

Snow, Sharon. *Building Blocks: building a parent-child literacy program at your library*. Westport: Libraries Unlimited, 2007. 99p. \$35.00. (ISBN: 978-1-59158-471-1)

In this book, anyone looking to educate parents on the Every Child Ready to Read literacy skills, will find everything they need in order to do so. Included in this book are sample publicity letters, booklists, fingerplays and songs, and completion certificates along with lesson plans for each skill. In all, there are 6 training sessions, however, for each one 2 different sessions take place. The parents and the children separate for most of the training and then reunite at the end to close the training. Sharon Snow does an excellent job detailing each of the two sessions for the six weeks separately. The outlines provided make the reader feel that doing these trainings is completely manageable.

While the book provides us with detailed directions, what it does not provide is the space, which may be an issue for some libraries (two separate rooms are needed) to conduct the sessions. The only negative comments I have about this book is that a web address given is no longer working and the bibliographies at the end of the book are dated with most books' copyright date being in the 90's or earlier. So, I would caution the reader not to rely on only those books given, since there have been many wonderful books written more recently. Despite these few shortcomings, this book is a wonderful source to any public library that promotes literacy-based programming. It takes educating parents about literacy skills to the next level.

Jaime Gotlieb
Youth Department Head
Douglas County Libraries