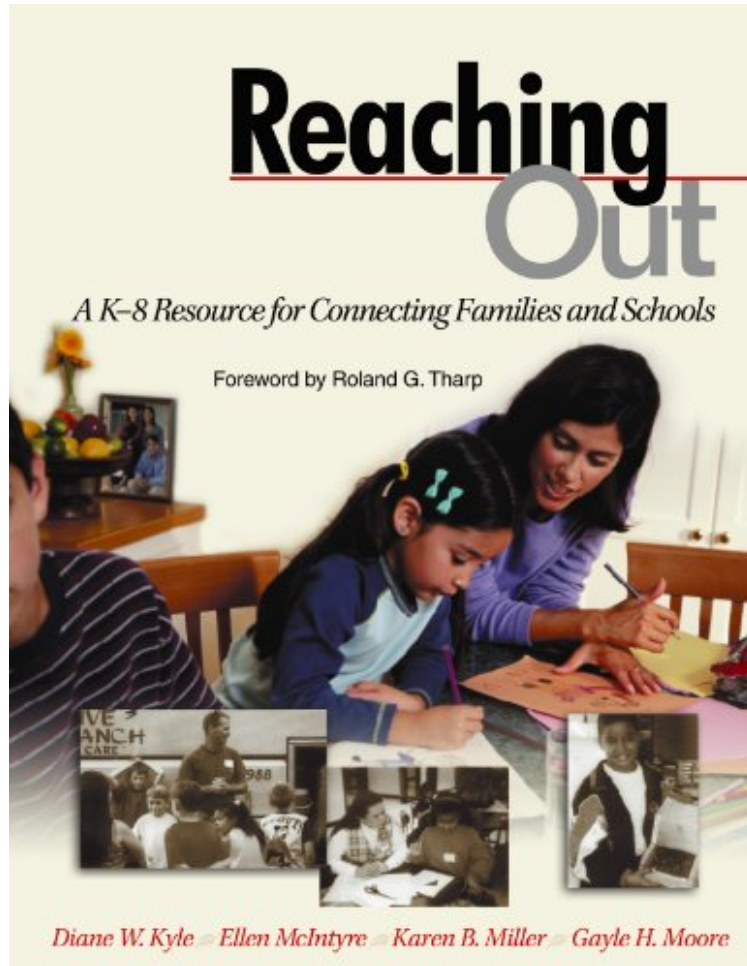


## Reaching Out: A K-8 Resource for Connecting Families and Schools

*Diane W. Kyle, Ellen McIntyre, Karen Buckingham Miller, Gayle H. Moore*  
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**Diane W. Kyle, Ellen McIntyre, Karen Buckingham Miller, Gayle H. Moore : Reaching Out: A K-8 Resource for Connecting Families and Schools** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Reaching Out: A K-8 Resource for Connecting Families and Schools:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy TinserblicUseful ideas for educators who want to better connect to students' families.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I enjoyed the book and have used some of the ideas ...By EricaI purchased this book for a class on connecting with students and families. I enjoyed the book and have used some of the ideas contained within in my own class.

Reaching Out is an invaluable resource for compassionate educators interested in building strong relationships with their students' families.

"In today's era of accountability, it is refreshing to find a book that helps teachers think beyond teaching to the

tests to focus instead on children and families and ways to create opportunities for successful learning." (Dorene Ross, Professor)"The timing for Reaching Out could not have been better. Just when educators are beginning to realize that teachers need training in how to work with parents, the authors bring us a book that is a welcome breath of fresh air." (Patricia A. Edwards, Professor of Language and Literacy)"Reaching Out describes a great variety of ways to respectfully and productively engage families in helping their children learn and grow. Throughout the text the reader is reminded that parents are experts about their children and that trusting relationships are built on respectful, two-way communications. The authors also remind us that the goal of family involvement is not parent participation at school events and activities but improved student achievement." (Steve McCafferty, Principal) "In today's era of accountability, it is refreshing to find a book that helps teachers think beyond teaching to the tests to focus instead on children and families and ways to create opportunities for successful learning." (Dorene Ross, Professor)"The timing for Reaching Out could not have been better. Just when educators are beginning to realize that teachers need training in how to work with parents, the authors bring us a book that is a welcome breath of fresh air." (Patricia A. Edwards, Professor of Language and Literacy)"Reaching Out describes a great variety of ways to respectfully and productively engage families in helping their children learn and grow. Throughout the text the reader is reminded that parents are experts about their children and that trusting relationships are built on respectful, two-way communications. The authors also remind us that the goal of family involvement is not parent participation at school events and activities but improved student achievement."

