



## **Press Release**

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**Texas State Library and Archives Commission**  
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### **Supplemental grant allows TSLAC to continue training to incorporate math, science into children's programs**

**AUSTIN, Texas** – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC), through its Library Development division, will participate in a supplemental grant issued by the National Science Foundation to train Texas librarians to continue the incorporation of math and science into children and family programs at public libraries.

The recently awarded supplemental grant will also study the best practices in training and implementation of the program.

The initial grant totaling more than \$1.4 million was originally submitted by the Vermont Center for the Book (VCB) in August of 2005. The grant titled “*What’s the BIG Idea?: Science and Mathematics for Children in Your Public Library,*” trained and equipped librarians to incorporate math and science into programs and services for children and their families in Texas, New York and Delaware.

“We think that this is wonderful and will benefit the youth of Texas in getting a jump start on math and science,” said State Librarian and Director Peggy D. Rudd. “It also shows the ability of our libraries to serve as major resources for learning.”

According to Christine McNew, youth services consultant at TSLAC, the early phase of the initial grant, with additional resources provided by TSLAC, allowed the agency to train over 200 Texas librarians. The training centered on making the library a math and science learning center, incorporating math and science content into different aspects of the its programs and services for children and their families.

The supplemental grant will allow TSLAC to send two “Level One Cascade” trainers to Denver for direct training from VCB. The level one trainers will train two “Level Two Cascade” trainers. The four trainers will train 20 librarians from all regions of the state to incorporate math and science into library programs.

“Training in basic math and science concepts provides young children with a foundation that will help them succeed when they encounter these subjects in school,” said McNew.

According to McNew, later this month TSLAC will choose the four trainers who will train the 20 public librarians by April 15, 2009. The 20 public librarians will then offer programs at their local libraries.

VCB along with its research partner RMC Research of Denver will examine the Texas librarians to determine how it can best instruct future trainers.

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