









Agata Walczak-Niewiadomska PhD

Department of Informatology and Bibliology University of Lodz Poland



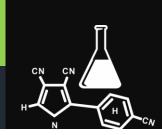






















Outline

- family literacy definition
- family in the library
- best practices projects, programmes









Preface

Child's education extends over many stages starting with the often mentioned in scientific studies the impact of family environment on emotional and intellectual development of the child. For over 30 years the concept of family literacy (FL) has been gaining popularity and recognition, standing at the core belief in the role of a **parent as the first teacher**. One of the key aspects of this educational method is the perception of the relationship between the level of caregivers' education and school success planned for their children.



Source:

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/updates/facebook -chat-raise-lifelong-reader/







Family literacy

- relatively new method of education, based on the assumption, that parent is a child's first teacher
- family literacy takes place during daily routines in life as parents, children, and family members use literacy at home and in their community



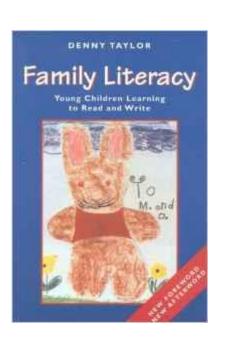






Family literacy

- the term has been used for the 1st time in Danny Taylor's book – *Family Literacy: Young Children Learning to Read and Write* (1983)
- he used it to define the ways of children learning to read and write through everyday aspects of family life









Areas of implementing

- element of educational strategies
- schools
- social care









FL in the immigrant community

Promising observations in this regard are implemented especially among immigrants, seeing in these activities more effective way to learn the second language, if a child with a parent, or even the whole family are incorporated into this process.









QualiFLY: European Project on Family Literacy

- 2005-2007
- 7 institutions from 6 countries
- funded within Socrates/Grundtvig Programme
- coordinated by UNESCO Institute of Education
- promotion of family literacy
- investigating policies and best practices







First European family literacy projects - Turkey

- Turkish Early Enrichment Project (TEEP) and Mother-Child Education Program (MAEPEP)
- mother involvement was the key to achieving the goals of cognitive and socio-emotional development of the child, as well as improving their learning outcomes.
- The activities carried out during the programs, especially the MOCEP, focused on training mothers to acquire the skills to support their child, which included improving communication skills and empowering the position of the mother in the family
- Children who joined the program were 3-5 years old
- at 13-15 years of age, they showed a significant increase in linguistic test scores, higher than their peers, and at 25-27 years of age they showed a 60% greater interest in continuing their studies at higher education







Family literacy in the library

- libraries "borrowed" the concepts from schools
- activities involving whole family are considered as most effective
- shared learning to read and write
- meetings engaging into play with book









Family Place Libraries

- "network of children's librarians nationwide who believe that literacy begins at birth, and that libraries can help build healthy communities by nourishing healthy families"
- over 400 sites in 27 states of the United States
- http://www.familyplacelibraries.org/









San José Public Library (USA)

- "Together We Read. Family Literacy Program"
- the goal of "Together We Read" is to introduce adult literacy learners and their families to the value and joy of reading and learning together
- https://www.sjpl.org/togetherweread









Australian public libraries

- "Lapsit"
- for mothers / carers and children aged 0-2
- shaping and enriching the vocabulary of children
- involves parents or caregivers sitting with their child in their lap, in a group session sharing stories, rhymes and fingerplays



Source:







The Parent Empowerment for Family Literacy Programme (PEFaL)

- the PEFaL project EU-funded, implemented in Malta, Belgium, Romania, Italy, Lithuania, Spain and UK within the framework of the Grundtvig programme (2001-2004)
- the primary goal of PEFaL projects was to promote the social inclusion and empowerment of marginalised social groups through the provision of lifelong learning and education opportunities
- the programme primarily targeted marginalised and vulnerable families (parents with children in primary school, aged 7 to 11 years) with limited educational training opportunities







Learning modules and activities in PEFaL project

- Discovering books and exploring feelings through reading
- Playing with words and storytelling
- Making my own story
- Making family story bags
- Visits to the neighbourhood library children and parents go to the library to register as readers







"Give me a story" – Family Literacy Project in Switzerland

- Swiss Institute for Child and Youth Media
- aims to empower young children aged 2-5 years from migrant backgrounds by supporting their parents and motivating them to tell stories in their native language
- the families regularly meet reading animators, they tell stories, look at picture books, play rhyming games









Family Reading Clubs - Poland





- Kluby Czytających Rodzin (Fundacja ABCXXI. Cała Polska Czyta Dzieciom)
- Family Reading Clubs 75 in all around of Poland

Source:

http://przystanekczytankowo.blogspot.com/





Conclusions

- according to *Family literacy in Europe: using parental support initiatives to enhance early literacy development* report (2011) all national reading strategies should be based on cooperation with the families
- family use of the library not only supports the process of reading, but also strenghtens the emotional bonds
- institutional barriers often limit the development of such initiatives in Poland not every teacher in kindergarten or school cooperates closely with parents





Everyday family literacy

- books key members of your family
- storytelling talking about family history
- writing notes connecting family and friends
- using the library with the whole family







Thank you for attention!

Contact:

awniewiadomska@uni.lodz.pl

