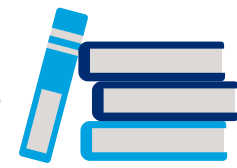


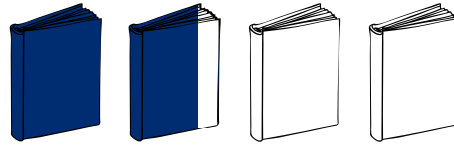


Why Early Literacy Matters



ABC

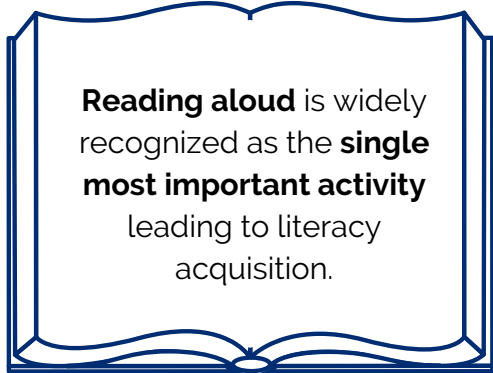
Vocabulary development by **age 3** has been found to predict achievement by third grade



Fewer than 50% of AL 3rd graders are reading proficiently

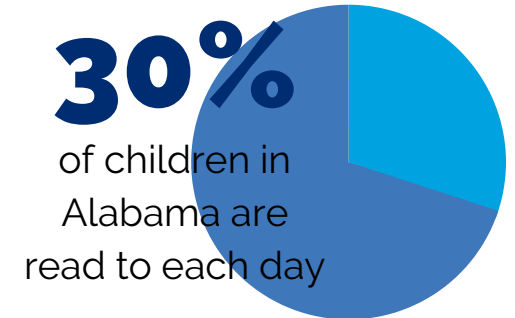
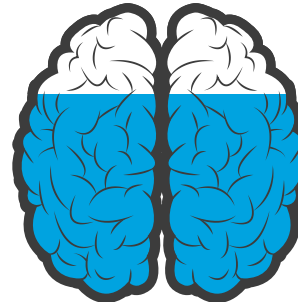


Children whose mothers frequently spoke to them as infants learned almost **300 more words by age 2** than children of mothers who did not.

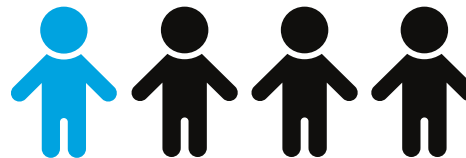


Reading aloud is widely recognized as the **single most important activity** leading to literacy acquisition.

80% of a child's brain development happens in the first **3 years**



By the **age of 2**, children who are read to regularly display greater language comprehension, larger vocabularies, and higher cognitive skills than their peers.



1 in 4 children in America grow up without learning how to read.



Children with as few as **25 books** in the home complete an average of two more years of schooling than those with no books.

Why Early Literacy Matters (Citations left to right and top to bottom)

1. The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2010). Early warning! Why reading by the end of third grade matters. *A KIDS COUNT special report form the Annie E. Casey Foundation*.

https://assets.aecf.org/m/resourcedoc/AECF-Early_Warning_Full_Report-2010.pdf

2. Alabama Grade Level Reading Campaign. (2020). Alabama Campaign for Grade-Level Reading: Recommendations to Governor Kay Ivey.

https://governor.alabama.gov/assets/2020/07/Longleaf_GLR_Final_Web.pdf

3. Huttenlocher, J., Haight, W., Bryk, A., Seltzer, M., & Lyons, T. (1991). Early vocabulary growth: Relation to language input and gender. *Developmental Psychology*, 27(2), 236–248.

<https://doi.org/10.1037/0012-1649.27.2.236>

Hart, B., & Risley, T. R. (1995). *Meaningful differences in the everyday experience of young American children*. Baltimore, MD: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Company.

4. Gold, J. & Gibson, A. (2001). *Reading aloud to build comprehension*. Reading Rockets.

Retrieved from <https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-aloud-build-comprehension>

Neuman, S. B., Copple, C., & Bredekamp, S. (2000). *Learning to read and write: Developmentally appropriate practices for young children*. Washington, DC: National Association for the Education of Young Children.

5. Gilmore J. H., Lin, W., Prastawa, M. W, Looney, C. B., Vesta, Y. S, Knickmeyer, R. C., Evans, D. D., Smith, J. K., Hamer, R. M., Lieberman, J. A., & Gerig, G. (2007). Regional gray matter growth, sexual dimorphism, and cerebral asymmetry in the neonatal brain. *Journal of Neuroscience*, 27(6), 1255-1260. <https://doi.org/10.1523/JNEUROSCI.3339-06.2007>

Nowakowski, R.S. (2006). Stable neuron numbers from cradle to grave. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 103(33), 12219-12220.

Rakic, P. (2006). No more cortical neurons for you. *Science*, 313(5789), 928-929.

6. Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative. (2020). *2018-2019 National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH) data query*. Data Resource Center for Child and Adolescent Health supported by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Maternal and Child Health Bureau (MCHB). Retrieved August 25, 2021 from <https://www.childhealthdata.org/learn-about-the-nsch/NSCH>

7. Raikes, H., Pan, B. A., Luze, G. J., Tamis-LeMonda, C. S., Brooks-Gunn, J., Constantine, J., Tarullo, L. B., Raikes, H. A., Rodriguez, E. (2006). Mother-child book reading in low-income families: Correlates and outcomes during the first three years of life. *Child Development*, 77(4).

8. WriteExpress Corporation. (2020) *Begin to read: Literacy statistics*. Retrieved August 24, 2020 from <https://www.begintoread.com/research/literacystatistics.html>

<https://ferstreaders.org/resources/fifty-top-literacy-statistics>

9. Evans, M. D., Kelley, J., Sikora, J., & Treiman, D. J. (2010). Family scholarly culture and educational success: Books and schooling in 27 nations. *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility*, 28(2), 171-197.

<https://ferstreaders.org/resources/fifty-top-literacy-statistics>