

## **Kansas Reads to Preschoolers Will Repeat in 2006**

by Vikki Jo Stewart, Special Projects Coordinator

The first Kansas Reads to Preschoolers was a lot of fun for everyone! The process of gathering all kinds of data has been challenging and full of good news. Our goal was to read to all children in Kansas birth to age 5. That would be 226,543, give or take a few young children. In a future issue of Kansas Libraries I'll share the final numbers from statewide participation and what some participants have learned from this first project.

Kansas was blessed with a visit from Debi Gliori, a Scottish gentle soul and the author/illustrator of the first One Book, *No Matter What*. Gliori did a marvelous job at every presentation. The website will be up a while longer. Please visit it at [www.kansasreadstokids.org](http://www.kansasreadstokids.org). It's a wonderful visual of "what's going on in Kansas libraries!"

We had such a good time that Christie Brandau and I decided to do the project again. Get ready for **2006 Kansas Reads to Preschoolers!** Librarians and other participants will have more time to plan in 2006.

The draft timeline suggests that the book be selected by the end of January, though it will be difficult to select one as successful as *No Matter What*.

A steering committee met in late October to do some brainstorming for this new project. Members present were: Sallie Kale (SRS), Laura Loveless (KCKPL), Jim Swan (CKLS), Mary Collins (Kansas Reading Association), Linda Childress (KACCRRRA), Jackie Lakin (KSDE), and Vikki Jo Stewart (State Library of Kansas). I'm in the process of recruiting committee chairs for this project. Later, we will help them recruit volunteers to serve on the committees. The committee structure will change a bit, but it will include Sponsors/Partners, which also includes fundraising. Public Relations will broaden to include more state wide promotion and the web site for the new project. If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, please e-mail me at [vikki@kslib.info](mailto:vikki@kslib.info) or call me at 620/331-8218.



***Governor Sebelius reading to preschoolers***