

KEYSTONE STATE LITERACY ASSOCIATION

An Affiliate of
THE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY ASSOCIATION

March 2023

Dear Colleagues,

The Keystone State Literacy Association is committed to developing a love of reading in all children across Pennsylvania. To this end, KSLA will again promote April as Families and Reading Month throughout Pennsylvania to call attention to the importance of families reading together at home.

Parents are a child's first – and most important – teacher; their influence needs to be recognized and encouraged. Research has shown that children who come from homes where reading is valued usually become more successful readers. We need to continue to stress to parents and caregivers their importance in developing their children's lifelong reading pattern.

We ask that you partner with KSLA to promote Families and Reading Month and to encourage reading at home during the month of April. If you decide to do so, we recommend the following procedure:

- reproduce or post the age-appropriate Families and Reading Month materials.
- encourage participation by asking families to read for a minimum of 15 minutes daily or complete some of the Families and Reading Month calendar's activities during April.
- have the families return the calendar to you at the beginning of May.
- award the Certificate of Achievement to students whose families successfully participate.

We invite you to participate with other districts across the state to promote the importance of reading at home. We encourage you to use your imagination or utilize the ideas in the packet to create an exciting month that promotes, encourages, and develops a love of reading. Families and students will thank you for assisting and encouraging them to spend time reading. A love of reading will take one through life in a wonderful way.

Many people have contributed to the Families & Reading resources. Their book recommendations and suggestions for improvement of the materials were invaluable.

- Susan Berrier, Chambersburg Area School District
- Kelly Cote, Chambersburg, PA
- Anna Landers, Corry Area School District
- Katie Miller, Chambersburg Area School District
- Tracy Panzer, Cumberland Valley School District



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Debbie Urso". The script is cursive and fluid, with a large 'D' and 'U'.

Debbie Urso

KSLA Families and Reading Committee Chair

Providing Leadership in Literacy and Education for the Commonwealth