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Read for Joy!, Volume 2, Claudia Quigg, Baby Talk, Incorporated, 1999, 0967406110, 9780967406114, . .

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The First Christmas, Tomie De Paola, 1984, , 13 pages. Simple text and pop-up illustrations retell the story of the birth of Jesus, from the Annunciation to the visit of the shepherds and the three kings..

Winnetka graded book list, Volume 1, Carleton Washburne, Mabel Vogel, 1926, Literary Criticism, 286 pages.

The Popcorn Book, Tomie dePaola, 1978, Cooking, 32 pages. Presents a variety of facts about popcorn and includes two recipes..

Children's Books and Reading, Montrose Jonas Moses, 1907, Bibliography, 272 pages. .

Children's reading interests a Wellington survey, Warwick B. Elley, Cyril W. Tolley, 1972, Literary Criticism, 51 pages. .

Touchpoints Your Child's Emotional and Behavioral Development, T. Berry Brazelton, 1992, Family & Relationships, 479 pages. Treats thirty problems--from bedwetting to tantrums--that accompany the turning points in children's development over the first six years of life, with additional sections on

Books and Reading for the Young A Reprint from a State Report, James H. Smart, 1880, Books and reading, 87 pages. .

Big Anthony his story, Tomie DePaola, 1999, History, . Big Anthony, well-meaning but inattentive, journeys around Italy causing one problem after another, before meeting Strega Nona..

Christmas Remembered, Tomie De Paola, Sep 14, 2006, , 86 pages. A famous American author of children's books presents fifteen Christmas memories, spanning six decades, that detail the path his life has taken..

Aladdin (Disney Aladdin), Golden Books, Karen Kreider, Darrell Baker, Aug 24, 2004, Fiction, 24 pages. What do you get when you combine a magic lamp, a flying carpet, a beautiful princess, and a young man who wants to be a prince? Disney's Aladdin! All the fun and adventure of

26 Fairmount / Here We All Are Flip Bk , Tomie dePaola, Jun 3, 2002, Biography & Autobiography, .

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Christopher The Holy Giant, , 1994, Juvenile Fiction, 32 pages. As Reprobus carries a child across a

river one stormy night, the boy gets heavier and heavier until Reprobus feels he is carrying the world on his shoulders--thus goes the

Five little ducks, Ian Beck, 1992, , . When her five little ducks disappear one by one, Mother Duck sets out to find them..

My First Christmas Carols, Tomie DePaola, Oct 14, 2010, , 12 pages. A selection of six Christmas carols, including "Deck the Halls," "O' Christmas tree," and "Away in a manger." On board pages..

The new read-aloud handbook, Jim Trelease, 1989, , 290 pages. Provides advice on reading aloud and an annotated list of recommended titles, from picture books to novels..

High Risk, Ken Magid, Carole A. McKelvey, 1987, Family & Relationships, 361 pages. The authors explore the reasons why children without a conscience are growing in number. They are at risk of becoming "trust bandits", con-men, liars, dance-away lovers

The Dean's Direction of the Leisure Reading of the Women Students in Teacher Training Institutions Report of the Personnel Committee, Teacher Training Institution Section of the National Association of Deans of Women, Jan. 17, 1928, National Association of Deans of Women. Teacher training institution section. Personnel committee, Amanda Lee Beaumont, Mrs. Geraldine Robinson Green, 1928, Books and reading, 71 pages.

Tomie dePaola is an artist, designer, educator, painter, muralist, author, and illustrator. He was born in Meriden, Connecticut on September 15, 1934. He received a B.F.A. from Pratt Institute in 1956, a M.F.A. from California College of Arts and Crafts in 1969, and a doctoral equivalency from Lone Mountain College in 1970. He has written and/or illustrated more than 200 books including 26 Fairmount Avenue, Strega Nona, and Meet the Barkers. He has received numerous awards for his work including the Caldecott Honor Award, the Newbery Honor Award and the New Hampshire Governor's Arts Award of Living Treasure. His murals and paintings can be seen in many churches and monasteries throughout New England. He has designed greeting cards, magazine and record album covers, and theater sets. His work is shown in galleries and museums, and his books have been published in more than 15 countries.

