Pointers For Parents

Early Learning On The Web

(NAPSA)—Thousands of pre-schoolers, many of whom don't have home access to computers, are clicking their way to computer skills with the help of a new online learning program.

IBM's KidSmart Early Learning program, developed in conjunction with Bank Street College and the United Way, is already part of the curriculum at more than 1,000 day care centers across the country.

IBM has placed thousands of Little Tykes Young Explorer computers in not-for-profit day care centers and created software to encourage youngsters' creativity.

To expand the benefits of this educational program, IBM has launched a new Web site, www.kid smartearlylearning.org, that has information on technology in the early learning setting.

"IBM's commitment to education goes to the very heart of who we are as a company," said Stanley S. Litow, IBM's vice president of corporate community relations and president of IBM's International Foundation. "With our KidSmart program and now with the launch of this new Web site—IBM is extending its education initiatives into the preschool setting."

An innovative program incorporates technology and preschool issues such as taking turns.

At the site, teachers can find information from curriculum experts on how to tie technology to their preschool lessons to reinforce what children are learning in class.

The site addresses such issues as taking turns, sharing discoveries, solving problems and helping children learn new skills.

The site also lists educational activities submitted by preschool teachers from KidSmart Early Learning Centers all over the country, and which demonstrate how computers can assist with learning.

You can learn more about this educational program at www.kid smartearlylearning.org.