



SUCCESS STORY

Mothers now monitor their children studies closely



USAID Yemen, Basic Education Support and Training Project

"In our literacy class, we develop our own learning materials and aides, such as maps, matrices, diagrams, calendars. A skill that has enhanced our reading and writing in a very short period of time" says Mona

Like most Yemeni women in rural areas, Mona Saleh, 35 years old and a mother of two children, has never had the chance to go to school. That was mainly because her parents were not aware of the importance of education. She was left at home to do all the house work. She thought that education was only meant for boys. Later, she got married at a very young age. Because of the poor living conditions in Al-Wadi District and the lack of job opportunities, her husband decided to migrate to the gulf region in search for a job. It has been eight years since he traveled and Mona was left raising their two children, aged eight and nine.

Mona says, "my children failed in school for two years, especially in Arabic and Math, simply because I was illiterate. I could not teach them or follow their studies closely. It just broke my heart to see them fail. I used to get help from my neighbors who sometimes helped my children with their homework but they were not always available.

"I heard about the adult literacy class in one of the social gatherings, and I was so determined to enroll. In fact, I was the first to enroll, along with thirteen other women from my village.

"I succeeded in completing both levels of the REFLECT Methodology over the past year, and with the grace of Allah "I can now read and write fluently," says Mona. "I personally teach my children and follow their studies closely and this is the first year my children passed their exams. My children and I study together; I like to practice reading and writing using their books."

"We shoulder the responsibility of educating our children. What kind of future will our children have if the mothers themselves are illiterate?"

Note: Age of the Adult literacy learners in this class is between 15-45 years old.