

# FACT SHEET

For Families Building Better Readers Parent Workshops and Train-the Trainer Sessions

## Introduction

Families Building Better Readers (FBBR) is a dynamic reading workshop for parents and children in the elementary, middle and high school grades.

This training is a collaborative outreach by the Florida Department of Education's Just Read, Florida! initiative and the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium (PAEC).

## Purpose

*This workshop will:*

- Teach parents how to set their children up for successful reading practice at home.
- Teach parents ten research-based reading activities they can do with their children to improve reading performance.
- Provide parents with resources that promote life-long literacy.
- Give children practice in doing the same activities their parents learn about and the opportunity to perform a play that reviews workshop content for all participants.
- Provide a fun, learning experience for all participants.
- Promote positive partnerships between families and schools
- Involve elementary students in rich literacy experiences and in the review of workshop content for adult participants.
- For middle school families, teach "invisible" mental strategies that will help encourage their middle school readers.
- For high school families, learn valuable information about reading facts.

## Workshop Themes

The **Families Building Better Readers'** construction theme adds an element of fun to the event for parents and children. Every parent will receive a "tool kit" that includes reading activities to do with children at home. During breakout sessions, each activity is demonstrated by effective trainers and practiced by parents. A parallel children's workshop involves children in rich reading experiences while parents attend breakout sessions. At the end of the workshop families enjoy a play performed by their children that reviews workshop content followed by a read-aloud demonstration. For middle school, **Mysteries in the Middle (MnM)** is an engaging reading workshop for middle school students, parents, and teachers. It brings schools and families together to actively participate in a fun but meaningful learning experience where they watch and take part in the mock filming of a movie called "Mysteries in the Middle". For high school, get ready to have a fun-filled time while your family learns valuable information, and you check your knowledge about reading facts and high school success. The **High School Quiz Show** format will keep you choosing answers and cheering for your favorite team.

## Related Materials

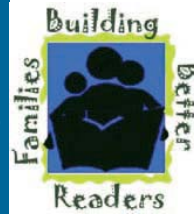
Translations of FBBR elementary materials are available in Spanish and Haitian Creole. Also, the middle school Official Casebook *Mysteries in the Middle* is available in Spanish.



If you have any questions about Families Building Better Readers (FBBR) Parent Workshops, please contact:

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## Parent Workshops & Train-the-Trainer Sessions

Our staff at PAEC schedules and coordinates Families Building Better Readers, Mysteries in the Middle and High School Quiz Show parent workshops and Train-the-Trainer sessions across the State. Dr. Angela Martin, lead trainer and developer of the elementary and middle school programs, continues to conduct regional train-the-trainer sessions for elementary and middle grades while Anita S. Rogers, M.Ed., continues to conduct regional high school sessions. The training workshops are supplemented by the FBBR Trainer's Manual, Mysteries in the Middle Trainer Scripts or High School Quiz Show manuals. These training manuals guide educators in successfully implementing the workshops in their local schools and communities. Instructional plans are also provided for a parallel children's workshop for the elementary program. Educators may request materials and /or a trainer for a family workshop or register for a Train-the-Trainer session by visiting our website at [www.familiesandeducators.org](http://www.familiesandeducators.org). Parents may register for scheduled workshops by visiting the website [www.familiesandeducators.org](http://www.familiesandeducators.org) and clicking under Workshops on the For Families page. Please contact us at [fbrinfo@paec.org](mailto:fbrinfo@paec.org) or (850) 410-0213 if you have any questions .

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The value of FBBR was recognized by the 2004 State Legislature that established Section 1008.25, (7)(b), Florida Statutes, which provides that participation in FBBR is one of the options for supplemental services for third grade students who scored Level 1 on the FCAT and have no good cause exemption for promotion to fourth grade. FBBR gives parents a no-cost, convenient option beyond before and after school tutoring or securing a tutor with specialized reading training.

