

Interactive DVD Gives Children a Head Start with Alphabet Printing Skills

(Syndicated News) The start of a new school year is usually a time of high anxiety for many students, including those in grades K-2. There are new routines, new friends to make, and new expectations to face. Unfortunately, some young children dread the back-to-school season and everything that comes along with it. Incredible Kid LLC, located in Hollywood, Calif. (incrediblekid.com) is changing that.

They have recently released an interactive learning product called the Write On! Printing DVD Tutor Kit, a combination DVD and activity book designed to help young children learn to print the alphabet while providing extensive educational value that enhances cognitive and visual perceptual skills, fine motor coordination, and visual-motor integration. The DVD guides children through a learning "adventure" – the goal

being to learn how to write the alphabet one letter at a time.

Standing Out From the Crowd

"Write On! follows in the footsteps of many of the current televised adventure-based learning programs," explains L.J. Mismas, the company president. "There are animated characters to help guide children, there are plot lines to follow, and there are catchy songs that accompany the learning activities. We strive to make the learning process fun so that it will hold a child's interest."

Write On!, however, is unique in that it is interactive – a child can practice the skills displayed on the DVD by using the included dry-erase activity book.

It is this practice of skills that ensure company officials that they have a successful product in Write On! Children become active, rather than passive learners while

participating in the activities. Education professionals strive for participation in the classroom and it's something that many parents have a hard time achieving in the home.

Learning through Adventure

"Children learn best when they explore or take part in adventures," says Mismas. "Write On! follows this by basing the plots on the journey of several characters through the rooms of a large mansion. In each room, the characters (along with children) are forced to solve a mystery. After solving the mystery, a key is provided and children can move to the next room."

Each room has the goal of teaching a single letter of the alphabet. Children are given a verbal description of the letter being taught, followed by a visual image of the letter as it is drawn. The program also addresses aspects of learning to

print such as correct posture and pencil grip.

Write On! is also unique in that it doesn't teach the letters of the alphabet in the traditional order. The program instead teaches the letters in a developmentally progressive order – the letters are introduced and grouped together based on the drawing strokes used.

"Research has shown that children who already have a working knowledge of the alphabet when entering kindergarten have a much easier transition into using and understanding language as a whole. This, in turn, prepares them to excel in both the educational arena and in life," adds Mismas.

Stories on this page are paid content provided by Syndicated News.

**I work.
Therefore,
eye strain.**



Eye strain from computer use is the number one complaint of office workers. Talk to your eyecare professional about computer eyewear to help prevent eye strain.

The Vision Council of America recommends regular eye exams for you and your family to ensure healthy vision.

www.checkyearly.com



BidRent Revolutionizes the Rental Industry through New Bidding Concept

(Syndicated News) Every so often, a person comes along and revolutionizes a complete industry through the development of an innovative idea. Thomas Edison did it with the lighting industry in 1879. Henry Ford did it with the automobile industry in 1913. By all indications, BidRent founder Bobby Khalili looks to have done it with the rental property industry in 2006.

Khalili's Web site, www.bidrent.com, is the world's first online auction site targeted exclusively at the housing and apartment rental market. Similar to the popular eBay Web site, BidRent allows potential renters to bid on nationwide rental properties listed on their Web site. Robert Roth, marketing director for BidRent, says the concept is revolutionary to the rental industry.

"People negotiate prices on jewelry, cars, and other high-priced items all the time. In fact, it's almost expected that a person is going to negotiate on the price of a new home. Taking that into consideration, we decided that there's no reason people shouldn't be able to negotiate on a place they're going to rent."

How It Works

BidRent works by allowing inter-

actions between landlords and renters across the country. Landlords simply post photographs (a minimum of 10), a property description, and a price for their property, and renters are allowed to browse through listings and place bids on individual units they're interested in.

"It makes the search process really simple," says Roth. "All the details are at the fingertips of the renter."

In addition to a basic property description, potential renters are given access to property addresses, lists of nearby schools, and lists of amenities. Landlords are also given the option to set a "rent it now" price—meaning a renter can opt to pay a set rental price without going through the bidding process.

Sharing the Benefits

Part of the popularity that BidRent has experienced thus far has come from the fact that the site benefits both landlords and renters alike. In today's competitive rental market, landlords often find themselves trapped in a situation where they're stuck with open units in high priced buildings. Renters similarly find themselves often passing-by units because of rental prices slightly out of their price range. By allowing renters to bid lower-than-standard rental prices on properties that are

sitting open, landlords find themselves filling spaces and renters find themselves in a unit they know they can afford.

"It's basically a win-win situation," says Roth. "There's none of the cutthroat, backstabbing type deals going on here since it's all done through a monitored Web site."

BidRent, a service provided by Yellow Pages Online, allows landlords to list their properties free-of-charge; renters are also able to search the site for free.

"As an added bonus, BidRent offers landlords a free Web site for their rental property along with a customized for rent sign that has the property's Web site address printed on it," adds Roth. "This saves landlords a lot of time and hassle during the renting process."

Advertise your small business on our "Professionals Page" and increase your business today!

Contact Ron Burke at rburke@washingtoninformer.com or call 202-561-4100

FREE SAMPLE

**Get Healthy!
Live Healthy!
Herbalife is more than
just for weight-loss!**

Check out what's new:

- Business opportunities
- Weight Management
- Targeted Nutrition
- (Men, Women, and Children)
- Stress Management
- Energy & Fitness
- Hair and Skin Essentials

Contact me for a free ShapeWorks sample and to show you how to Get Healthy and Live Healthy!

Call 1-800-385-1401

or to shop Herbalife now visit

<http://shopherbalife.com/aburk>

For Business Opportunities:

<http://BecomeYourOwnBoss.theonlinebusiness.com>