

THE PROGRAM

El Paso Public Library has implemented an early literacy program geared towards expectant parents and parents with infants up to the age of one year.

This program aids in the early development of literacy in children by introducing them to words and music prior to birth while building a bond between caregiver and child.

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THE EQUIPMENT

BellyBooks

A special book created with a rounded base so that expectant mothers can comfortably rest the book on their baby bump as they read "Can't Wait to Show You: A Celebration for Mother's-To-Be."

Ritmo Audio Systems

A pregnancy audio belt designed specifically for prenatal use, Ritmo's sound output is safe and ideal for a baby in the womb, and doubles as an excellent support belt for today's active mother.

Playaways

A self-contained audio player with preloaded stories with the capability to connect to headphones and/or our Ritmo Audio Systems.



What is it?

Basically, this program is a storytime for babies still in the womb. By utilizing Ritmo Audio Systems and/or BellyBooks we will provide you the resources for prenatal reading.

How does it work?

The Ritmo Audio System connects seamlessly to Playaways and your own audio player, so your baby will hear the sounds that are most important to you, from your favorite Beatles song or lullaby to the preloaded stories on the Playaways.

The BellyBooks are read aloud to your baby bump—this will enhance your emotional connection with your baby each time you read, and your unique voice will become more and more familiar.

The Goal

The goal of this program is to incorporate early developmental literacy activities to jumpstart a child's language development by utilizing library resources such as the Ritmo Audio System (designed specifically for in utero development), PlayAway BookPacks, BellyBooks, and music, while also educating caregivers on the benefits of reading to their infants.

Did you know?

New research suggests that precocious language learning starts in the womb. Babies can hear specific words in the womb and remember them days after birth. Nursery rhymes, vowel sounds, and mother's voices can all influence a developing baby. Fetuses can hear and learn certain sounds and can also detect and remember discrete words. Continuous research adds to the understanding of how the early acoustical environment shapes the developing brain.

86%-98%

of a young child's vocabulary is learned from their parents.

Music

Research show that listening to music while in the womb, has a stimulating effect on your baby's brain. It is also associated with later learning and cognitive development. A baby in the womb can hear sounds from approximately 17 weeks after conception.