Educators and librarians often tell parents they should read to their children, but don't have the opportunity to set them up for success. Read for Joy! was written for this purpose. This new edition of Read for Joy! explores the developmental needs of children from infancy through adolescence, with a look at how books and reading meet the very real needs of children. The book is written on a simple reading level, appropriate for use in family literacy and home visiting programs, and includes a number of ideas for making reading in the home a source of shared pleasure.

Reflecting on the labor and delivery pangs that went into writing and administering the Baby TALK LSCA Grant 10 years ago is much like reflecting on the birth of a child. You almost forget the difficulties of the birth after 10 rewarding years of growth, development, successes — and a few frustrations — have gone by. At the time, the Baby TALK grant was as traumatic as the birth of a first child. Neither I nor Decatur Public Library, as far as I know, had ever experienced the demands or rewards of an LSCA grant.

Fortunately, I was not alone, and Baby TALK had been in the planning and early implementation stages for more than a year by the time we wrote the grant application. In January 1986, Claudia Quigg, truly Baby TALK'S creator and still the energizing force behind the program, had called together a meeting of professionals interested in issues of early childhood development, parenting, education and literacy — librarians, educators and representatives from the local hospitals' obstetrics units. Convinced of the benefits of surrounding babies with "language, literature and love, we had developed a program of hospital visits to introduce new moms to the joy of reading to their babies and had worked on raising enough funds to get started. In October 1986, with local

contributions paving the way, Baby TALK began serving new parents, with coordinator/teacher Claudia Quigg visiting the OB units of Decatur's two hospitals three times a week to talk with new mothers about the importance of reading, singing and playing with their babies. Each mom was encouraged to choose a cardboard book to take home for her baby. Funding would cover about nine months of gift books and hospital visits. If we wanted to continue Baby TALK, another funding source had to be found.

AN LSCA grant through the Illinois State Library seemed the most promising way to continue and expand the program. Even with a coordinator, board of advisors and initial program in place, as the grant cycle progressed my motto soon came to be, "Everything connected with a grant is at least twice as complicated as you can possibly anticipate!" For instance, as we wrote the timetable for the grant application, how could we have foreseen that Chinese New Year in Hong Kong would delay the publication of the read aloud manual we promised to write?

Decatur Public Library was awarded the LSCA grant of \$35,575 to begin July 1987. Coordinator Claudia Quigg and two visitor-teachers would continue visiting Decatur's two hospitals three times a week to talk to new mothers. Cardboard gift books were purchased to give to newborns, and one-year-old birthday babies who visited their public libraries. Small collections of favorite baby books were purchased to keep at the hospitals as samples of what libraries had to offer little ones. Core collections of 70 of the best baby books were purchased for 11 participating libraries in Macon county, so that mothers would be sure to find recommended books available in all area libraries. Decatur Public Library already had an adequate collection of books for babies and toddlers, but needed a place to house them, so a Modulsystem shelving unit was purchased, providing perfect display space for baby photos and all sizes of baby books.

Letters were developed to send parents when babies turned three, six, nine and 12 months, with developmental information and a list of good books to be found at the library. The six-month mailing invited families to bring their babies to the library to be photographed as part of the first library visit. (158 babies were photographed that year.) The 12-month mailing invited babies to the library for a "birthday party" and to receive a free birthday book. (91 parents picked up birthday books at DPL, and 54 more at participating libraries.)

Much time and effort went into the creation of a manual to give to new parents in the hospital to encourage them to read to their babies. Mrs. Quigg and I wrote the text and prepared the bibliographies, but were in a quandary as to illustrations for the booklet. Should we use clip art? Photos? We really wanted the manual to reflect the beautiful art available in books for babies, in order to whet parents' appetites. We also wanted photos of real babies enjoying books. Mrs. Quigg, who dreams big, wrote to G.P. Putnam's Sons, requesting permission to use illustrations from Tomie dePaola's MOTHER GOOSE, along with photos of local babies.

Imagine our amazement and joy when dePaola and Putnam's granted permission! Because we did not want the responsibility of handling the original art work, we opted to use color films, which had to be shipped from the printer in Hong Kong, which of course was closed for a month for Chinese New Year! Needless to say, this part of the project was way behind schedule.

