

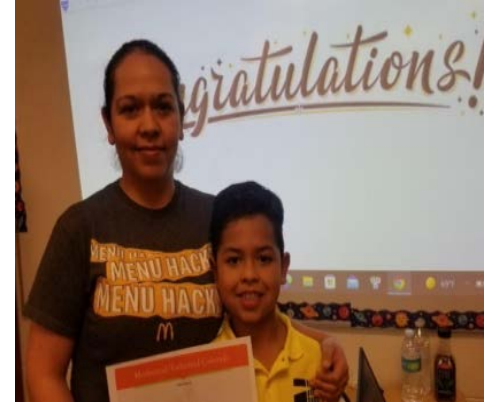
# Motheread/Fatheread Program

## Madison Elementary School

### Greeley, CO



The Motheread/Fatheread Program is a program that is part of Colorado Humanities. The Motheread/Fatheread trains facilitators to work with parents and children in connecting with literature. The Greeley D6 Family Center was involved in the implementation of Madison’s reading program due to the family center hosting a little library with all the books the program uses. The family center was able to obtain most of the books used in the program for sessions and would lend them to Madison for the semester. The family center plans to keep the library open for other schools that want to implement this program.



Those involved in the implementation and planning of the practice were Diana Retana (parent and family advocate at Madison Elementary), Cari Pettyjohn (Curriculum Adaptation & Literacy Interventionist at Madison Elementary), Scott Filippini (Colorado Statewide Coalition), Janet Navarro (Title I Specialist at Family Center), David Reyes (Family Center Coordinator), and Karen Murphy (Motheread Program Coordinator). Diana implemented the program at her school along with

Cari. They gathered the families after school, once a week for a session. Each week, they would read a new book and complete an activity for that specific book. Diana explained, “the program is not just about reading, it’s about going more in depth with the books, and creating stronger bonds with each other. Being patient, re-reading if the child or parent forgets what the story is about and making the families feel welcomed.” Students were able to expand their vocabulary and cultivate their love of reading, which in turn benefited their reading assessment scores.

Some challenges included recruiting parents at the beginning of the year as parents were not comfortable yet and were very shy to participate. Slowly though, as the class progressed, participation increased. Madison Elementary would recommend the program 100% because it’s a way to connect with families while at the same time working on children’s learning and literacy skills. One piece of advice/recommendation would be to get more support from teachers and staff at the school to support recruitment.

