Dear Family,

We are pleased to introduce our new school-to-home book-sharing program, StoryCycles®. The StoryCycles program is available to every child in the classroom or group and is designed to support families to enjoy daily book-sharing routines.

Throughout the school year, your child will regularly bring home a StoryCycles book bag. Inside the bright green bag, children will discover a rich collection of wonderful books that will inspire them to share stories with you. By sharing these books together often and talking about the pictures, you and your child will build a love of reading and the language and literacy skills necessary for success in school.

When you receive your StoryCycles book bag:

- You may find books in the bag that you cannot read because they don’t have any words, or the words are in a different language. These are some of the best ones! By sharing the pictures in these books, you and your child can build the story together. Ask your child questions like: What do you see? What do you think will happen next? What do you think they are talking about?

- Create a book-sharing routine that works best for your family. Reading together for just 15 minutes each day will have a strong effect on your child, and it is not necessary to read for 15 minutes in one sitting. Instead, try keeping books with you throughout the day. Share a book while riding the bus, waiting in the doctor’s office, right after dinner, or just before bedtime. Any time is a great time to share stories!

- When it’s time to return the bag, be sure it contains only the books with our green StoryCycles sticker on the front cover.

Visit bit.ly/TandemParents for book-sharing tips and free resources to help make reading with your child easy and fun, and talk to your child’s teacher about more ways to support your child’s school success.

Your Community Partner,

The Tandem® Team