

Robert-Leslie Publishing Expands Award-Winning Early Childhood Curriculum by Adding Family Engagement Program ‘Dilly’s Tree House’[™]

CHICAGO (May 24, 2017) – Decades of scientific research confirm that a comprehensive plan for the education of young children must include extended family, school and community. This holistic approach is key to a child’s well-being and a lifetime of success. To support educators’ efforts to involve families in children’s learning, Robert-Leslie Publishing offers *Dilly’s Tree House*[™] *Family Engagement Program*, a preschool learning series that includes adventure stories and character posters to build language and literacy skills, while fostering critical thinking and social-emotional development. Additionally, the activities encourage hands-on and outdoor learning experiences in science, math, art and music – all based on the acclaimed *InvestiGator Club*[®] *Inquiry-Based Pre-K Learning System*.

Early childhood educators have successfully implemented *The InvestiGator Club* in their classrooms for more than a decade. This comprehensive STEAM and literacy program is designed to help children “think like a scientist”. The system sparks investigation, problem solving and interpersonal communication skills that nurture each child’s social-emotional, physical, creative and cognitive development. The integrated curriculum provides extensive tools to help teachers involve families in their child’s learning, and authors have now taken family engagement to a higher level with *Dilly’s Tree House*.

“Parents are a child’s first and most important teachers,” said

Judi Coffey, CEO of Robert-Leslie Publishing. “Expanding our programs to focus on families and on natural learning opportunities in everyday life has been a personal goal of mine since day one. *Dilly’s Tree House* builds the bridge between school and family life with simple, meaningful activities that can be incorporated into family play, story time, mealtime, daily routines and conversations during the critical brain-building years.”

Aligned to guidelines outlined by states and education organizations, including the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and Head Start, schools may implement *Dilly’s Tree House Family Engagement Program* as an essential component of any early childhood program. Educators can order classroom packs of the seven-month series to send home with families or to use in their programs. Individuals can also order this learning adventure series for their own children or grandchildren or as gifts.

“I purchased *Investigator Club* for my center of 80 pre-school children and then subscribed to *Dilly’s Tree House* for my grandchildren,” said Brenda Tyrell, owner/director of Prime Time Children’s and Youth Activity Center in Owings, Maryland. “The kids have been able to experience Dilly and her friends at Prime Time, and then go home to work on their own packages packed full of activities to do with their parents. It’s a great way to reinforce what the kids have learned at Prime Time, while getting their parents involved and helping them understand what their children are doing and learning while they’re with us each day. Why not flip the coin by giving the parents a piece of what we do each day? It would be a win-win situation for us (teachers), for the parents, and most importantly, the children.”

The series of seven packages is sequential, but the program may start at any time of the year. *Dilly’s Tree House* can be used in summer school programs and by families wishing to strengthen their child’s learning foundation before beginning pre-K or kindergarten.

To learn more about *Dilly’s Tree House*, visit www.dillystreehouse.com.

About Robert-Leslie Publishing

Robert-Leslie Publishing, The Early Childhood Company[®], is dedicated to the principle that the early years from birth to age five are a critical time to build essential skills and a solid foundation for a lifetime of learning. The company's founders, James and Judith Coffey (CEO), with more than 30 years of educational publishing experience, assembled a team of business and early childhood experts in 2005, to accomplish RLP's mission of helping children succeed through the publication of research-based learning materials and professional development for teachers. The company's *InvestiGator Club Inquiry-Based Learning Systems* are approved by state education departments and have received multiple awards, including the highly competitive Golden Lamp REVERE Award by the AAP PreK-12 Learning Group, *CreativeChild Magazine's* Media of the Year Award and *Teachers Choice* for Families. For more information, visit <https://www.dillystreehouse.com/our-story/>.

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