About the Author Diane W. Kyle is a professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning at the University of Louisville. She has coauthored *Reaching Out: A Resource for Connecting Schools and Families* and *Reflective Teaching for Student Empowerment: Elementary Curriculum and Methods*, coedited *Creating Nongraded Primary Classrooms: Teachers' Stories and Lessons Learned*, and published in such journals as *Language Arts*, *Peabody Journal of Education*, *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk*, *Education Equity*, *Teaching Children Mathematics*, and *Elementary School Journal*. Her most recent project, coauthored with Ellen McIntyre, is *Sheltered Instruction and Family Involvement: An Approach to Raising Achievement of LEP Students*, funded by the US Department of Education. She also codirected with Ellen McIntyre a research project, *Children's Academic Development in Nongraded Primary Programs*, funded by the Center for Research on Education, Diversity, and Excellence (CREDE) at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Ellen McIntyre is a literacy professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning at the University of Louisville, where she teaches courses on literacy research and instruction and studies children's development in light of instructional contexts. She has published extensively, having coauthored *Reaching Out: A Resource for Connecting Schools and Families*, coedited *Classroom Diversity: Connecting School Curricula to Students' Lives*, *Balanced Instruction: Strategies and Skills in Whole Language*, and *Creating Nongraded Primary Programs*, and published in such journals as *Language Arts*, *Research in the Teaching of English*, *Journal of Literacy Research*, and *American Educational Research Journal*. Her most recent project, codirected with Diane Kyle, is *Sheltered Instruction and Family Involvement: An Approach to Raising Achievement of LEP Students*, funded by the US Department of Education. She also codirected with Diane Kyle a research project, *Children's Academic Development in Nongraded Primary Programs*, funded by the Center for Research on Education, Diversity, and Excellence (CREDE) at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Karen B. Miller has taught elementary school for more than 20 years in grades 1-4. She currently teaches at Roby Elementary in Bullitt County, Kentucky. For two years, she participated as a teacher-researcher on the study, *Children's Academic Development in Nongraded Primary Programs*, funded by the Center for Research on Education, Diversity, and Excellence (CREDE) at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Making family visits during this time enabled her to learn more about the students in her classroom and to make connections in her instruction, often through Family Nights she planned and implemented. She has coauthored *Reaching Out: A Resource for Connecting Schools and Families* and presented for several years at the National Reading Conference. In addition, she has served as a teacher leader for the Kentucky Reading Project and Project READ Early Intervention, in which she has provided intensive professional development for teachers on literacy and family involvement. She also has presented at the National Reading Conference on home-school connections. Gayle H. Moore recently retired after teaching elementary school for 31 years at grades 1-8, including 9 years in the nongraded primary program at LaGrange Elementary in Oldham County, Kentucky. Throughout that time, she participated as a teacher-researcher on studies related to the nongraded primary. She has coauthored *Reaching Out: A Resource for Connecting Schools and Families*, a chapter in *Creating Nongraded Primary Classrooms: Teachers' Stories and Lessons Learned*, and articles in *Language Arts* and *Peabody Journal of Education*. She has presented at conferences of the American Educational Research Association, the International Reading Association, and the National Reading Conference. Most recently she has participated as a teacher-researcher for the study, *Children's Academic Development in Nongraded Primary Programs*, funded by the Center for Research on Education, Diversity, and Excellence (CREDE) at the University of California at Santa Cruz. For three years, she made family visits to the homes of her students, learning about the families' knowledge and using it to make instructional connections. She also planned and implemented

several Family Nights, one focused on mathematics. Her subsequent classroom activities are described in an article in *Teaching Children Mathematics*.