

LEGNA RIOS

512-826-4072 | legna.rios@gmail.com | 4052 Ridge Ave. Philadelphia PA 19129

Professional Summary

Bilingual education professional with 7+ years of experience in supporting literacy development through community engagement, educator support, and direct instruction. Combining hands-on experience in culturally responsive programming with expertise in early childhood education and literacy development. Dedicated to fostering inclusive learning environments and empowering traditionally underserved communities through innovative literacy initiatives.

Relevant Professional Experience

After School Leader | Part-time Sept. 2024 – Present
Free Library of Philadelphia

- Design and coordinate STEAM-based learning experiences through the Literacy Enrichment After-School Program (LEAP), providing interactive activities and homework help to school age children
- Collaborate with children’s librarians and other youth services staff in large library system to deliver engaging activities, streamline materials preparation, and provide flexible staffing coverage
- Navigate varying attendance, engagement levels, space constraints, and resource changes by modifying programs in real-time, prioritizing both team coordination and learning outcomes

Bilingual Children’s Services Lead Sept. 2021 – Sept. 2024

Montgomery-County Norristown Public Library – Norristown, PA

- Planned and led children’s and family programming, including creating weekly Bilingual Storytime and STEAM-based programs for ages 0–5, and co-developing annual Hispanic Heritage Night
- Conducted extensive community outreach in English and Spanish, including storytimes at daycares, presentations at elementary schools, and tabling and book promotion at community fairs
- Prioritized parent engagement through targeted workshops and family play sessions for ages 0–5
- Guided diverse community members through digital technologies, including computer operations, web navigation, scanning and printing services, and mobile applications
- Researched and selected Spanish-language books in development of Spanish version of popular early literacy program, 1000 Books Before Kindergarten

Tutor / Clinician August 2019 – August 2021

[Lindamood-Bell Learning Processes](#) – Bryn Mawr, PA

- Provided intensive reading instruction to improve decoding and comprehension skills in ages 4+
- Collaborated in small teams of teachers and evaluators to swiftly implement changes in lesson plans
- Updated student records in real-time while delivering individualized lessons, in-person or virtually

Nursery Worker | Part-time July 2018 – March 2020

Germantown Mennonite Church – Philadelphia, PA

- Facilitated learning and development for ages 0–4 through responsive caregiving in daycare setting
- Promoted relationships of trust and respect with parents, staff, volunteers, and all church attendees
- Developed and instituted labeling system for toys and manipulatives, improving cleanup process

Bilingual Supportive Services Assistant | Part-time August 2017 – August 2019

School District of Philadelphia

- Delivered comprehensive support in dual language Spanish-immersion program at Southwark School, facilitating engagement with native Spanish- and native English-speaking Kindergarteners
- Managed classroom instruction and assessment tools, providing 1-on-1 or small group guidance
- Liaised between parents and school administration concerning needs of neurodivergent students

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Relevant Continued Education

- **Foundations of Early Literacy** Sept. 2024
Library Juice Academy
Completed four-week intensive course on literacy development from infancy through age five, studying five early literacy components (phonological awareness, print awareness, letter knowledge, vocabulary, and background knowledge/comprehension) in relation to brain development. High importance was given to five core practices that adult caregivers can optimize with children: talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing. Additional focus areas included dialogic reading, the essential role of play, and changing physical spaces to enhance literacy and language acquisition. Evidence-based findings are from [Every Child Ready to Read](#).
- **Supercharging Your Storytimes** January 2024 – February 2024
Library Juice Academy
Completed six-week course on supporting early literacy by connecting traditional and non-traditional storytime practices with the five early literacy components in order to boost children's Kindergarten-readiness. Emphasis was given to the following regarding storytime: scaffolding, increasing interactivity between children and adults, literacy tips for parents, and implementing assessment tools. Evidence-based findings are from [Every Child Ready to Read](#).

Professional Affiliations

- **American Library Association (ALA)** and 2 ALA Round Tables since January 2024:
 - Association for Library Services to Children
 - Ethnic and Multicultural Information Exchange
- **Bread and Roses Giving Project Alumni** since November 2019
- **AmeriCorps Alumni** since September 2013

Technical Skills

- **Office and Productivity Software:** Microsoft 365 and Google Workspace
- **Virtual Event Platforms:** Zoom, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams
- **Design and Multimedia Tools:** Canva, Cricut, and OpenShot Video Editor
- **Social Media:** Meta (Facebook), Instagram, WhatsApp, and X (Twitter)
- **Event Management Systems:** Eventbrite
- **Database Management:** Polaris ILS
- **Web Development:** HTML and CSS - Introductory level

Language Abilities

- **Spanish:** Bilingual / Native proficiency

Education

- **Master of Library and Information Science** May 2024 – Expected graduation in Dec. 2027
Dominican University – River Forest, IL (Online)
 - Recipient of School of Information Science Departmental Scholarship in May 2024
- **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology** August 2008 – May 2012
Hendrix College – Conway, AR