



## “Dream Boxes” Activity

While teaching *Haga de la Paternidad un Placer*® to a summer parents group, Marisa Villagrana created a ‘dream’ activity.

“We talked about dreams. What do you want to see with your life in the future? What do you want to see with your children in the future? They want their children to go to college, they want to save money or take a family trip,” explains Marisa, a teacher and home visitor for Klamath County Head Start.

“I provided magazines and they brought shoeboxes. They decorated the boxes with all the dreams they have (for their children). It helped them to think about their dreams and see how they can get all those goals together.”

Vicky Taylor, the program’s Lake County director, says she had done a class in Lakeview first and used the shoebox activity – but in Lakeview, they were boot boxes, which are larger. “It was just for you to put your children’s artwork or whatever inside. So they decorated the outside with what interested the families.

“It breaks the ice,” Vicky says about the activities. “Parents don’t want to be told they aren’t good parents. It kind of keeps them from thinking they are just there to learn.” Vicky and Marisa understand that parents bring their own knowledge, values and goals to the class.

Marisa adds, “I really had a lot of participation in this class. They wanted to get up and talk about their dreams.”