

## **Abstract**

### **Promote Family Play and Reading in Preschool Settings**

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Parents are children's first and most influential educators. In recent years, studies showed that children's school readiness, academic achievements and social development are embedded in the environments and resources provided at home. The nurturing environments and resources, however, are not referring to latest electronic educational toys or structured tutoring to teach the child a particular skill. Rather, play with parents at home is highly essential and developmental appropriate for preschoolers. Play is learning and learning can be playful. In addition, age appropriate books and reading support from parents at home are instrumental to children's development in literacy, which is a very important building block for future academic success.

However, many parents find the task of facilitating and guiding their children's playful learning and reading at home daunting. Childrearing is getting increasingly challenging nowadays amid rapid social changes – the loss of closeness within a local community, the demise of traditional kinship support networks, and feelings of isolation in carrying out the responsibilities of parenthood. The speaker will share with the audience some recommended practices in preschool settings to promote playful learning and reading at home through parent education.