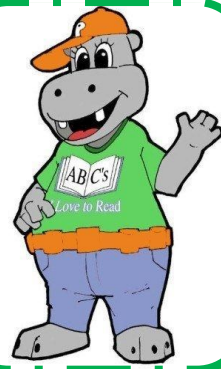




HIPPY Alabama: HIPPIY Happenings

VOLUME 1 * ISSUE 1 * JULY 2013



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◊ "Whole Lotta Learning" Enrichment Packets
- ◊ "Early Brain Development"
- ◊ "Spotlight on a HIPPIY Hero"
- ◊ Graduations
- ◊ Article by Larry Lee

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Let Your HIPPIY Light Shine!



Dear Colleagues:

I hope that you are all getting a much needed break this summer from the many duties associated with running a stellar HIPPIY Program, but if I know you, your mind is racing with plans for the new HIPPIY year. Alabama is fortunate to have such dedicated leadership, and I appreciate each and every one of you.

I will be getting your test results to the evaluator by the end of August, and I hope all sites will have reported in before then. A lack of participation will have an impact on your funding allocation as Senator Pittman very clearly articulated last fall.

As you think about the new HIPPIY school year, remember to be involved with community groups that work with children. HIPPIY should be at the table, and I want your HIPPIY light shining bright in your area!

Just as our results are important, so are the success stories associated with HIPPIY. Our HIPPIY Advisory Chair, Larry Lee, has galvanized a great deal of interest in HIPPIY statewide by telling the courageous story of the HIPPIY mother in Clarke County. Please follow suit and write the stories from your program that highlight how HIPPIY has made a difference in the lives of your families; then tell them! You will get more funding and more support than you can imagine if you speak about HIPPIY's results: **use test results and the impact on families.** Call the Rotary Club, Lions Club, Kiwanis Club, Junior League, School Board, churches, etc. and request permission to address them. Be proactive and watch how the HIPPIY light shines forth as a beacon of hope for our state!

Sincerely,
Joanne Shum
HIPPIY Alabama Director

Enrichment Fun Packets by "Whole Latta Learning"

Suzanne Latta, creator of this program, creates packets tailored to the children's educational needs. She carefully maps out the curriculum needs, the age of the participant, the interest of the community, and current trends. She then creates a packet based on this research. Packets range from a \$5 mini bag to a \$15 dollar mega bag. **This is a one time fee for the year!** If you are interested in learning more about "Whole Latta Learning" Curriculum Bags for your HIPPIY program, contact Suzanne Latta (256) 490-3963.



"The "Whole Latta Learning" packets have been very instrumental in increasing our group meeting attendance. Our parents love them and can't wait to get their packets. They are tailor made for HIPPIY."

-Marcia Smiley

" I first saw these packets when I visited the Perry County HIPPIY program and I was so impressed with the quality and the value. I don't know how the company provides them so cheaply"

-Joanne Shum

Spotlight On a HIPPY Hero: John Heard



I really didn't understand how much learning HIPPY provided until I sat in on a weekly training. The curriculum is very structured and comprehensive. It works on many skills that our preschoolers need. I recommend that everyone look closely at what the HIPPY program offers.

- John Heard,
Superintendent, Perry Co. School System



Know of a website that would be helpful to your fellow members of the HIPPY family? Let us know, we will post it here!

Enrichment Resource Websites

- Ziggityzoom.com
- Dltk-teach.com
- Kindercorner.com
- Parenting.lee-hansen.com
- Honkingdonkey.com
- Havefun-teaching.com
- First-school.com
- Enchantedlearning.com
- Coloringpages7.com
- Songs4teachers.com
- Littlegiraffes.com
- Abcteach.com

Free Monthly Vitamins from Adams Drugs!

Ages newborn to twelve years. Stop by any Adam's Drugs location and sign up today! This service is available to everyone. If you do not have an Adams Drugs in your area, check the local private owned pharmacies to see if they are participating in the program.

