



2020-2021

Literacy Buddy Program

Dear Classroom Teacher:

We are pleased to invite you to participate in the 2020 -2021 Literacy Buddy Program. The following are expectations for the coming program year:

- Children ages 3 through 5 years may be registered by classroom for the program.
- Each child will create their own “letter” to their buddy describing their interest such as animals, plants, and activities. If necessary, the teacher can write the child’s explanation of their letter or picture.
- The child’s first name, last initial, age and interest along with teacher, facility name, address, city, state, & zip code will need to be printed clearly on the letter in the top right hand corner. These letters will be submitted to the ELC no later than **09-18-2020** with the attached application.

Each time the child receives a letter and book, the classroom teacher will be responsible to help the child write an appropriate thank you note (or picture) with a new area of interest within 2 weeks. This will assist the buddy in choosing a new book for the child. The child care facility will send the thank you note directly to the buddy so they know the child received their letter and book.

You will receive a spreadsheet to record the date books are received and letters are sent by the children. **Buddies’ information is confidential and should not be given to parents.**

The children will correspond with their adult buddy at least 3 times between October 2020 and April 2021.

Please notify the Literacy Buddy Advisor of children who have left your program as soon as possible so that the buddy can be notified of the change. Also, notify ELC of any new child in your classroom to be added. Remember to send in the child’s “letter” so that it can be sent to the assigned buddy.

Please remember that your contact may be the only one these community members have with child care. You will want to make a good impression to encourage their continued participation as well as presenting your facility as a leader in the community.

Thank you for your interest in the Literacy Buddy Program!

Early Literacy Advisor
Literacy Buddy Program
Direct # 239-935-6186
Fax # 239-275-6449
Email: Tallica.Tidwell@elcofswfl.org

Early Learning Coalition of SWFL,
2675 Winkler Avenue, Suite 300,
Fort Myers, FL 33901

Buddy#	Child First Name	Last Initial	Age	M / F	Interest	Notes

Return to: Early Learning Coalition of SWFL / Literacy Buddy Program
2675 Winkler Ave. Suite 300
Ft. Myers, FL 33901
Please attach the Letters from the children with all of your information