



JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

JSU Box 18380
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39217-0780

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY & EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Telephone: (601) 979-2336
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Fax: (601) 979-2178

- ✦ Early Childhood Education
- ✦ Elementary Education
- ✦ Reading Education
- ✦ Childcare and Family Education
- ✦ Barksdale Reading Institute

June 6, 2007

Dear _____:

I am a graduate student in Early Childhood Education at Jackson State University. Our department is sponsoring an innovative family literacy program in conjunction with the Progressive MB Church. Our project offers low-income parents with low literacy skills the opportunity to strengthen their skills while improving their abilities in the area of reading and talking about books with their children.

The summer program will be held at Progressive MB Church on Tuesday evenings. I and my fellow graduate students will call on the families in the community to work with them in the area of literacy or other issues as they arise. We will take turns leading the sessions at the church telling stories and discussing the weekly themes. Themes including fairness, dreams, coping and other emotional literacy topics will be explored through such classics as *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*, *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in Peoples' Ears*, *Lon Po Po*, and *The Talking Eggs*.

The First Book Campus Advisory Board of Jackson State has graciously donated \$3920.00 worth of new children's books to be given to the participating children to begin their own home library. Parents and their children ages Pre-Kindergarten through High School will engage in discussions about the values and goals presented in the books.

Nutritious snacks and door prizes are provided at every session.

We are seeking contributions from community-conscious businesses such as yours to assist us in making this program an enriching experience for the families we serve. Attached are specific needs for the sessions. If you would like to support our efforts to unite and empower families through literature, please complete the attached form and return it to us as soon as possible. Your business will be acknowledged in publicity related to the program. If you have any questions, you may call our professor, Dr. B. L. Fish at 601.979.3410 or me at _____.

We appreciate your consideration.

For the children,



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PLEDGE FOR CONTRIBUTION

Please place an "X" beside any contribution your business/organization can provide:

_____ **Door prizes.**

_____ **Snacks for the session.**

_____ **Food**

_____ \$ _____ **toward the purchase of food.**

_____ **General contribution of \$ _____ to support the program**

_____ **Transportation to and from sessions for _____ families.**

Business name: _____

Contact name: _____

Phone number: _____