Parent Educators: Please share this information with the families you serve!



Relay for Life



During a recent Relay for Life event in Hayneville Alabama, HIPPY Lowndes came together with the community to honor cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost, and honor those battling cancer. HIPPY

Lowndes raised \$800.00 to help make a difference and fight back against the disease. I am very proud that HIPPY was involved in this worthy fund-raising campaign.

—Dr. Marcie Bates,

Clarke County Graduation



HIPPY P. visiting the children at the Clarke County Graduation!

Oh, what a night! The HIPPY Clarke County Graduation was held on Thursday, May 9, 2013, at Grove Hill Elementary School at 5:30 p.m. Over 300 HIPPY parents, children and other friends and relatives attended the reception and the graduation ceremony immediately following. The HIPPY program has served 85 families/92 children during the 2012-2013 program year.

Contact numbers to enroll for 2013-2014 program year are: (251)275-3149 or (251)360-0538.

HIPPY Montgomery 2013 Graduation



MPS HIPPY welcomed six graduating high school seniors, who were all in the HIPPY class of 2000, to lead the 2013 HIPPY graduates at the 19th HIPPY Graduation Exercise on Thursday evening, May 16, 2013, at Carver High School.

The graduates all sang praises to their parents and HIPPY parent educators who gave them their start in learning.



The graduates, Devontay Myricks, DeAngelo McWilliams, Jamie Reese, Ronique Lovejoy, Brianna Taylor and Deirdre Scott

Getting the News Out!



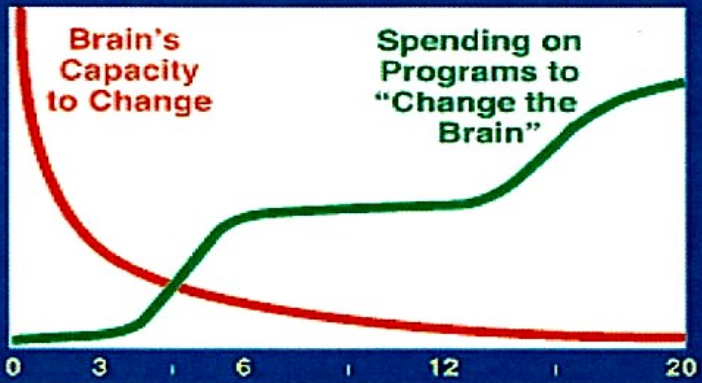
Marcy Novak, meteorologist for Alabama News Network reading "Dr. Seuss's ABC"

Montgomery television stations WAKA and WNCN as well as the Alabama Media Group's digital news and information website AL.com merged into Alabama News Network which has coverage not only in Montgomery but all over the southeast. Now Alabama News Network is much more than one station and provides coverage both online and in all the southeast news markets.

This makes their recent coverage of HIPPY during Read Across America Day and the HIPPY Montgomery 2013 Graduation so much more exciting as it reached a much larger audience.



The Brain's Capacity to Change



This shows that society is spending money in the later years as opposed to the first five years when it would be much more effective.

Read Across America Day & 2013



Alabama News Network's, Tim Lennox, at Read Across America Day

Read Across America Day on March 1, 2013 was very exciting at HIPPY Montgomery this year. Among our many guest readers that day were Alabama News Network's own Marcy Novak, Morning and Noon Meteorologist and Tim Lennox, host of the early morning news program. Marcy read "Dr. Seuss's ABC" and Tim read "Marvin K. Mooney, Will You Please Go Now!". HIPPY was featured that night both on the 6:00 and 10:00 evening news. At graduation, Alabama News Network covered our beautiful ceremony

held at Carver High School on May 16th. Tim Lennox and Marcy Novak spotlighted HIPPY. They presented our graduates as the "Future Class of 2027".

Some Things You Will Never Forget by Larry Lee

We've all heard the expression, "you can't get there from here." This afternoon was about as close to that as I've ever come.

