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Georgia Primary Education Project
საპარტიკულო დაწესებუთი განათლების პროექტი

SUCCESS STORY

PARENTS ENGAGED IN THEIR CHILDREN'S LEARNING

Parent involvement in their children's education is the #1 predictor of early literacy success



Parents of third and fourth graders in Tbilisi School #45 review the cards that provide reading and math activities to do with their children at home.

School directors, teachers and parents must have a shared vision of academic success for their children



Parents and their children can work together on the activities included in the card sets.

"My child's teacher talks about the importance of being involved in our children's education but nobody told me what 'to be involved' meant," stated Tea Lomidze, parent of a first grade student at Tbilisi School #133. "I thought that it was enough to review my child's homework. But when I read the activities in G-PriEd's card set, I understood better how I can help my child anytime, anywhere without special equipment or funds."

The USAID Georgia Primary Education project (G-PriEd) actively supports the Ministry of Education's initiative to engage parents in their children's education. G-PriEd, together with the Ministry, recognizes that the earlier in a child's educational process parent involvement begins, the more powerful the effects. G-PriEd has prepared a number of resources to extend the learning that takes place in the classroom to the home environment.

In recognition of the important role that parents play in their children's education, Tamar Sanikidze, Minister of Education and Science, welcomed parents at an event in Tbilisi School #45 at which the activity cards were distributed. Minister Sanikidze stated, "The Georgian national curriculum includes involving parents in their children's education as much as possible. The parent engagement component of the G-PriEd program is very important and urgently needed. We can consider it as the first step towards reaching the curriculum goals." Over one hundred parents of third and fourth graders were invited to the distribution of the activity cards.

Throughout February, parents of more than 18,000 Georgian primary students will receive a set of reading and math activities that they can do with their children at home. The cards, designed to set on a table or countertop for easy reference, provide a variety of activities which can be completed during the course of ordinary daily tasks. Examples of activities range from estimating the weight of fruit in the market to reading newspaper advertisements. The tasks become increasingly difficult with each successive grade level.

The card sets are welcomed by parents who constantly seek new educational resources for their children. As Tamuna Kvaratskhelia, first grade parent in Tbilisi School #133 stated, "As a housewife, I do not know where to find information about helping my child to learn. The activities G-PriEd has provided are so simple that I will not have a problem doing them with my child. I like that some of the activities can be done with my child in the kitchen because I spent a lot of



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Parents at Tbilisi School #45 looking through the oversized books they made based on G-PriEd's supplementary readers

time there.”

In addition to the activity cards, G-PriEd supports the schools that participate in its pilot program to sponsor parental engagement activities. Schools have reported hosting activities such as reading clubs, Grandparents' Reading Hour, Story Hour, and drama clubs.

Parents report how much they enjoy being a part of their children's education. “My child and I read the activities in the card set as soon as we received it,” said Maka Todria, first grade parent in Tbilisi School #133. “This morning, my child and I read all the street signs along the way to school, something that I had never thought of doing. It was really simple and fun.”