



- HEAD START
- EARLY HEAD START
- HOME-BASED EARLY HEAD START
- EXPECTANT MOMS' PROGRAM
- SPECIAL EDUCATION
- EARLY INTERVENTION
- WIC PROGRAM
- FACILITATED ENROLLMENT
- HEALTHY FAMILIES
- PROJECT REACH
- FITNESS CENTER

## **YVY Head Starts Emphasize School Readiness**

As part of the national effort to enhance school readiness for all children, Head Starts and Early Head Starts across the country have been working to assure that their children enter elementary school ready to learn. In the classroom (and in home visits for home-based programs) this translates into a more focused approach to literacy, arithmetic, science, social skills, and other areas covered by the Head Start Child Development and Early Learning Framework, which correlates with national Common Core standards.

YVY Head Starts have, of course, been implementing all the standards in the

**School Readiness** (Continued from page 1)  
 Framework. YVY Education Directors, teachers, caregivers, and home visitors have attended trainings and workshops to enhance their skills in all the Framework elements, so that the children and families in their care will be ready for sustained school success after they leave Head Start. To assure that standards are being met, children's progress is rigorously monitored, measured against the widely-held expectations for their age group. Teachers then address any area of weakness on both an individual and class level. Education Directors monitor the

site level as well, and arrange for teacher training that addresses problem areas. Parents are crucial partners in assuring that their children are ready for school. Regular communication with teachers, both oral and written, helps parents reinforce what their children learn in the classroom or during home visits. YVY Family Workers provide families with resources to help them enhance their family practices and their children's preschool experiences. YVY is committed to School Readiness. During the past year, YVY hosted the School Readiness Cluster Meetings for

Brooklyn Head Start sites, which this year focused on engaging families, facilitated by the NYS Training and Technical Assistance Center team. YVY's PFCE (Parent, Family, and Community Engagement) Coordinator, Libby Chein, is charged with ensuring that the connection between YVY staff and YVY parents is continuous and strong. The YVY Parent Newsletter has addressed the various areas of School Readiness in its magazine section (back issues of the Newsletter are available at [www.yeled.org](http://www.yeled.org)). With parents' help, all YVY children will enter elementary school ready to learn.