

November is MA Family Literacy Month

In recognition of the critical role parents play in achieving the goals of Education Reform and the federal No Child Left Behind law, the MA Department of Education is pleased to announce that Governor Mitt Romney has declared November as Massachusetts Family Literacy Month. This annual celebration, sponsored by the Massachusetts Family Literacy Consortium (MFLC), underscores the importance of strong literacy and numeracy skills that help each family member be successful in school and in life.

We know that students do better in school when they are reading, writing, and participating in literacy activities with their families. Family Literacy Month is a great way to engage parents in supporting their children's education, and to help children toward lifelong learning.

Parents are a child's first and most influential teachers. Family literacy stresses the word "family," as family members are essential in supporting learning at home, at school, and in the community.

Parents play specific roles in children's literacy development:

- Creating literacy-rich environment
- sharing reading and writing activities
- acting as reading models
- demonstrating attitudes toward education

A strong educational environment at home can be a major factor in reinforcing the home-school connection.