When the films finally arrived, designer Sharon Janckowicz arranged art work, photos, text and bibliographies. With the generosity of Tomie dePaola, Putnam's the Friends of DPL who paid the unanticipated cost of using the art work and shipping the films from Hong Kong, and the generosity of our printer, who printed in color at the black and white price, we had a publication that far surpassed our initial vision! More generosity from the Kiwannianes enabled us to meet our objective of giving Babies & Books: a Joyous Beginning to every mother who gave birth during the grant year. Because the book wasn't printed until April, it had to be mailed to nine months worth of mothers. The Kiwannianes gave us 45 hours of volunteer time, preparing the books for mailing, along with another 200 hours sending out 5,750 quarterly letters.

By the end of June 1988, Mrs. Quigg and the visitor-teachers had reached 2,088 mothers in the hospitals. We had spoken to community groups such as prenatal classes and high school child care

classes on 36 occasions. Claudia Quigg and teacher Tonya Donnelly worked with Decatur schools to set up a complimentary program to work with moms attending prenatal clinics at both hospitals. (This effort developed further the next year and eventually evolved into the SPARK parenting program in Decatur schools.) I was able to share the program's successes with other librarians at a Cracker Barrel session at the ILA conference.

As Decatur Public Library's Baby TALK grant year came to a close, my motto became "Sometimes a grant is even more successful than you could initially imagine." My own personal reward came after visiting a Baby TALK teacher in the OB unit of the hospital. Nine months later I was in the OB unit myself with a new baby to read to, getting my own Baby TALK visit, gift book and a copy of Babies & Books, two weeks before the final grant report was due at the State Library!

Anticipating this happy event made it evident that library administration of the Baby TALK grant should pass from Decatur Public Library to Rolling Prairie Library System, should the grant be funded for a second year. Besides, Rolling Prairie would be able to involve more area libraries, wouldn't have to contend with the constant distractions of day-to-day service in a children's department, and could provide physical space for a Baby TALK office.

Claudia Quigg and Sally Wachter, children's consultant at Rolling Prairie, wrote the grant application for LSCA funding for FY 1988-89, and the grant was approved for the amount of \$59,999. During the second year as an LSCA program, Baby TALK staff met with 1,788 new mothers in hospitals, redesigned and continued to send out quarterly mailings and expanded the program greatly. The very popular Lap-Sit program for toddlers and parents began at Decatur Public Library, with 682 attending 20 programs that year. Core collections of 39 board books and Tomie dePaola's MOTHER GOOSE were purchased for each of the 33 RPLS public libraries that had not participated the first year of the grant.

The number of family contacts increased greatly with visits to the hospital's prenatal clinics, where BT teachers talked about parenting and helped expectant parents make homemade toys for their babies, highlighting different aspects of child development and demonstrating that good parenting didn't necessarily mean spending money. They recorded a total of 2,830 contacts with low-income families in the clinics. Lap-Sits and parenting programs were held in conjunction with schools and other community agencies, and 291 family contacts were made through home visits.

A major thrust of the project during the second year was sharing the program with other libraries and communities. An informational brochure and implementation manual were developed to put in a packet, along with Babies & Books and the quarterly mailings that were then disseminated to hundreds of other libraries and agencies. The Baby TALK program was presented to all the hospitals in the library system's area, and several began implementing the program. Two workshops were held, one for Rolling Prairie system librarians and another for other system's librarians. Sally Wachter and Claudia Quigg presented a Poster Session at the ILA conference, and participated in a conference called "Babies, Books and Libraries" at the New York Public Library.

During the second year, Baby TALK began filling orders from other libraries wishing to distribute Babies & Books in their communities. Arrangements were made with Putnam's, so that libraries could individualize the title page. Sale of materials to other communities would prove to be an ongoing source of funds for Baby TALK over the years. Some of the first customers were Champaign, Rantoul, Normal, Bloomington and Mesa, Arizona public libraries.

Thanks to the energy, vision and faith of Claudia Quigg, and a dedicated staff and board, Baby TALK is still going strong nine years after the second year of LSCA funding ended. Fund-raising is a constant struggle, with on-going grant writing sometimes paying off, but oftentimes not. Each year the staff manages to put together a budget consisting of grant funds, donations, contracting out services (for example Decatur Public Library paying for Lap-Sit programming), and funds raised from the sale of materials and workshops, among other sources.

