



Centennial State Libraries

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Bookmarks:

- ✚ [New Fast Facts on Education Now Available](#)
- ✚ [Early Language Development Expert Appears in Denver](#)
- ✚ [More New Resources—These on Health](#)
- ✚ [No Question Is Beyond Our Answers](#)
- ✚ [Out and About with CSL Staff](#)

New Fast Facts on Education Now Available

The Library Research Service recently published new editions of Fast Facts: View these and other Fast Facts at <http://www.lrs.org/fastfacts.asp>

- ✚ No. 234, Home-Based Education and Colorado Public Libraries, by Holly Cole
- ✚ No. 235, The Average Copyright of Colorado School Library Books is (Still) 15 Years Old, by Holly Cole
- ✚ No. 236, Remote and On-Site Use of Colorado Academic Libraries, by Don Dickenson
- ✚ No. 233, How Institutional Librarians Help College Students at Colorado Correction Facilities, by Schanie Cairns

Also now available, a Closer Look Report, "How Academic Libraries Help Faculty Teach and Students Learn," by Don Dickenson - February 2006, http://www.lrs.org/documents/academic/ALIS_final.pdf. During the Spring of 2005, the Library Research Service (in association with the Colorado Academic Library Consortium) conducted a study about academic library usage and outcomes in order to

gain a greater understanding of how these facilities help students learn, and to assess how libraries help instructors with their teaching activities and objectives.

Early Language Development Expert Appears in Denver

In mid-April, Dr. Todd Risley, known for his research into early language development, made several presentations to educators and people interested in early childhood. More than 80 people attended the Friday appearance, hosted by the Colorado State Library and the Children's Literacy Coalition.



Risley and colleague Betty Hart conducted the landmark research showing the relationship between education and income levels of parents and the vocabulary and language development of very young children, along with the youngsters' subsequent skills in reading.

Large differences exist between families in the amount of time, encouragement, and talk given to babies. These enormous differences constitute massive advantages and disadvantages in language and social experience before preschool. The studies appeared in the 1995 volume, *Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Experience of Young American Children* (Baltimore, Paul Brookes).

At the presentation, Dr. Risley also showed a short video prepared for parent educators working with Native American populations. "Baby Face: A Dance of Language Interaction" gives training tips to encourage parents and caregivers to use the regular rhythm of life to provide language experiences to infants and toddlers. These are grouped around five activities:

- ✚ Book Sharing: looking at, reading and talking about simple books.
- ✚ Turn Taking: the adult asks questions and gives the child time to respond in any fashion.
- ✚ Parallel Talk: the adult talks about everyday life and unimportant things without requiring that the child answer.
- ✚ Self Talk: the adult chatters by himself about what he's doing as he works, plays, travels, thinks, feels.
- ✚ Rhymes & songs: the adult and child sing songs and recite rhymes (may be nonsense, traditional, or self-produced), creating routines and habits that are fun for both.

Dr. Risley's work is especially pertinent to people interested in closing the achievement gap. By encouraging and teaching parents some easy techniques, we can make a difference for children.

Several resources are available through the Colorado State Library.

- (1) "From Babbling to Books: Building Pre-Reading Skills," a webcast panel presentation for Reading Rockets, featuring Todd R. Risley, Sharon Landesman Ramey, and Julie Washington discussing research-based strategies for developing language and pre-reading skills in young children. Borrow a DVD copy from CSL or access this online at <http://www.readingrockets.org/profdev/webcasts/1002>
- (2) Training video, "Baby Face: A Dance of Language Interaction," on DVD. This was produced with open source software and may be reproduced, courtesy of Dr. Risley.

For more information about the Children's Literacy Coalition or the two DVDs, contact Bonnie McCune, Library Community Programs Consultant, Colorado State Library, 303.866.6891, mccune_b@cde.state.co.us.

Thanks to the Piton Foundation, the Early Childhood School Readiness Commission, and the Colorado Foundation for Families and Children for their help in bringing Dr. Risley to this event. We also wish to extend our deepest appreciation to Dr. Risley for making time in his busy schedule to appear.

