



HIPPY USA

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters



**HIPPY BUILDS
BRIDGES TO
ACHIEVEMENT**



HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) Partners with Parents To Prepare Their Children for Success in School.

Research shows that some children start kindergarten already lagging behind on the road to achievement. This gap often mirrors discrepancies between family income, parent education levels, and the amount and quality of time parents spend talking and reading to their children.

HIPPY builds a bridge to parents through one-to-one relationships with cultural and socio-economic peers recruited from the community to work as paraprofessional home visitors. The home visitors deliver the books and activity packets that comprise the **HIPPY** curriculum and train the parents through role-play to read and work with their children on school readiness skills.

HIPPY builds a bridge between parents and the education of their children by giving them not only the tools – through the **HIPPY** books and curriculum – but also the self-confidence that teaching their children brings. This gratification often motivates parents to seek more education themselves, thereby enhancing the whole family's potential. At the very least, **HIPPY** parents maintain their engagement in their children's education throughout the school years ahead.

HIPPY builds a bridge between families and the well-being of the community by demonstrating, through first-hand experience, the importance of education and the opportunities it brings and connecting both parents and children to access to its benefits, thereby empowering them to enrich the community as skilled and contributing citizens raising children propelled in the same direction.



HIPPY Bridges “the Word Gap”

Researchers first identified the “word gap” in the 1990s when they found that many children who grow up in low-income families enter school with much smaller vocabularies than their classmates. In the intervening years, not much progress has been made to close the gap. Many children continue to start school behind their more affluent peers and many are not able to catch up.

The word gap can be bridged. The HIPPY model encourages active conversations between parents and their young children. HIPPY’s learning materials include **scripts** and **verbal cues** that prompt parents as they engage their children in conversation related to books, math concepts, science, and daily life.

In addition to building vocabulary, these activities elicit children’s ideas and stimulate creative thinking skills.

Its targeted focus on learning and using words makes the HIPPY curriculum an excellent tool for tracking, measuring, and literally **counting** vocabulary gains.



P.O. Box 1034, Little Rock, AR 72203-1034
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HIPPY Bridges the Achievement Gap:

How It Works

Starting school is too late to begin a child's education! And who's a better first teacher than the parent, the core of the primary and most consistent bond in a child's life? HIPPY partners with parents to help them prepare their children for success in school.

HIPPY

- Provides parents with an educationally sound and user-friendly curriculum using activities, books, and objects found in daily life and structured in three-year stages geared to 3, 4, and 5 year olds
- Recruits and employs specially trained peers of the parents to deliver the curriculum and instruct parents in their homes on a weekly basis for 30 weeks a year
- Involves HIPPY parents in group meetings to share their experiences, reinforce their HIPPY commitment, and add to parenting and other practical information and skills

HIPPY works in both urban areas and rural communities. The map (reverse side) shows the states where there are HIPPY programs.



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Bridges to Starting and Sustaining a HIPPY Program Site

HIPPY finds a home as a program operated by school districts, university education departments, and secular and religious nonprofit agencies. These HIPPY hosts serve as fiscal agents and employers of the coordinators and home visitors requisite for the HIPPY model.

Funding for HIPPY comes from many sources, often exemplifying public-private partnerships:

- Government (federal, state, local)
- Institutional and private foundations
- United Way organizations
- Corporations
- Individual philanthropy

Arkansas stands out as a state that has funded HIPPY since the 1980s. Alabama and Florida have also provided consistent state funding for HIPPY.



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Build Your Bridge to HIPPY

Donate to HIPPY USA to help increase educational achievement, boost the lives of children and families, and enrich the potential of our communities.

Donations at any level support HIPPY USA's efforts for:

- Creation of new HIPPY sites and expansion of existing ones
- Advocacy for federal and state policies that provide government funding to HIPPY programs
- Research studies to keep HIPPY's evidence base current
- Marketing to eradicate HIPPY's "best kept secret" reputation
- Direct funding to and technical assistance on fund development to HIPPY sites
- A new HIPPY book
- Scholarship to increase home visitors' professionalism through a college degree
- Sponsorship for a HIPPY family
- Curriculum sets for a family
- Book sets for a family

To donate now, please complete the form (reverse).



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Yes, I/We Want to Build A Bridge to HIPPY

// Here is my/our gift of

// \$50 // \$100 // \$250 // \$500 //

\$_____

// Please contact me. I want to do more.

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

PAYMENT METHOD

// Check (made payable to HIPPY USA)

// Visa // MasterCard // AmEx // Discover

Card # _____

Exp Date _____

CSC _____

HIPPY USA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

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*She faced many challenges as a single mother, and served as a farm worker. Then she began working as a **HIPPY** home educator, serving 25 families each year. "We are able to make a connection with families and see their needs as well as barriers."*

- Ana Bueno

Guadalupe, California

*Georgina, from San Francisco, a student at Harvard, took her **HIPPY** storybooks to college as mementoes of home. Her mother, Aricela, has worked as a teacher's partner in the San Francisco Unified School District since her daughter started school.*

*A grandmother had difficulty getting her grandson interested in learning. Weekly **HIPPY** lessons helped make learning fun for him. He quickly gained the confidence to excel as the youngest child in his kindergarten class.*

- Dorothy Heithman

Hot Springs, Arkansas



*Celebrating the
first 25 years
of achievements*



Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) began in the United States in the early 1980s with sites in Tulsa and Miami sponsored by NCJW (National Council of Jewish Women). In 1986 **HIPPY** expanded considerably when it opened in Arkansas, where it remains a state program. **HIPPY** USA was founded in 1988 and based in New York City until 2007, when the national headquarters moved to Little Rock, AR.

HIPPY programs annually serve 15,000 families in more than 20 states and the District of Columbia.

HIPPY, known in Hebrew as HaEtgar (the Challenge), originated in 1969 in Israel, through the research of Dr. Avima Lombard at Hebrew University's NCJW Research Institute for Innovation in Education. Through **HIPPY** International, programs continue to operate in Israel, as well as in Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Germany, New Zealand, and South Africa.



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