

## BACKGROUND

*Books and More!* is an outgrowth of the *Books for Little Hands* program, a comprehensive early literacy program for pre-school children launched in 1997 following a community needs assessment. The *Books for Little Hands* program includes classroom book bags, curriculum idea kits, early literacy education, and a take home book bag component, *My Books and I*. Early childhood educators who use these materials expressed a desire to see something similar available for families to checkout through their local branch library.



## WHAT IS BOOKS AND MORE?

*Books and More!* consists of a clear plastic backpack filled with bilingual books for preschool-age developing readers, along with a music CD and parenting tips DVD. An age-appropriate toy related to the themes of the books completes the package. Each backpack includes suggested activities to do with your child. A *Books and More!* backpack is available for babies too.

## WHO CAN GET ONE?

Parents and caregivers with an active San José library card can borrow a *Books and More!* backpack. Library cards are free to anyone who resides in California.

## HOW DO I GET ONE?

*Books and More!* is available for checkout through all branches of the San José Public Library; limit one per household.

## HOW LONG CAN I KEEP IT?

The checkout period is three weeks. Enjoy the materials in the tote bag, then return it and check out another. Each bag contains a new combination of materials.

## WHAT IS THE BENEFIT?

Parents are a child's first teachers. *Books and More!* encourages reading in the home. Parents and children have fun learning together, while laying the groundwork for future success in school and life.

## FOR INFORMATION

Contact your neighborhood San José Public Library, visit our website—[SJLibrary.org](http://SJLibrary.org)—or call Early Care and Education Services at (408) 808-2617.