



EARLY INVESTMENTS

A monthly newsletter from the Foundation for Early Learning

In This Issue

[Success Story](#)

[First Teacher Article](#)

[Save the Date](#)

[New GSR Languages](#)

[Public Library Resource](#)

[Support our Work](#)



[Stay Up to Date](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Upcoming Events

Jan. 7- [ParentMap
Preschool Preview Night -
Seattle](#)

Jan. 14 - [ParentMap
Preschool Preview Night -
Bellevue](#)

... [READ MORE](#)

[Foundation for Early
Learning Resources](#)

December 2008

Success Story

Lagarlito's Garden Bilingual Spanish School

The Foundation for Early Learning is proud to highlight grant recipients and organizations making a difference in their community. To be featured in a future issue, please contact Communications Manager Joel Ballezza at joel@earlylearning.org.

As a former Alaskan fisherman and civilian truck driver in Iraq, Pete Gannaway might not appear to be a typical early education teacher. However his work as a teacher at [Lagarlito's Garden Bilingual Spanish School](#) shows that early learning professionals come from a variety of backgrounds.



In 2008, Lagarlito's Garden was awarded a Campbell's Soup Labels for Education grant. The grant was used to purchase playdoh, a wheeled vehicle for outdoor play, a music center and a set of Spanish educational tools.

"I can really relate to the children. We just have fun," Gannaway said.

Gannaway, along with his wife Rocio and her mother Norma, teach at Lagarlito's Garden located in Issaquah, Wa.

Lagarlito's Garden teaches over 80% of their lessons in Spanish to emphasize multicultural learning and to support valuable language skills. They strive for all children - ranging in age from 6 months to 6 years -- to graduate from the school with a good understanding of the Spanish language and Latino culture.



In addition to their bilingual learning environment, children at Lagarlito's Garden build confidence by

- [Blog](#)
- [News](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Grants](#)



experimenting with music, puppet shows and play performances.

Their location includes an outdoor center with a salmon creek running through the backyard. In September, children ventured to the backyard to collect samples of leaves to create an art project.

Gannaway called the labels for education grant, "Quite impressive. It's really helped us."

The Foundation for Early Learning is proud to feature outstanding early learning centers like Lagarllito's Garden.

To learn more about the Foundation's programs please visit www.earlylearning.org/grants.

Resources from First Teacher

The Foundation for Early Learning is proud to share with you these resources from "First Teacher", a publication of the [Parenting Matters Foundation](#).

Making the Holidays Wonderful

It begins with staying cool. Holidays can be stressful. Children miss their regular routines, can become overly tired and easily frustrated, expectations can become too high and disappointment can follow. So decide ahead of time how you are going to avoid these issues. Put your child down for the nap. Don't let him or her get too excited so he or she won't be let down. Above all, remind yourself to relax and have fun.

Outside for Winter

When we think of winter we think of indoor activities, but it doesn't have to be that way. Bundle up your little ones and take them outside to see the beauty of winter. Show them when they breath out how they make clouds. While you are there, don't forget to check out the clouds in the sky which can be so beautiful this time of year. Let them touch the frost on the ground and feel the cold. Let them watch and feel the snowflakes fall. Making a snowball can be fun as long as their hands are warm. Children will enjoy this special winter time. We hope you enjoy the season!

Learn more about First Teacher by visiting www.firstteacher.org.

Save the Date: Leadership Luncheon

Mark your calendars! Friday, March 6, 2009 is the Foundation for Early Learning's [2009 Leadership Luncheon](#) at the Westin Hotel in Seattle.

Our luncheon speaker, Andrea Levere, is president of the [Corporation for Enterprise](#)




 A green and yellow graphic with the text "March 6, 2009" and a small image of a child's face.

[Development](#) (CFED) in Washington, D.C., and a pioneer in economic innovation.

[Registration opens in January.](#)

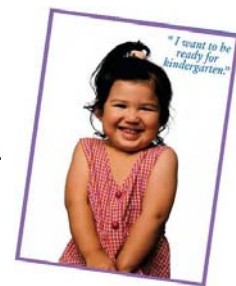
An excellent way for you to support early learning in Washington State is to become a table captain for this special event and to invite guests to join you at our luncheon. You can also encourage your organization to become an event sponsor.

For event details, contact Jessica Cothran, Development Manager at 206.525.4801 x30 or jessica@earlylearning.org.

Getting School Ready! Now in Korean and Oromo

We have added two additional languages to the popular [Getting School Ready!®](#) series. A downloadable version of the booklet in Korean is available [online](#), as well as an audio version of the text in Oromo, a language spoken primarily in Africa.

If you would like to place an order or if have any questions about the [Getting School Ready!®](#) publications please contact Programs Manager Erin Okuno at erin@earlylearning.org.



Free Early Learning Resource

Public Libraries Brochure

The Early Learning Public Library Partnership's new brochure [Ready to Learn, Ready to Read](#) is now available online.

The brochure offers helpful tips to parents and caregivers about the benefits of using public libraries as a resource for educating young children. It is available for [download here](#). If you would like printed copies please contact Erin Okuno, Program Manager at erin@earlylearning.org.



Help Make Our Work Possible

Donate \$20, \$50, \$100



In support of early learning, please consider making an [online contribution](#) today of \$20, \$50, or \$100. Gifts of all sizes are appreciated!

Over the past year the Foundation for Early Learning has assisted 21 community coalitions, who are working to create early learning solutions.



Across Washington, the Foundation provided grants, technical assistance, Campbell's [Labels for Education](#) grants, and has distributing tens of thousands of [Getting School Ready!®](#) booklets.

We see great needs and have set ambitious goals for 2009.

Every dollar you invest supports early learning coalitions across Washington State. [Please give today!](#)

Thank you for your support and for partnering with the Foundation for Early Learning!

Early Investments is a monthly newsletter from the Foundation for Early Learning. To request an event or announcement to be included in an upcoming issue, please contact Joel Ballezza, Communications Manager, at joel@earlylearning.org.

Email Marketing by

