



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LOVE 2 GROW PROGRAM

Through the generous funding provided by the Traprock Center for Peace and Justice, we were able to offer our Love2Grow program to families in the Turners Falls area. This program enabled us to provide high quality, bilingual board books for families with children aged 0-5. Because many families do not own books, the support also allowed us to purchase small bookshelves for families to create a library in their homes.



Since Covid restrictions have eased a bit, we have been able to do in-person and outdoor programs. Our work focuses on holistic literacy for the entire family, thereby offering books that promote social / emotional learning, sharing, peacefulness and parent / child bonding. Combining the books with arts and craft activities enhanced the all-round learning experience for families.



From top left: 1. Pat Hynes, Director of Traprock Center for Peace and Justice presents books to Liliana Moresco, Playgroup facilitator, for the Love2Grow Program. 2. Families read, "Global Babies." 3. Mom and toddler planting seeds to accompany the book, "What Will Grow," by Jennifer Ward 4. Children reading, "Global Babies," authored by the Global Fund for Children.

Some of the books foster environmental awareness and care for the earth, such as, “What will Hatch,” and “What will Grow.” The book, “The Water Protectors,” was a favorite summer read because it made a connection between indigenous knowledge and love of the earth. Other selections like, “Hug,” and “Global Babies,” promote compassion, community involvement and cross-cultural understanding. The book, “Frida Khalo and her Animalitos,” exemplifies how the artist turned adversity into beauty, based on her sensitivity and love for the world.



5. Families painting a Fourth of July mural to accompany the series on Water Protectors.. 6. The book, “Frida and her Aminalitos,” by Monica Brown and John Parro. inspires a girl to paint a picture of Frida. 7-10 Reading, “The Water Protectors,” by Carole Lindstrom and Michela Goade and painting an outdoor river picture to celebrate the connection between the book and the Connecticut River.

In recent months, many babies have been born in town. We look forward to introducing these newborns and their caregivers to the love of reading and are grateful for the support of the Traprock Center for Peace and Justice which allows us to continue our mission of promoting bilingual literacy.



Reading the Water Protectors



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