

Awareness: Spanish Story Hour Video Transcript

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Angelica Nicola and Sherri Rachford

When we were running playgroups last year, we had parents saying, "Oh, what other programs can we go to?" We said, "Well, go to the park, go to the YMCA." And they came back with, "But they're only in English." And I'm, like, "How can that be possible?" So, we did look, and they were in English.

We're part of the PAASSS collaboration, [and] they have quarterly meetings. I voiced my advocacy for them [saying], "I have parents that want to come out to the community and provide those resources or do something in Spanish." And the library said, "Well, we could help. . . . But we have no one to speak Spanish." I'm, like, "No worries. We might know somebody." We also work with [the] parent mentor program at P. H. Miller [school]. We went to the parent mentor program. They are about 75% bilingual workers that know the language. And Maribel Arellano says, "I will do it."

So, we did the introductions. They took one of their Rhyme Time programs and [turned] it into Spanish. Today, we have two sections at the library doing Spanish Rhyme Time for our families. So, we're reaching out to the community. We're listening to our families. We're trying to bridge that gap.

Maribel Ceceñas

Spanish: El año pasado, que yo comencé como padre mentor, empezó la inquietud de poder compartir con la comunidad lo que era este programa. Aparte, se me dio la oportunidad de poder dirigir Tiempo de rima, que para mí es un orgullo porque es la primera vez que en Plano se implementa un programa en español. [En] la biblioteca, [este] es el único programa que ofrece en español. Entonces, para nosotros es un logro muy grande porque es una forma de que la comunidad está haciéndose presente y está diciendo: "Somos parte de esta comunidad y estamos aquí." [Las] familias han respondido muy bien. Y yo, por ejemplo, siempre he tratado de acudir a las actividades de la escuela y hablar con otros padres y mencionarles: "Oh, ¿por qué no vienen a la



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[biblioteca]? Hay libros en español. ¡Vengan! Tenemos un programa de Tiempo de rima. Es bueno para los niños porque les ayuda a que ellos vayan teniendo sus cimientos para cuando entren a preescolar, sepan cómo deben de comportarse". Aparte, cuando estamos en Tiempo de rima, los papás empiezan a convivir y empiezan a hacer conexiones, también a conocer otros lugares que quizás ellos no sabían que había esos recursos. Para mí, el siempre estar presente con mis hijos de voluntaria me ha servido mucho para conocer los diferentes recursos y, de esta manera, poder compartirlos con mi comunidad.

English: Last year, when I started as a parent mentor, the eagerness to share this program with the community began. In addition, I was given the opportunity to direct Tiempo de rima, which I am proud of because it is the first time that Plano has implemented a program in Spanish. [At] the library, [this] is the only program offered in Spanish. Therefore, for us, it is a very big achievement because it is a way that the community is making itself present and is saying, "We are a part of this community, and we are here." Families have responded very well. And I, for example, have always tried to go to school activities and talk to other parents and mention to them, "Oh, why don't they come to the library? There are books in Spanish. Come! We have a Tiempo de rima program. It's good for children because it helps them get their foundations, so when they enter preschool, they know how they should behave." Additionally, when we are in Tiempo de rima, parents begin to get to know one another and begin to make connections, also to know other places that perhaps they did not know those resources were there. For me, always being present with my children as a volunteer has helped me a lot to know the different resources and, in this way, be able to share them with my community.



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