

POINTERS FOR PARENTS

Kids Who Dance And Sing And Learn

(NAPSA)—As today's world grows more and more complex, parents and teachers agree on the importance of early childhood education. Research has shown that common sense is correct: Being involved in your child's education can lead to better grades and attendance, higher self-esteem, less drug and alcohol abuse and less violent behavior.

Here are some tips for helping your child master reading:

- Reading to children helps them to understand that stories have a structure, that printed words are meaningful and that reading is fun. It helps them get accustomed to both reading for pleasure and in general.

- Teach your children alphabet recognition, one of the single strongest predictors of reading success for young children entering school.

- Lay a foundation for reading by labeling things in your home, such as doors, chairs, the refrigerator and so on. You can give the labels to a slightly older preschooler and have him or her try to put the right tag on the right thing.

- Encourage reading as entertainment by limiting television time.

- Have your child look for familiar signs on the road or when you go out.

- Help your child learn to write his or her name, compose notes to friends and relatives and copy out favorite words.

- Look for educational videos and DVDs, such as School Specialty's Noodlebug series, that can maximize your child's learning potential.

The Noodlebug product line incorporates seven essential brain-building activities for kids

7 Essential Brain Builders

NOODLEBUG™
Let's Pretend
Includes Bonus Music CD!



Noodlebug's live action and animation provide a fun, educational experience for your kids.

in a format designed to capture and hold their attention and interest. Each DVD in the award-winning series, which comes with a free audio CD, has:

- Music, which boosts memory and teaches pattern recognition
- Movement, to improve coordination
- Stress reduction, through humor as well as music
- Storytelling, to improve vocabulary
- Health information, teaching the benefits of proper nutrition and rest
- Problem solving
- Second-language portions, to develop the child's ear for sound, lay the groundwork for formal foreign-language instructions later on and increase his or her understanding of foreign cultures.

You can find Noodlebug products in stores or online at www.schoolspecialtypublishing.com.