



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT™  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**PROJECT  
CORNERSTONE**  
A YMCA of Silicon Valley Initiative

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Today in your child's classroom, I read the book *The Party for Papá Luis* by Diane Gonzales Bertrand. This book is about family building and showing love and support at a family celebration. Everyone helps with getting ready and has a great time celebrating Papa Luis's birthday together. In class, we shared ideas about how we celebrate birthdays at our homes and how this makes us feel to be both celebrated and help others celebrate.

The asset category for this book is Support. Preschoolers thrive when they feel supported. You can create a web of support from family members, neighbors, relatives, and fellow preschool parents. This web will allow preschoolers to feel loved, safe and listened to. When young children have this asset, they develop a positive self-image and the ability to connect to their peers and other adults.

**Try these asset building ideas to connect with your child and build your family's network of support:**

- Introduce yourself to other parents in your class. Get to know their names and their children.
- Establish an online group with all parents in your class to share ideas, activities and build relationships.
- Set up play dates at the park or at your home to meet during non-school days.
- Invite friends, neighbors and extended family members to be involved with your child. Give preschoolers opportunities to meet and spend time with them.
- Empower your child with the idea of gift giving by including them in the process of selecting a gift or making one to give to others. A trip to find the gift offers one-on-one time with an adult and a chance of special conversation.
- Schedule special events or projects to celebrate other special days-Mother's Day, Father's Day, Valentine's Day, Children's Day, etc.
- Host a family tea party to practice manners and have fun conversations.
- Set aside a special time to give your one on one attention. Bedtime is a great time to do this.

If you would like more information about the Preschool/Transitional Kindergarten program, please contact me or visit the Project Cornerstone web site at [www.projectcornerstone.org](http://www.projectcornerstone.org). And, if you have a few hours a month to volunteer at school, let me know. I would be glad to tell you how you can get involved with this great program!

Sincerely,

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Volunteer

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Telephone/Email