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Head Start training proving valuable in State of Montana

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HEAD START TRAINING
PROVING VALUABLE
IN STATE OF MONTANA

MISSOULA--

A series of round-robin preservice training programs held this fall in several Montana communities for Head Start personnel and others involved in early childhood education is proving to be a valuable part of the overall Head Start program, according to Mrs. Jan Roberts, Head Start regional training officer in the University of Montana Department of Home Economics.

Mrs. Roberts organized the training series with the cooperation of Head Start personnel in the cities where the programs were carried out--Alberton, Billings, Butte, Great Falls, Havre, Missoula and St. Regis. Persons from Anaconda and Helena participated in the Butte program.

"The purpose of the training series was to train and prepare personnel involved in the education of young children for the current school year," Mrs. Roberts said. "We feel the program met with considerable success and we plan to continue with the Head Start in-service training sessions periodically throughout the 1971-72 academic year in various Montana communities."

A listing of the locations of the upcoming in-service training sessions will be available soon.

The preservice sessions included instructions in such subjects as music for young children, child development and discipline, philosophy of art, speech testing, indoor and outdoor creative activities, literature and story telling and science activities.

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HEAD START TRAINING PROVING VALUABLE--2

Other participants besides Head Start teachers participating in this fall's preservice training programs included private kindergarten teachers, Springboard Program staff, Model Cities' personnel, Community Coordinated Child Care representatives, Indian Head Start personnel, parents and others interested in the program. The Springboard Program is a new kindergarten program developed in Butte. Model Cities' personnel from Butte and Helena also were among the participants.

The following persons were among those involved in the preservice training sessions:

Dr. Bearnice Skeen, Western Washington State College, Bellingham, Wash; Pauline Pollock, Billings, Head Start preservice training coordinator; Dr. John Elliott, Denver, Colo., assistant director of the Regional Dental Program, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare; Edmund Epstein, Chicago, Ill., who is involved in community services for the American Academy of Pediatrics; Dr. Jerry Holman, Calgary, Alta., Can., of the University of Calgary Medical School, and Pat Sullivan, Butte, Head Start preservice training coordinator.

University of Montana personnel who participated in the training sessions included Mrs. Helga McLugh and Mrs. Sudie Mason of the Department of Home Economics, and Mr. Ed Bitter, Department of Psychology.

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