



**2020-2021  
APPLICATION**

**TO BECOME A LITERACY BUDDY**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* **Email** \_\_\_\_\_

Alternative Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates for alternative address in use \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\* **How many buddies would you like?** \_\_\_\_\_ *(Each child will receive 3 books)*

\*\*\* **Specific Facility/School Requests?** \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the program? \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in additional volunteer opportunities:

Classroom       Book Reading       Letter Writing       Classroom Library Donations

Classroom Material Donations       Spanish Mentoring.       Other \_\_\_\_\_

By filling out this application, I agree to receive letters from a child in an early learning facility served by the Early Learning Coalition. I will in turn send a letter and a high quality book to this child in response to the child's letter. This exchange may take place three times over the course of the year- from mid-fall to spring. In the letter that I receive, the child will either indicate a specific book or a type of book that he or she would like to receive. *NOTE: Correspondence will include the child's first name and last initial only and be addressed through the classroom teacher.*

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Early Learning Coalition *Literacy Buddy Project*  
The Early Learning Coalition of Southwest Florida  
2675 Winkler Avenue, Suite 300  
Fort Myers, Florida 33901

Literacy Buddy Program

Fax: (239) 275-6449

E-Mail: [LiteracyBuddies@elcofswfl.org](mailto:LiteracyBuddies@elcofswfl.org)

Contact Information:

Tallica Tidwell

Early Literacy Advisor

Phone: (239) 935-6186

Email: [Tallica.tidwell@elcofswfl.org](mailto:Tallica.tidwell@elcofswfl.org)

# Literacy Buddy Program



“There is no substitute for books in the life of a child.”

Mary Ellen Chase

## What is a Literacy Buddy?

A caring volunteer who:

1. Agrees to receive letters from a child, age 3 or 4.
2. Purchases a book for the child based on his/her interest and writes the child a letter. These are mailed to the child at his/her child care center.
3. This exchange takes place 3 times a year.

*For many of our children, a book from a Literacy Buddy is the first book they have ever owned.*