

Smart Solution Template

Read and Grow with Me!

Read and Grow with Me! (RGM) is for parents and caregivers with children birth to 5 years old. RGM core components include a parent/caregiver intake upon enrollment with the CASAS or TABE; ASQ-3; and PPVT or EVT. Parents/caregivers are placed into English classes with peers at similar proficiency levels, based on pre-assessment scores. Children ages 0-5 are placed in either the Infant/Toddler or Preschool class. Groups meet in person, twice a week for 15 consecutive weeks, with each session lasting 3 hours. Weekly sessions consist of 30 minutes of shared mealtime, 60 minutes of Parent and Child Together (PACT) time (guided literacy activities), and 90 minutes of concurrent, separate learning experiences. Families receive a children's book each week during weeks 3-12 for a total of 10 books. Each children's book is paired with a Parent Packet containing activities and discussion prompts for use at home. Post-assessments will take place using the same pre-assessment. Participants receive a free meal each week. At completion, families who meet participation criteria receive an incentive valued at up to \$100. Each instructor of the Infant/Toddler or Preschool groups must at minimum have an NC Early Childhood Credential or equivalent. All instructors must pass an initial criminal background check and undergo re-screening at least every three years. Additionally, all instructors are required to maintain current certification in basic first aid and CPR. Instructors of the adult groups must have a bachelor's degree in teaching English as a second language (TESOL) or a related field. If they do not have a degree in TESOL, they must have a certificate in TESOL or teaching English as a first language (TEFL). All program staff must receive training in the RGM model prior to serving as instructors.