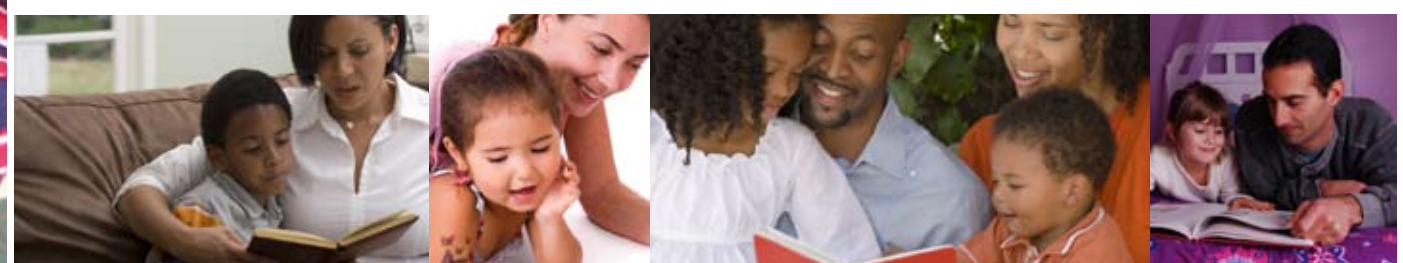




To request a program, non-profit agencies and organizations are encouraged to visit our website www.mohumanities.org or call 800-357-0909. **READ from the START** is currently offered **free** of charge, thanks to the generosity of funders who recognize the importance of encouraging parents to read from the start.

Questions? Contact:

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READ

from the **START**



“Family reading lays the foundation for a child’s future learning and promotes strong parent-child bonds. It’s a gift that pays off for a lifetime.”



Michael Bouman
Executive Director
Missouri Humanities Council

Young children who hear stories and explore books have richer vocabularies, are curious about the world, and develop a love of language. It all starts now.

READ from the START is the Missouri Humanities Council's statewide family reading initiative. **READ from the START** (RFTS) is a free program designed for parents and caregivers of children ages birth to five years old. Participants learn to create positive experiences with their children using books, stories and conversation.

READ from the START participants:

- attend a two-session workshop where they discover new ways to bring stories to life.
- learn how to instill in their children a love of books and stories
- receive a set of seven FREE high quality children's books

The Missouri Humanities Council partners with local organizations that share a commitment to family reading and literacy to present **READ from the START** programs in their communities.



What *READ from the START* participants are saying...

"It is a great way to learn how to open up a new world to your children." ~RFTS parent

"Any program that helps you teach your children new things is great! When you also receive free books for attending, that's a godsend. The books are fantastic! Thanks a lot!" ~RFTS parent

"I have really liked RFTS. I am going to be sure to read books to my son every chance I get." ~RFTS parent

"Both of the dads expressed that they were excited to read the books with their children and were happy to find this new way to connect with their kids." ~RFTS Site Coordinator

