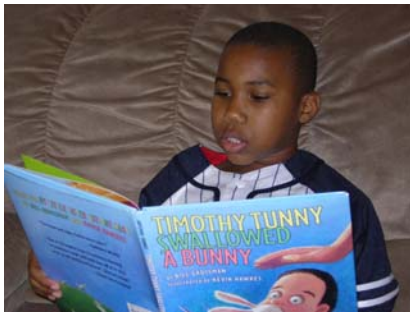


Skipping Ahead: Two South Carolina Parent-Child Home Program Graduates Exceed Expectations

(Fall 2004)

Two graduates of the Florence, South Carolina Parent-Child Home Program replication site are soaring to new heights – excelling in school and reading far above their grade levels. Seizing the opportunities that The Parent-Child Home Program provides, these families not only ensured that their children entered school ready to learn but also prepared them for extraordinary academic success.

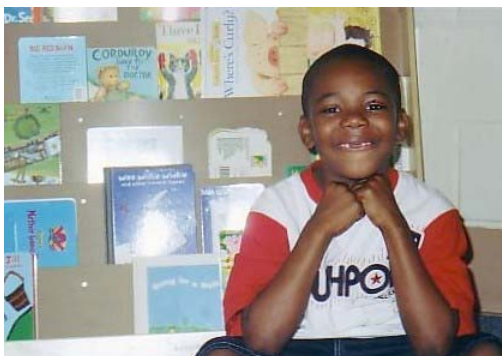


Jordan Graham, an outgoing and active 7-year-old, began The Parent-Child Home Program with his mother five years ago. As a single mother working full-time, Jackie Maynard wanted to do everything in her power to ensure that her son had the opportunity to become a successful student. Her expectations were more than met **when Jordan recently skipped the second grade as a result of his exceptional reading skills.**

Last year, Jordan was in the first grade at North Vista Elementary School and was frequently disruptive in class. Jordan's mother and the school's principal, Sharon Dixon, began to suspect that Jordan's acting out was a result of his not being adequately challenged when his teacher noted that he usually finished his work before his classmates and continued to be a high achiever despite his behavioral issues. Principal Dixon had Jordan evaluated and the results indicated that he easily read on a third grade level. Based on the assessment results, he was promoted to the third grade for the 2004-2005 school year. Jordan has had no discipline problems since and continues to excel despite the more challenging curriculum. A true seven-year-old, Jordan says, "My favorite subject is recess, but I like Reading Renaissance too."

Ms. Maynard notes that Jordan sets extremely high standards for himself and explains that his love for books and learning began with The Parent-Child Home Program.

~~~~~



Kenaz Arthur is another exceptional Parent-Child Home Program graduate from the Florence site, which began serving families in 1998. Kenaz's mother, Rhadedra Simon-Arthur, joined the Program so that her son could begin kindergarten with all of the tools he would need to be a successful student. In fact, she prepared him so well that just

five months after entering kindergarten, Kenaz was promoted to the first grade.

From the first day of school, Kenaz's teacher noticed his advanced cognitive and literacy skills and recommended him for assessment. **Kenaz's remarkable scores indicated that he was reading at a third grade level at age 5.**

His mother explained that she decided to join The Parent-Child Home Program because she wanted Kenaz to become a successful reader. "The Program helped with everything; he's *really* into reading now. He loves to read!" she explained. Ms. Simon-Arthur has been inspired to continue her own education as well and has recently returned to school. Kenaz, now 6-years-old, is thriving in the third grade, not only because he is in the top of the class, but also because he is confident in himself and his abilities.

North Vista Elementary School Principal Sharon Dixon is as impressed with Kenaz's outstanding reading skills as she is with Jordan Graham's skills. She described his vocabulary as "rich and way beyond what you would expect from a 6-year-old." Having seen a number of Parent-Child Home Program graduates enter her school, Principal Dixon believes that The Parent-Child Home Program exposes young children to the tools they need to expand their vocabulary and imagination. Kenaz's mother agrees, saying, "I'd recommend this program to anyone."