

# **Pointers** **For Parents**

## **Reading Readiness**

*by Andrea Pastorok, Ph.D.*

(NAPSA)—To help your pre-reader and early reader develop reading readiness skills, build vocabulary and increase phonic awareness, the experts at Kumon Math and Reading Centers suggest the following:

### **Read, read, read**



**Dr. Pastorok**

- Read a wide variety of books from nursery rhymes to classic tales.

- Ask your child questions about the book. Who is your favorite character? What part of the book do you like best? What do you think will happen next?

- Run your finger along the words as you read to your child so that he/she learns that English print goes from left to right, top to bottom, front to back.

### **Sing songs**

- Children love silly songs, jingles and especially repetitive verses with rhymes.

### **Show your child words in a variety of media**

- Whether it is the daily newspaper or a magazine, show your child words on the page so he/she can begin to recognize them.

- Point out “environmental words” such as traffic signs and storefront signs as you drive.

- In the grocery store, have your child find a box of his/her favorite food on the shelf. This helps children recognize their favorite items and the words that go with them.

### **Have your child retell stories**

- If you have read your child a tale, such as “The Three Little Pigs,” have him/her retell it back to you.

Located in 44 countries around the world and with an enrollment of three million students, Kumon Math and Reading Centers offer the premiere after-school supplemental education program.

To learn more, visit the Web site at [www.kumon.com](http://www.kumon.com).

*Dr. Andrea Pastorok is the education specialist for Kumon North America.*