Though taking a great deal of time and energy on the part of the Baby TALK staff, funding efforts

have caused Baby TALK to cement a host of partnerships with other agencies as it has delivered services to families over the past decade. Besides working closely with libraries and hospitals in Decatur, Baby TALK works with Head Start, the public schools, Richland Community College, Project READ, Millikin University, Macon County Health Department, Community Health Improvement Center and other agencies. Reaching far beyond the boundaries of Decatur, Baby TALK has developed a close working relationship with Dr. T. Berry Brazelton's Touchpoints project, based at the Child Development Unit of Harvard Medical School.

Over the years, Baby TALK has continued to grow. Its message to parents that "We believe they can give their children a wonderful start in life with an environment of Language, Literature and Love," retains an emphasis on sharing books with babies and toddlers. In addition, Baby TALK has branched out to emphasize all aspects of early childhood development, from brain development to toilet training, and works with parents in even more settings, from pre-natal clinics to adult literacy/parenting classes. Baby TALK programming has extended beyond the boundaries of Decatur and Illinois, with Baby TALK training professionals from across the U.S. and in Canada, who have then implemented parts of the program in 150 other communities.

Decatur Public Library and Baby TALK received an LSCA Grant for \$32,870 for a "Families and Books" project to hold family storytimes in the library and at various community sites, giving families paperback copies of featured books. An average of 190 people attended an average of 11 storytimes per month.

Baby TALK began offering quarterly workshops to certify Baby TALK practitioners. This was already being done on an informal basis, and the board decided that BT should formalize and charge for the training to provide it more efficiently and effectively. The workshops began as one day programs; they now run for three days.

Jan Mandernach, in charge of research and evaluation of Baby TALK, began research on language development of kindergarteners in the Decatur Public Schools, looking at how Baby TALK might have affected scores on the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test. In a subset of the larger research, Ms. Mandernach showed that children who had participated in Lap-Sits at Decatur Public Library scored significantly higher than the average for children in the district as a whole.

In January, Baby TALK moved from a small office in Rolling Prairie Library System to newly remodeled office space in Decatur Memorial Hospital's Grand Main Building at 1314 N. Main St., Decatur, IL, 62526. Finally, Baby TALK had desks and office space for all its staff, a training room, on-site storage and even a child-size bathroom! For the first time Baby TALK had their own space in which to receive families and provide training.

For 11 years Decatur Public Library has benefitted daily from Baby TALK in sites all over Decatur, encouraging parents to read to their children and use the public library. In the Children's Department we have recorded about 3,500 Baby TALK contacts, library assistance given to families we felt sure were in the library as a result of Baby TALK. We have photographed nearly 1,600 babies and given out 1,250 gift books in the library to birthday babies and the few babies who missed being signed up in the hospitals. Well-loved Baby TALK teachers Liz Smith, Karen Hurley, Deb Widenhofer, and Susan Woods-Cunningham have done 730 Lap-Sit programs for more than 14,000 parents and toddlers in the Children's Department.

Working cooperatively with Baby TALK has enabled the staff in the Children's Department to work with many other community agencies as well. At a time when technology seems to be the overriding concern for most of the library world, it is helpful to be part of a larger team effort still committed to books, reading and families. No one could provide more inspiration than the dedicated staff at Baby TALK.

And yet, when I recently polled a group of adults with the question, "Would you return to childhood if you could?" I was met with a resounding "NO!" for a variety of reasons related to childish self-doubting, adolescent peer pressure and abuse, and the general powerlessness experienced

almost universally by the young.

Time and again we see evidence of this kindness in children. When one child is hurt on the playground, another will look on with concern and assist the crying one in finding help. When children hear about someone who doesn't have food, they respond with a desire to share theirs. When a classmate loses his hair with medical treatment, other children frequently shave their heads in solidarity.

I often hear of people who want to find a way to teach empathy. While I admire their motivation, I sometimes question their method. In my experience, empathy is not so much taught as it is embedded early and then supported from then on. Children learn empathy from having been loved, from watching loving gestures in the adults who care for them, and from positive affirmation of their own caring acts.

It is admirable -- but since you mention medical school, I will share an observation that made me ponder. I was at a recent White Coat ceremony - an initiation of new medical students into the field of medicine, at which one of the speakers mentioned a newly created humanitarian award. In the next breath, she said something like "I hope you all will 'go for' this award." It brought to mind a spectacle of young people selected for their academic competitive edge elbowing each other out of the way to help little old ladies cross the street.

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