

Laura Paz interview
The State of Our Kids

Interviewer: Tell me about María and the Parent as Teacher program, and what she does for you.

The program is very good
And I like it because I give my children
A way to educate them
So they can begin learning as little ones
To be educated, to have a goal
For when they're older.
And knowing how to be educated. And knowledge, apart from
education.
And the teacher who comes to our home is very good;
She treats the children like family
She's like a part of our own family
She doesn't treat us... any differently.
She treats everyone equally,
So we feel very comfortable with her.

Interviewer: Have you noticed any developmental changes in Yoav?

Yes, in Yoav.
He tries to pick up books.
Before, with...
If I'm not here, with Rosie.
I have two other children, so with Rosie.
If I can't read to him because I'm busy, he'll go ask Rosie:
"Rosie, could you read me a book?"
He asks on his own to be read books,
Or to be shown what's in the books –
Like drawings, cars, and things.
He's very interested in books,
And in coloring.

Then he'll mark in her booklets,
But he does ask.

Interviewer: What about playing with puzzles?

That has also helped him,
Because suddenly, at least he'll stay a bit more calm.
He's very hyperactive,
And with the puzzle he does stay still a few minutes trying to do it.
So he does become a bit occupied and quiet with puzzles.

Interviewer: Can you look at the camera and say your name, and the children's names?

My name is Laura Vera
And I have four children: three girls and one boy.
I have two daughters who are studying at Lincoln school.
One is ten years old, the other is nine.
The ten-year-old is fascinated by, and loves to read.
And the nine-year-old really enjoys doing math.
I also have two small children,
They are Yoav and Marluna.
(um) Yoav is three years old and Marluna is one.
Right now Yoav is fascinated,
Because he's about to start school.