

Racing to Read

An early literacy outreach program from the
Kenton County Public Library

Racing to Read is an innovative program designed by the Kenton County Public Library to serve children ages 0-5 at child care facilities. The *Racing to Read* program serves 40 childcare centers and 1,300 children in these centers each month



Racing to Read staff Richelle Rose, Amy Powell, Teresa Curtis

During each visit, library staff trained in early childhood education utilize developmentally appropriate techniques to read stories and sing songs to children. This allows children to interact with books, language, music and movement to help bring stories alive and establish the foundation for learning to read.

After storytimes, children and their caregivers visit the *Racing to Read* bookmobile to check out materials from among the collection of 6,000 items shelved on board the vehicle. In addition to children's books, the program offers teacher resources such as professional materials so that caregivers can continue exposing children to books and reading.

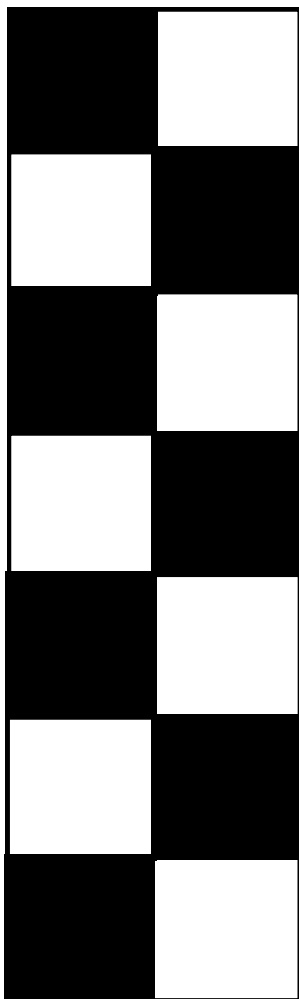
Program Goals:

- Reinforce pre-reading skills, such as vocabulary and phonological awareness
- Introduce children to the library and gain experience using their library card
- Model educational and enrichment tools for sharing books with children

Vehicle Highlights:

- 2009 GMC Topkick Recreational Vehicle purchased with funds raised by Library's Racing to Read 5K Walk & Run
- 28 feet in length with handicapped accessible wheelchair ramp and exterior awning
- Houses more than 6,000 materials for children to check out including books, audio books, and CDs
- Themed teacher collections—over 100 kits for teachers to use in their classes. Each kit has 10-12 books appropriate for toddler or preschool classes.

For more information visit, www.racingtoread.org.



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