PARP is a reading program in which parents, teachers and community organizations work together to encourage children to become better readers. The voluntary approach and the subsequent success that PARP programs have achieved is proof that it is truly a worthwhile project.

Children and youth need to learn not only the *skills* of reading but also to discover the *joy* of reading. Helping children discover that joy while encouraging adult-child communication is the goal of PARP.

The PARP Award Application is available in January and due to your region director by June 15. For more information about the PARP program, please contact your PARP Region Director:

Paige Pye
paigepye@rochester.rr.com
Welcome to PARP (Pick a Reading Partner)

Learning to read is the single most important activity in a child’s education. Studies show that children who read at home are better prepared to succeed in formal education.

PARP is a program that asks parents to read with their children for at least fifteen minutes daily, stressing the fact that reading can be fun as well as informative. The choice of reading materials can vary from books to anything with printed words. The daily activity of reading together strengthens reading and communication skills in the child and also strengthens the parent/child relationship. Note: The term ‘parents’ may be interpreted broadly to include all adults who play an important role in a child’s life.

PARP is a program that cements the necessary bond between the home and the school to encourage love of reading in our children.

PARP Program and other Literacy Resources

A PARP Program can be run at little or no cost. It is a voluntary effort of the school/ local community which includes parents, students, administrators, teachers and staff in a collaborative partnership whose focus is on reading.

PARP Toolkit

The toolkit provides all the necessary materials you will need to run a successful program including:

- Programs and Activities
- Sample Forms
- Sample Activities
- NYS PTA PARP Award-Winning Programs
- Literacy resources

PARP Award

New York State PTA sponsors region PARP awards annually, from which a statewide winning PARP program is selected. Only New York State residents are eligible to apply.

Each PTA Region will choose one outstanding program from applications to be judged by NYS PTA. The state PARP winner will receive two free registrations for the NYS PTA Convention and a plaque presented at the convention. The award-winning application will also become part of the Parents as Reading Partners Toolkit available on this web site.

PARP Goals

- Encourages reading at home to supplement school and library reading programs
- Allows children to discover that reading can be fun as well as informative
- Fortifies children’s reading habits
- Strengthens student and family reading habits, while focusing on the enjoyment of reading
- Develops and improves family relationships and communication
- Brings parents and children closer together by sharing the pleasurable experience of reading together
- Provides parents with information to help their children become better readers
- Improves children’s creativity and well-being by limiting television viewing and increasing family closeness
- Strengthens the bond between home, school and community