

Enhancing Child Development through a University-Library Partnership: Evaluation of *Books Can...*: \$289,283 over three years

Books Can...® is a 6-week interactive parent/child program that provides adults with strategies for using joint book reading to engage in positive interactions that support their child's social-emotional development and school readiness. Using a randomized control trial (RCT), this project will evaluate the effectiveness of *Books Can...*® on changes in parent knowledge, perceptions of libraries, and behavior, as well as children's self-regulation and language development. This program also seeks to highlight and promote the value of community-based program offerings, particularly at the public library, as a way for parents to develop knowledge and skills important for helping children enter formal schooling ready to learn. The Principal Investigator is Dr. Michelle Taylor and Co-Principal Investigator is Dr. Megan Pratt of the T. Denny Sanford School of Social and Family Dynamics at Arizona State University.