Head Start Literacy Program

Literacy Program

UCHRA Van Buren County Head Start's Literacy program is designed to assist families of our children to enhance their quality of life. Through a partnership with the Van Buren County School System and the resource Center, they can access Adult basic Education and GED. Through the Van Buren County Public Library, we have a program set up to assist you in obtaining a library card. You can pick up your cards and more information at Head Start.

The Literacy Suitcase

The Literacy Suitcase is a tool given to one child from each classroom each week. The case consists of a storybook, word cards, letters, letter board, pencil, markers, and a blank journal. The child and his/her family read the book and they write in their own creativity, a part to the story using the materials provided in the case. The materials are then returned to school and their portion is added to a larger journal to be shared with the whole class as a classroom book.

Power Packs

We also have designed a Parent Power Pack Education Program (Power Packs) which will empower the parent to get involved with their child's education at home. The Power packs will consist of a canvas bag containing thematic materials (i.e. colors, shapes, counting, tie your shoes, telling time, etc.). When the child returns to school with the Power pack, they will be given the opportunity to share their learning experience with the class at group time. This experience will enhance your child's vocabulary, promote increased self esteem and encourage other children to ask their parent/guardian to obtain a Power Pack for their use.

Lending Library

We are excited about our Lending Library. We have children's books for you to read to your child, child development books for you to grow as a parent, and adult books for your own reading enjoyment. These can be checked out at the Head Start Center for your convenience. Please feel free to come and review our selection. We also have children's videos and a VCR that you can check out and enjoy with your family. We also have some videos available that cover health topics such as HIV, asthma and mental health. We also have college level textbooks providing opportunities for continuance of your educational studies. For more information contact Tina Scarbrough at the Center.

Computer Education Program

We have a Computer Education program to assist you to learn the computer and use the internet, to construct resumes for job searching, to make banners, cards, etc. for special occasions. If you want to gain computer skills, you can log onto a computer and type materials for the Head Start staff and yourself - using the computer is the best way to learn it! We will be happy to provide you with a letter of recommendation to go along with your resume after you gain user knowledge.