

Ending Illiteracy in America For Mary - The Last IF

In the [Reading To The Fore](#) sub-section of the [Creation of the Reading Program](#) section of this chapter, I said that after *Mathematics Their Way* was ready for publication, Mary returned to being a classroom teacher for the 1975-1976 school year. That 1975-1976 school year was Mary's first opportunity to use one of the eight Reading Program kits we had put together in the Summer of 1973. Mary loved using the kit. She loved watching every child in her class become an excited reader and writer. The feeling Mary expressed to me repeatedly during that year was that the Reading Program was the very best thing she and I had ever done. Her experience that year made Mary's primary focus the following years preparing the Program for publication. She really wanted to share what we had done with the whole world.

In the [Workaround Number Five](#) sub-section of [The Fifth Workaround and Parent Power](#) section of this chapter I said that when my friend Anam asked why I had not thought of putting all the IF stories I was writing for my Godsons into a book, my response was who would read it? It was as I was thinking who the audience might be, this Last IF occurred to me. IF I added the Reading Program's story to the stories I was already writing, and IF this book led to the Reading Program's publication, then illiteracy would truly come to an end in America, and in as many other countries as adopted its approach. And, IF the Reading Program became available, then the world would finally see why Mary thought the Reading Program was the best thing we had ever done. Especially for Mary, this one Last IF is worth a try.