

NCTE PRESENTS...

Becoming Teammates

Teachers and Families as Literacy Partners

Charlene Klassen Endrizzi

Charlene Klassen Endrizzi offers a bold new look at how teachers and families can work together to build family-school relationships that value and respect each other's perspectives on literacy.

Featuring the voices of parents, teachers, graduate students, and preservice teachers, the book explores how families and educators can combine their resources to become essential teammates and partners in children's literacy development.

Endrizzi recognizes that family-school partnerships are a complex undertaking and offers suggestions for three phases of implementation.

- In Phase 1, teachers begin building awareness and understanding of literacy learning by extending to family members a variety of invitations to communicate.
- Phase 2 explores how teachers can initiate a two-way literacy conversation with families through dialogue journals, curricular newsletters, and literacy backpacks.
- In the final stage teachers forge partnerships with parents at Family Literacy Gatherings.

Endrizzi challenges teachers to take an active role in developing partnerships by considering a myriad of ways to build bridges of understanding with their students' first learning partners. 245 pp. 2008. Grades K-6. ISBN 978-0-8141-0273-2.

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