

# WHAT'S NEW WITH KIDS?

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May 2005

## Site of the Month

Taken directly from the Promising Practices Network (PPN), the PPN “web site highlights programs and practices that credible research indicates are effective in improving outcomes for children, youth, and families” (<http://www.promisingpractices.net/>). The information is categorized around three topics.

The first category, Proven and Promising Programs, allows you to search for proven and promising programs by first identifying desirable results and benchmarks. For example, to begin the search for programs which help children succeed in school, measured by increasing the percentage of students who graduate from high school: 1. click on the result area, children succeeding in school, then 2. click on the benchmark, increasing the percentage of students who graduate from high school. A list of proven programs and promising programs will come up. One which some of you may be quite familiar with is Communities in Schools.

The second category of information, Research in Brief, provides short summaries of publications, which are organized around the result areas listed in the Proven and Promising Programs category. Publications are listed by year from 1994 to the present. An interesting summary of a 145-page report from the Kaiser Family Foundation is *Generation M: Media in the Lives of 8-18 Year-Olds* (available at <http://www.kff.org/entmedia/loader.cfm?url=/commonspot/security/getfile.cfm&PageID=51809>>).

Strengthening Service Delivery, the third category, provides information on topics requested by service providers of organizations. Someone interested in how to implement a program can access specific information on what is meant by program implementation and why it is important, keys ingredients in successful implementation, and determining if a program has been successfully implemented.

State links enable you to see what child, family, and community issues are important in states. Only five states, however, have links: California, Georgia, Ohio, Missouri, and Colorado. Individuals interested in developing a page for their state, such as Nevada, are given an address to contact.

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