

# Pointers For Parents

## New Reading Resources Based On Classroom Curriculum

(NAPSA)—There is good news for the growing number of parents who are taking an active role in their child's early education.

Research has shown that strong reading skills lead to more confident and academically better students. More than ever before, parents who help their children hone their reading skills at home have access to educational resources that equal those used in the classroom.

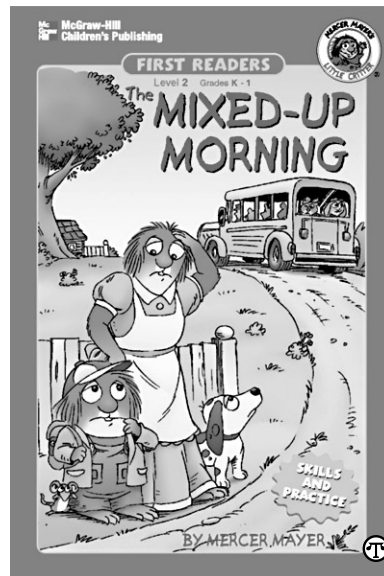
For example, a well-known publisher of books and materials used in school systems nationwide is now producing resources parents can use at home.

The grade-level books from McGraw-Hill Children's Publishing are the Mercer Mayer *First Readers Skills and Practice*. This reading-assistance curriculum is based on the Open Court reading curriculum from McGraw-Hill's SRA educational division. That curriculum is currently endorsed and used in school systems throughout the country.

According to Jeanne Finestone, vice president marketing for McGraw-Hill Children's Publishing, "*First Readers* is the only series featuring content that mirrors the reading curriculum that has helped many elementary school children experience their first reading success."

The series is based on author Mercer Mayer's popular *Little Critter* series. Said Mayer, "Seeing Little Critter's presence in the educational market has been very exciting for me, since some of my oldest and most devoted fans are teachers and the children in their classrooms."

Mayer believes the Little Crit-



**The popular *Little Critter* books are the basis of a new curriculum of reading resources that makes reading exciting for children.**

ter reading series will add a new depth to the Little Critter experience for young readers.

The *First Reader* introductory series includes four titles a piece for Kindergarten, Grades 1 and 2. Each book is 6x9 inches, 24 pages in length and includes skill activities along with a word list for vocabulary practice.

The materials are sold through national bookstore chains and mass market outlets, including Barnes & Noble, Borders Books & Music and Sam's Club, among others.

McGraw-Hill Children's Publishing is a leading U.S. children's publisher. To learn more, visit the Web site at [www.mhkids.com](http://www.mhkids.com) or call toll-free 1-888-285-5118.