

Dads & Early Childhood Development: Connecting dads and children through literacy and early education

BACKGROUND: A series of half-day seminars, titled "Dads and Early Childhood Development: Connecting dads and children through literacy and early education," will focus on developmentally appropriate literacy activities, the influence of gender on reading habits, and the role of father-figures in children's literacy development. The sessions will promote an understanding of the influences of talking, reading, singing, and playing as tools for expanding literacy.



WHO SHOULD ATTEND: The workshops are geared toward individuals working in pre-K thru elementary education, family services, child welfare, parenting education, public health, fatherhood advocacy, and other social service organizations. Whether you plan to teach a parent education class or to interact one-on-one with a single dad, the sessions will give you the tools necessary to help dads feel confident about their role in promoting literacy and alternate literacies.

PRESENTERS:

- Tom Fitzpatrick, Minn. Humanities Commission
- Glen Palm, St. Cloud State University
- Clarence Jones, Southside Community Health Services
- Paul Masiarchin, Minn. Fathers & Families Network
- Lois Rakov, Consultant to Admin. for Children and Families (*St. Paul, only*)
- Additional presenters may join workshops; all presenters may not be present at each workshop.

OUTCOMES:

- Discuss research about the importance of fathers in early childhood and literacy development;
- Learn to talk to fathers about literacy (speaking, listening, reading and writing) and help men gain comfort while engaging in literacy activities with their children;
- Discuss the importance of father-child literacy activities from birth through elementary school;
- Understand activities that promote father-child literacy in formal and informal educational settings;
- Become involved in literacy projects: *Dads and Kids Book Clubs* and *Fathers Reading Every Day*.
- Receive literacy-related resource materials, research, activities, and a father-focused picture book.

REGISTRATION: The workshops are free to members of MFFN. Non-members are asked to pay a \$10.00 registration fee at the door upon arrival (registration includes a Certificate of Attendance, snacks, handouts, and a father-focused children's book). Cash or check payable to MFFN.

RSVP: Please RSVP no later than one week prior to the event. EMAIL: info@mnfathers.org or FAX: ATTN Paul Masiarchin 612-787-4002. Please include your name, email and the session you will attend.

St. Cloud	Friday, Sept. 23, 2005 8:30 am —12:00 pm	Minn. Center for Business Development Harold Anderson Entrepreneurial Center 616 Roosevelt Road / St. Cloud, MN 56301
Crookston	Thursday, Sept. 29, 2005 8:30 am—12:00 pm	University of Minnesota, Crookston Kiehle Building, Room 116 2900 University Avenue / Crookston, MN 56716
Marshall	Thursday, Oct. 6, 2005 8:30 am —12:00 pm	SW/WC Service Cooperatives 1420 East College Drive Marshall, MN 56258
Morris	Friday, Oct. 7, 2005 8:30 am—12:00 pm	West Central Research and Outreach Center (WCROC) 46352 State Hwy. 329 / Morris, MN 56267
St. Paul	Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2005 8:30 am —12:00 pm	Minnesota Humanities Commission 987 East Ivy Ave. / St. Paul, MN 55106
Northfield	Thursday, Oct. 13, 2005 8:30 am—12:00 pm	Northfield Community Resource Center, SS103 Community Room 1651 Jefferson Pkwy. / Northfield, MN 55057
Proctor	Friday, Oct. 28, 2005 8:30 am —12:00 pm	Proctor Area Community Center (PACC), Community Room 100 Pionk Drive, Proctor, MN 55810

DETAILS: For driving directions and additional information: visit www.mnfathers.org/news2005.html, email info@mnfathers.org, or call (612) 787-4091.

Sponsors



ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY

For the fourth year in a row, the Minnesota Fathers & Families Network will conduct a series of professional workshops across the state of Minnesota.

This year, the educational seminars will be hosted in collaboration with the Minnesota Humanities Commission, Family Literacy Initiatives; Southside Community Health Services; St. Cloud State University, Child and Family Studies; and the regional Minnesota Initiative Funds.

Co-Sponsors



Join us this fall for a half-day seminar on dads and early childhood development.

Minnesota Fathers & Families Network
1700 Second Street NE, Suite 208
Minneapolis, MN 55413

“Connecting dads and children through literacy and early education”

Fall 2005 Fatherhood Seminar Series

For professionals interested in promoting father involvement in early childhood development.

Crookston

Marshall

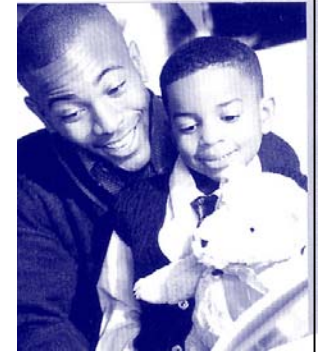
Morris

Northfield

Proctor

St. Cloud

St. Paul



Research and practice clearly support the importance of positive parenting on the healthy development of infants and young children. In particular, children with positive connections to their fathers or father-figures demonstrate higher levels of early academic achievement, enhanced social skills, and higher self esteem.

Learn how to help fathers promote literacy development in their children—including listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.