



# PARENT-CHILD HOME PROGRAM

A PROVEN BEGINNING FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS SINCE 1965

The Joint Dissemination Review Panel (JDRP) was a joint U.S. Office of Education/U.S. Department of Education-National Institute of Education panel that reviewed the evidence of effectiveness of a variety of educational programs and practices developed in conjunction with federal support. Studies indicate that school superintendents and other adopters prefer to initiate changes where there is assurance that the benefits are reliable, valid, and substantial. JDRP provides this assurance.

## **Mother-Child Home Program (MCHP) of the Verbal Interaction Project, Inc.**

A nondidactic, home-based program to prevent educational disadvantage in two- to four-year old children of parents with low income and limited education, and to foster parents' literacy and self-esteem, by enhancing parent-child verbal interaction. JDRP approved for two-year olds at risk for educational disadvantage.

**Description** The Mother-Child Home Program (MCHP) of the Verbal Interaction Project, Inc. theory is that cognitive and social-emotional growth results from the playful exchange between parent and child of conceptually rich language around permanently assigned curriculum materials (books and toys). In twice-weekly play with these materials in Home Sessions, "Toy Demonstrators" (home visitors) model for the parent a curriculum of verbal and other positive interaction with their children. Weekly Guide Sheets contain a fun-filled curriculum illustrated by the current book or toy. Among 29 adoptions, children at risk for educational disadvantage at age two were no longer so after two years of the MCHP. Program graduates met national achievement test norms in elementary school and graduated from high school at a normal rate. Effectiveness evidence and adoption training information are available at the National Center for Mother-Child Home Program.

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In 1997, The Mother-Child Home Program was renamed The Parent-Child Home Program.