



It Starts at Home:
*Encouraging Family
Involvement to Improve
Literacy*

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Florida Virtual School

Overview of Florida Virtual School

- **Population:** Students and Staff
- **Course Offerings**
- **Structure:** Training/PLT, Curriculum, Tech Support, Instruction
- **Learning Communities**
- **Committees/Clubs**
- **Reading Leadership Team (RLT)**
- **Family Involvement Committee**



Family Involvement

All teachers and administrators have one thing in common: *All teachers' students have families.*

All schools serve children and families.

School, Family, and Community Partnerships by Epstein

Family Involvement

Throughout history, the **family** has been the social institution that has stood at the very **center of society**.

The Family Experience by Hutter

Reading Leadership Team

Family Involvement Committee

- **Family Literacy Nights**
- **Barnes and Noble event**
- **Other activities**
- **Recruitment of family** (parents and students)



DISCUSSION:

Family Involvement and YOU

- How many of you have school committees on family involvement?
- Share activities your school/district has hosted.
- How does family involvement improve education?
- Is family involvement connected to RLT at your site?



Getting Families Involved

Action-Research: Does family involvement help students succeed in our sixth grade Language Arts class?



Brainstorm Activity

- **Take time! What ideas do you have for Family Involvement?**



Online Resources

- <http://www.familyeducation.com/home/>
- <http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/>
- <http://www.schwablearning.org/>



Recommended Texts

- *The Family Experience: A Reader in Cultural Diversity* by Mark Hutter
- *School, Family, and Community Partnerships: Preparing Educators and Improving Schools* by Joyce Epstein



Questions?

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