

PASSPORT TO KINDERGARTEN



GOAL

Improve the oral language skills of low-income preschoolers in the Dayton Region so they are ready to learn by the start of kindergarten

PASSPORT TO KINDERGARTEN is a locally developed PNC sponsored school readiness program focused at helping preschoolers get school ready by improving their oral language skills.

TARGET AUDIENCE: Approximately 400 preschool children from low-income neighborhoods served either through a public school district, Head Start center or a not-for-profit child school/care program



DAYTON
METRO
LIBRARY

THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE

INTERVENTION: The program is led by Learn to Earn Dayton and partners with schools, community organizations and parents. All partners use the same research proven method of reading and talking with children called **Dialogic Reading** to create **AWESome Moments**.

AWESome MOMENTS: A method of reading and conversing with children using the acronym **AWE**:

- **Ask** questions to encourage your child to talk with you
- **Wait** at least five seconds. Children need more time than adults to think about their response
- **Expand** the child's response by repeating what he or she said and saying a bit more

PROGRAM MODEL: This program model supports the Region's School Readiness Formula (Ready families + Ready Communities + Ready Schools = Ready Children)



- **Ready Families component**
 - Books for the children to read with their parents
 - Books for home libraries
 - Free community partner events for families
 - "AWE" reading training
- **Ready Community component**
 - Partner participation to provide AWESome moments
 - Volunteers' involvement strengthens community engagement
- **Ready Schools component**
 - Dialogic reading training to teachers
 - Research-based intervention for the preschool students to help them become kindergarten ready
 - Free books to each classroom and each child in the classroom
 - Special invitation to community partner events

For more information or to apply to be a Passport to Kindergarten classroom visit learntoearndayton.org/passport