More New Resources—These on Health

Courtesy of Dana Abbey, Consumer Health Coordinator, National Network of Libraries of Medicine-MidContinental Region, here's the latest on health resources:

- 📖 LactMed: A New NLM Database on Drugs and Lactation LactMed, a free online database with information on drugs and lactation, is one of the newest additions to the National Library of Medicine's (NLM) TOXNET system, a web-based collection of resources covering toxicology, chemical safety, and environmental health. LactMed may be searched at <http://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/cgi-bin/sis/htmlgen?LACT>.

Geared to the healthcare practitioner and nursing mother, LactMed contains over 450 drug records. It includes information such as maternal levels in breast milk, infant levels in blood, potential effects in breastfeeding infants and on lactation itself, the American Academy of Pediatrics category indicating the level of compatibility of the drug with breastfeeding, and alternate drugs to consider. References are included, as is nomenclature information, such as the drug's Chemical Abstract Service's (CAS)

Registry number and its broad drug class. LactMed can be searched together with TOXNET's other databases in a multi-database environment, to obtain other relevant information about drugs. As a work in progress, LactMed will continue to expand with additional drugs and be enhanced with other substances, such as industrial chemicals and radiation.



- ✚ NLM Adds New Features to its Interactive Mapping Site, TOXMAP: The National Library of Medicine (NLM) has enhanced its interactive mapping site, TOXMAP (<http://toxmap.nlm.nih.gov>). In response to feedback from users, this popular, free resource will now provide more in-depth information about chemicals that are released into the environment and their possible effects on residents' health.

TOXMAP helps users explore the geographic distribution of certain chemical releases, their relative amounts, and their trends over time. By typing in a city and state, or a zip code, the user can instantly find out what substances are being released into water, earth, and air. This release data comes from industrial facilities around the United States, as reported annually to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Now, users can also use TOXMAP to find information about Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund sites. A complete guide to NLM's environmental health resources, including the Household Products Database and Tox Town, can be found at <http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/enviro.html>.

For more information on these resources, contact: Dana Abbey, 303-315-4875, Fax: 303-315-0294, 1-800-338-7657, Dana.Abbey@uchsc.edu

No Question Is Beyond Our Answers

Some of the very interesting questions received—and answered!—by the Colorado State Publications Library recently include:

- ✚ Cigarette littering
- ✚ K12 budget as percent of total state budget
- ✚ Alcohol abuse data for 1960 and presently
- ✚ High school textbook in Spanish
- ✚ Hiring state residents for out-of-state employment
- ✚ OSPB forecasts for mid-1990s
- ✚ Assistance for elderly mother
- ✚ Defense weapons for corrections officers
- ✚ Law that established the CSAPs

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- # Demographic data for Aguilar, CO
 - # Law for 50% reduction in property taxes for seniors
 - # How to establish Colorado residency
 - # How to check on sales tax license
 - # School district maps 8 1/2 x 11
 - # Locating a stolen ATV in Colorado
 - # Location of tax liens

To get information like this, contact the Colorado State Publications Library at WWW.CDE.STATE.CO.US/STATEINFO/SLSTPASK.ASP. You also can order multiple copies of the new informational brochure about State Publications and the depository libraries around the state.

Out and About with CSL Staff

- # School Library Consultant Nance Nassar went to Fort Morgan to discuss 21st Century Learning at the CLiC workshop, then proceeded to Grand Junction to present on Big 6 Research Process, also for a CLiC workshop.
- # Nance Nassar and Patricia Froehlich presented “10 easy leadership ideas for Parapros” with a discussion about school-public library collaborations at the early April parapros’ conference.
- # Jean Heilig organized a vendor table at the April 17 Colleague Connection. Staffing was provided by Gene Hainer, Keith Lance, Diana Reese. CSL interns from the DU Library School also attended the event.
- # Sally Gillich from Institutions visited Marvin Foote Youth Services Facility to discuss goal setting and layout of the new library, then joined Division of Youth Corrections staff at the Teen Literature Conference
- # Institutions’ Andrew Breland and Diana Reese visited the Youthful Offender Services and Pueblo Minimum Center facilities to assist with plans for the upcoming move for both facilities, including the libraries.
- # Public Library Consulant Patricia Froehlich presented at trustee work sessions: for the John C. Fremont Library District (Florence); Delta County Library District; and for Rocky Ford Public Library, Las Animas/Bent County Library District, and Fowler Public Library