We drove east for 13 miles, then turned onto a dirt road where the sign said "Nub's Haircuts " and pointed in the direction we were going. About two miles later we turned onto an even more narrow dirt road. Thank goodness for Jane being my guide.

In a bit we happened upon a "settlement" of mostly old mobile homes scattered helter skelter amongst the pine trees and kudzu vines. About the kindest thing you can say about the mobile home our mother lives in is that hopefully it is dry when it rains. Since it is not air-conditioned, the doors and windows were wide open. The "living room" was mainly bare. An old couch, two old chairs. No TV. No dining table. The only thing on the walls were thumb tacked HIPPY certificates.

If poverty comes in shades (and no doubt it does) then I was in the middle of something very deep and dark. This was not the first such mobile home I've visited. Still, it was a jolt.

The mother was born very premature and has been troubled with health issues all her life. Illness forced her out of high school midway through the 10th grade. She gets a disability check each month for \$560. She does not have a car. (I do not know if she can drive.) Why is she involved in HIPPY? Because she is praying that her son and daughter will some day have a better life than she has and she wants them to get all the education they can.

And how dedicated is she to this goal? Last October Clarke County HIPPY held a health fair at Grove Hill Elementary. The had hearing and vision screening and lots of other things regarding health. The mother wanted to go and take her children. But she could not find a ride. So with the kids in tow, she set off walking toward Grove Hill, a distance of 18 miles. Even more incredible is the fact that the mother is crippled and walking is very, very difficult. Fortunately, after about a mile or so someone stopped and gave her and her children a ride to Grove Hill.

It is an amazing story. About one mother's love and dedication in the face of circumstances that few of us can even begin to imagine.

Equally inspiring to me is the dedication of Jane Sellers

and her group of parent-educators who are willing to work in such situations and to greet everyone with a smile and a kind word. She was not a stranger in this rag-tag community. She greeted person after person by their first name and asked about their children. A group of four young boys flagged down her pickup to speak to her.

