

**Steve Parks**  
Author and Creator  
of the Award Winning  
Poetry Pals Literacy  
Learning Center



Through his work and experience developing literacy materials for Poetry Pals, Steve has developed the “Lead-to-Read” concept and has been a featured speaker and guest at many educational conferences across the nation. His passions include early literacy, parent-child interaction and fatherhood initiatives.

Characterizing himself as a “little kid in big kid’s clothes”, Steve and his wife Connie, have been married for over 30 years. Sharing character education and traditional values with his children, he created a totally interactive literacy learning system with an ensemble of poem-stories and loveable nature characters. Each story paralleled his children’s real life situations.

Steve continues to develop new and useful literacy products to meet the increasing demands for classroom, home-based learning, and father-involvement opportunities. Retired as a successful businessman in his mid-thirties, he has worked extensively in his community to help children and parents learn how to be more successful in each area of their lives. Also having attained an eighth-degree black belt as a karate instructor, for over 30 years he has volunteered his time to teach children self-defense and karate, as well as the keys to success in life. Steve believes that the greatest resource and guard for our future is found in the dedication and respect that we as a society can give our children.

Some of the exciting training and discussion topics that he has provided include “Fathers for Literacy”, “Connecting the Classroom and Home with Literacy”, and “Interactive Literacy Concepts”. He enjoys motivating and helping teachers, parents and children to achieve their greatest potential.

**Recent speaking and training events include:**

National Head Start Association  
Texas AEYC  
Oklahoma Child Care Association  
Region IV Head Start Association  
Region VI HSA Fatherhood Training

California Head Start Association  
Texas Speech and Hearing Association  
Colorado Head Start Parent Training  
Greater Chicago Area AEYC  
Houston ISD Teacher Training

**Contact info for scheduling training or speaking engagements:**

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