



# A Stepping Stone

F O U N D A T I O N

Monday, December 19, 2005

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**Preschool Family Literacy Community SUCCESS!**

Paradise Valley Emergency Food Bank  
10862 N. 32nd St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85028

Dear Friends at Valley Emergency Food Bank:

Thank you so much for your gifts of workbooks and stuffed toy animals. Ethyl and Harris Johnson have been so kind to get these wonderful additions to our preschool programs to us. Most recently, other friends of a Stepping Stone, Linda and Steve Merrill delivered 30 apes, 12 cats and 38 Teddy bears to all our preschool classrooms in Alhambra and Isaac public school district. We are so very grateful.

I have been in the rooms when the children use these wonderful stuffed animals. Sometimes it is at "rest time" immediately following outside play. They hug the animals in a dimly lit room to calm down for their indoor activities. At Christmas the toys were sent home.

Research now shows that half of all intellectual development potential is established by the age of 4 and that the human brain develops more rapidly between birth and age 5 than any other time in a person's life. Positive intervention during this period of a child's development, especially those at risk, has been characterized as the "chance of a life time."

If anyone would ever like a tour of a classroom, please let us know. We love to show off our program.

Once again on behalf of the children and their families, thank you!

Sincerely,

Cynthia Gattorna  
Executive Director  
A Stepping Stone Foundation

*Thank you so much!  
Cindy*