jennifer. Refresher trainings are recommended for sites that have been implementing for at least two years or if you have new staff.

### Get Started



- Introduce RAR to the children at Circle Time. Model use of the bags and create excitement
  - Introduce RAR to parents. A parent meeting is ideal. There are also other options that meet the needs of your program and families, such as one-on-one or in small groups, or a
- Start rotating the red bags. Expect that most children will take home a red bag most weeks to share books with their parents. Encourage families to get in the habit of sharing books together a few minutes most days.
  - Begin your check-in routine. On your designated "check-in day", make sure returned bags have all four RAR books. If books or bags are missing, follow up with parents right away. Also, look for signs that the bag may not have been opened and talk to these parents to help overcome home-reading barriers.

## Keep up the Excitement!



- Keep rotating the bags each week. Families should be getting into the habit now.
- Continue to integrate RAR into your daily or weekly routine. Continue to include conversations about the books in the bag during class. For example, ask children about their favorite books and who reads to them.
- Routinely read RAR books to the children during class time or home visits.



- Continue literacy conversations with parents. Keep the awareness up with the parents by asking about their favorite books and sharing interactive early literacy tips such as at pick up times, parent meetings or workshops, parent conferences, newsletter or bulletin boards.
- Attend the Literacy Network event and training offered in March.



## Introduce the Library

- Begin a conversation with children about the library. Check out library books to share with the children and keep a blue bag for yourself to hold your library books. Show the children that their blue bag is to hold books they have checked out from the library with their family.

- Introduce the library to families. Let each family know they will get a blue bag for trips to the library. Have a blue bag celebration for your families: this could be an event at the library or circle time event; include library card application and flier. Encourage families to go to the library and check out a book that goes along with their child's interest.
- Encourage families to participate in the Library's Summer Reading Program.
- Be sure to complete the Refresher Survey online in April/May to receive the materials you need in the summer or fall.



Schedule your library visit at least 3 weeks before the visit. In Watsonville or Freedom call (831)288-0899 or email: [lilia.placencia@cityofwatsonville.org](mailto:lilia.placencia@cityofwatsonville.org). For other locations in Santa Cruz call (831) 427-7717. Turn the library applications and class roster into the library 2 weeks before the visit. Bring the blue library bags with you to the event.