

READ*WRITE*NOW! [usread]

A NATIONAL READING-WRITING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM U.S. OFFICE OF EDUCATION 1995

Concern that children's reading and writing skills are not improving prompted Secretary Rile and the Family Involvement Partnership for Learning to develop READ*WRITE*NOW!

Studies show that frequency of reading is a primary indicator of students' academic achievement. A child who reads and writes often is a more successful student and adult. Add to that mix a parent or caring adult who reads frequently with a child and you increase the chances of a child achieving at higher levels.

The READ*WRITE*NOW ! National summer reading program encourages children and reading partners -- parents, summer project leaders, senior citizens, teachers, librarians, students in grade seven and older -- to meet two or more times each week and complete an activity together. Each child will also be challenged to read 20 minutes each day, either individually or with a partner.

Upon meeting the reading and writing goal, sponsors will present their young partners with a certificate for a free personal size pan pizza from Pizza Hut, a national sponsor of the program.

Adult partners receive a certificate acknowledging their commitment to the American Initiative on Reading and Writing.

READ*WRITE*NOW! Encourages children and their adult partners to engage in challenging activities that will enhance academic skills. It also offers adult partners a unique opportunity to make a difference in a child's life and inspire a lifelong love of reading.

Children and their partners will receive a READ*WRITE*NOW! Kit consisting of a book of activities that support reading and writing as well as a funbook for children pre-K through kindergarten, the first in a series of funbooks which will support the National Initiative on Reading and Writing. In addition, recommended reading lists and a s"Strong Families Read Together" bookmark will be included.

Additional major sponsors of READ*WRITE*NOW! Include Reading is Fundamental, the American Association of School Librarians, Nickelodeon, and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

Supporting organizations include the International Reading Association (IRA), the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), and Hadassah.

To receive a READ*WRITE*NOW! Kit, call 1-800-USA-LEARN.

This reading initiative will extend beyond Summer, 1995. Call the 800 number for details and note articles and ads in partner organization materials.