

ANNUAL REPORT AND GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. Committee/Division:

Ohio Ready to Read Task Force (Children's Services Division)

2. Submitted by:

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3. Your email:

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4. Please list any professional development programs (conference sessions, webinars, etc.) and dates:

Early Literacy 101: Ohio Ready to Read trainers presented eight Early Literacy 101 workshops, with a total of 172 attendees. The workshops were hosted by: Dayton Metro Library, Cincinnati & Hamilton County PL, Wood County DPL, Akron-Summit County PL, Upper Arlington PL, Medina County DL, Licking County Library, and Cuyahoga County PL. See <https://www.ohreadytoread.org/early-literacy-101> for workshop details.

Reimagining School Readiness: Three workshops were held in 2024, with a total of 51 attendees: March 28 at State Library, April 23 at Willowick Library, and September 10 online.

Learn more about Reimagining School Readiness: <https://ohreadytoread.org/reimagining-school-readiness>.

Storytime Foundations Conference: held April 30 at State Library with 98 attendees. See below under New Initiatives for details.

5. Briefly describe any printed or digital communications:

ORTR website: <https://ohreadytoread.org/>

Day by Day Family Literacy calendar: <http://DayByDayOH.org>

ORTR Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/OhioReadyToRead>

6. Briefly describe any new partnerships or initiatives:

The ORTR task force, led by 2023-24 chair Julia Shaheen, developed and presented a statewide library conference, "Storytime Foundations," attended by 98 public library workers. This one-day conference devoted to storytime practice took place on April 30 at the State Library of Ohio. The event was based on the Five Practices from the Every Child Ready to Read® initiative. Keynote speakers Dr. Laura Justice (Crane Center for Early Childhood Research and Policy, Ohio State University) and Dr. Katie Campana (School of Information, Kent State University) contextualized public library workers' important work in support of young children and their families. Ten librarian-led breakout sessions explored storytime applications of the Five Practices. Access conference materials and further information here: <https://ohreadytoread.org/storytime-foundations>.

A subcommittee of the ORTR task force is developing a workshop version of Storytime Foundations that can be presented in different locations around the state by 2-3 facilitators per offering.

An ORTR Train-the-Trainer workshop was held in Columbus on December 2. Four experienced ORTR trainers facilitated this training for 10 prospective ORTR trainers representing five Ohio public library systems.

The Reimagining School Readiness team is developing circulating kits with items that enhance the RSR themes and activities, to be made available on loan to Ohio public libraries.

7. Please list goals and objectives for next year:

- Complete workshop version of Storytime Foundations and pilot in Dayton in spring 2025 before offering to Regional Library

Systems.

- Facilitate at least 5 offerings of the Early Literacy 101 workshop.
- Review, and revise as appropriate, the Early Literacy 101 slide set and speaker notes.
- Review every calendar page of the Day by Day Ohio Family Literacy Calendar.
- Explore additional methods for sharing information, networking, and providing learning opportunities to Ohio library workers.

8. Additional Notes/Comments:

Ohio Ready to Read is an ongoing collaboration between the OLC and the State Library of Ohio. Ohio Ready to Read helps librarians to educate Ohio's families on the importance of early childhood literacy. The steering group is a task force of the Children's Services Division.