

# Community N.W. Preschools Establishing

Model community preschools for Indian children are being established in the Northwest in cooperation with the National Indian Youth Council.

The Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory is assisting local community and educational agencies plan the schools. They will be used to develop and demonstrate effective preschool and school programs for Indian children.

A model nursery school will begin operation in January in Alaska. The planning is being coordinated by Superintendent Dan Turner at Bristol Bay Borough School District. Two teachers for the schools, Fred Kimball and Angela Ansagnok, currently are receiving special training at Colorado State University for the activity.

In connection with the school, an instructional materials center will be established to serve a cluster of 20 small schools in the area.

Establishment of a demonstration Headstart nursery school is underway in Montana. To be supported by U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity funds, the school will be on the Crow Indian Reservation. Teachers for the school were trained this summer.

Preliminary planning also is underway with the Quinalt tribe and Seattle Indian Center for possible model schools in Washington. Two teachers from the center, Sharon Chase and Mary Louise Wilson, are now at Colorado for the special training program.

To assess the effectiveness of programs in the model schools, the Laboratory will collect data on language patterns, behavior and thought levels of students in the classrooms.

The Laboratory also will provide special training for teachers in school enrolling pupils from the model nursery schools.

The activity is part of the Laboratory's program to improve Education for Culturally Different Children.

The Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, a nonprofit organization with administrative offices in Portland, is working with schools and other agencies in the region to improve classroom teaching and learning by applying the findings of new research and technology.