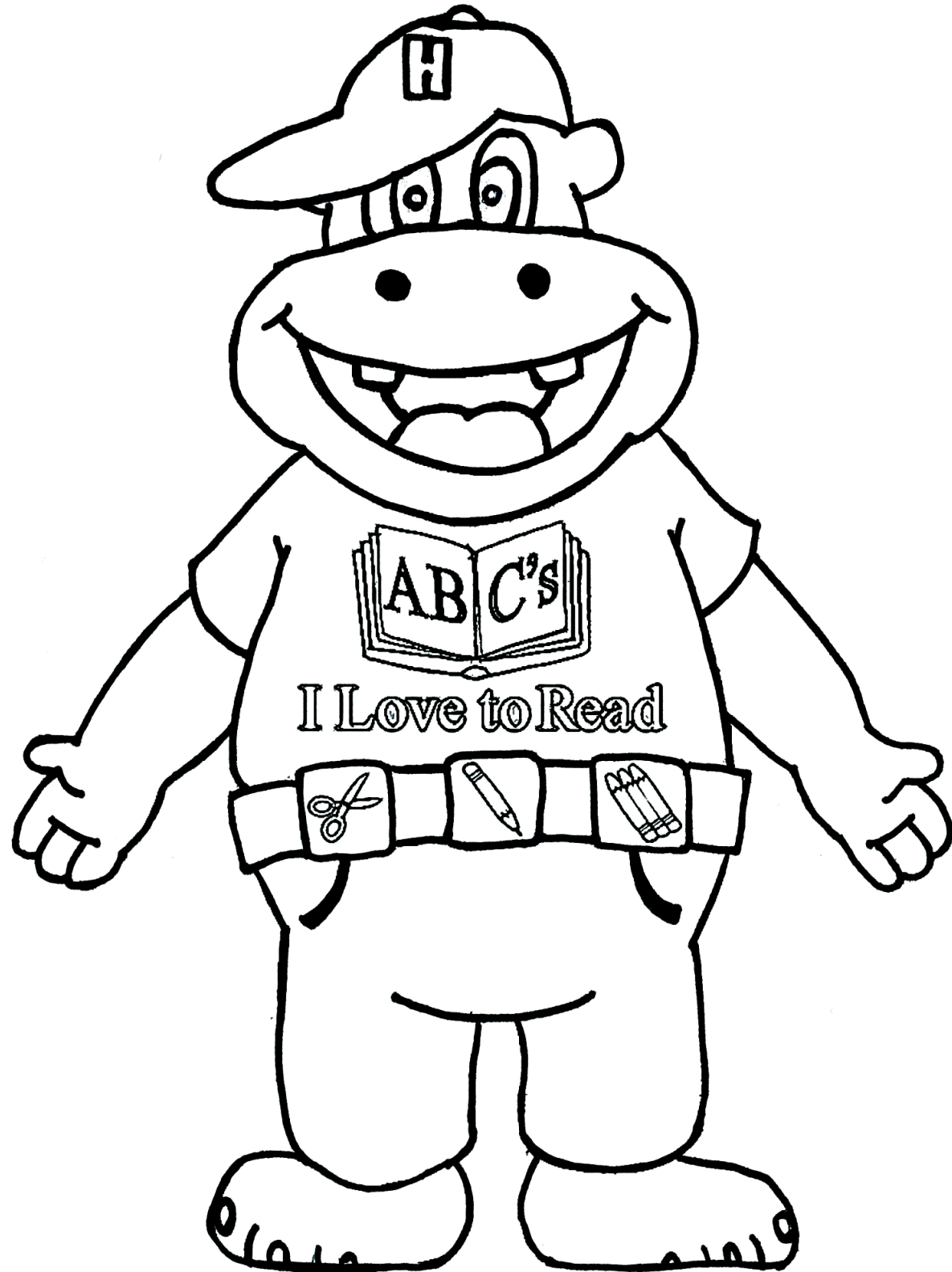
I will never forget this June afternoon in the pine thickets of Clarke County when I came face-to-face with both courage and desperation.

- Larry Lee
HIPPY Alabama
Advisory Board Chairman



Larry Lee speaking at the 2013 Conecuh County Graduation

HIPPY P. Potamus



HIPPYUSA®
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters

Alabama

HIPPY Alabama

1921 Walnut Street
Montgomery, Al 36109

Director: Joanne Shum

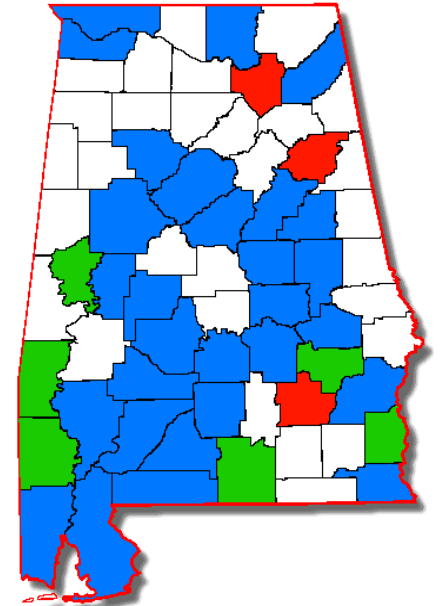
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Key:

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Home Instruction for Parents
of Preschool Youngsters

Have you met HIPPY P. Potamus?

HIPPY P. is the Mascot for HIPPY Alabama. He is a great guest at HIPPY picnics, group meetings, and graduations. Some counties have even started a HIPPY P. Club for the children during group meetings. In the HIPPY P. Club, they sing songs and play games while the parents hold their group meetings.

Do you think your site may be interested in getting to know HIPPY P.? Would you like to form a HIPPY P. Club? HIPPY P. is available for rent (for just \$50) to all HIPPY sites.

Call the HIPPY Alabama state office and sign up for HIPPY P. to visit your site!



HIPPY P. would like to meet YOU!