## Types of Family Literacy Programs

Family literacy programs have diverse structures and focus on the learning needs of adults and children. In the book *Family Literacy in Action*, Ruth S. Nickse (1990) classifies family literacy programs. Family literacy programs can have direct or indirect influence on the family. Programs could be for adults alone, children alone, or adults and children together.

## The four types are

- 1. Direct to the adult and the child
  - adults and children together
  - focus on early childhood, adult learning and interaction between children and their parents or caregivers
  - instruction how to interact, play, and read with children
- 2. Indirect to the adult and the child
  - children attend accompanied by adults
  - promotion of literacy for enjoyment
  - facilitated by literacy practitioners or community members
- 3. Direct to the adult and indirect to the child
  - adults participate alone
  - focus is on adult learning, language, and parenting skills
  - adults' literacy gains indirectly affect the child's
- 4. Indirect to the adult and direct to the child
  - children participate alone
  - adults participate through informal observation
  - facilitated through early childhood, school, and community programs

"When a program has direct involvement for children and adults there is greater opportunity for child learning, adult learning and child and adult interaction, making the "child and adult together model" an influence in program design."

Family Literacy in Action: A survey of successful programs

Ruth Nickse, (1990)

