

College Readiness

The Path Starts Early!

Given that early social performance and academic achievement are predictors of later school success, **ensuring that children get off to a good start in kindergarten is critical.**¹



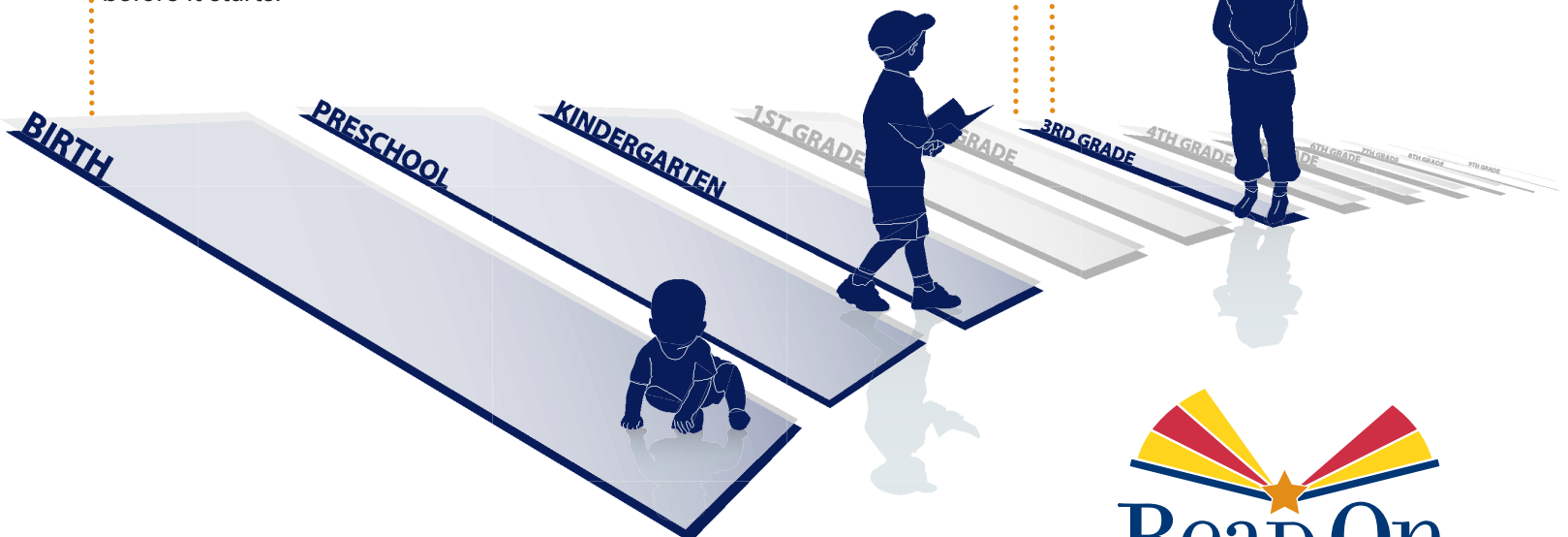
Fewer than half (48%) of children who live below the poverty line are ready for kindergarten, compared to three-fourths (75%) of children who come from homes earning middle to high family incomes.²

What We Know...

1 The educational achievement gap starts well before kindergarten. Disparities in language development emerge in infancy and widen in toddlerhood. The most effective solution is to prevent the achievement gap before it starts.

2 Early language abilities are directly related to later reading abilities. Today, only **77% of Arizona's third-graders** are proficient in reading.³ In Read On Phoenix target areas, **fewer than 60% of third-graders** are proficient.

3 Third grade reading proficiency is an important indicator for future success. In fact, third grade students who are not proficient in reading are four times more likely to drop out of high school.⁴



When Arizona Reads, Arizona Thrives

¹ SOURCE: Harvard research project, 2012. Ready for Success: Creating collaborative and thoughtful transitions into kindergarten.

² SOURCE: Isaacs, J. and Magnuson, K. (2011) Income and education as predictors of children's school readiness. Washington D.C. The Brookings Institution.

³ SOURCE: Arizona Department of Education, Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS), Reading Assessment, 2013.

⁴ SOURCE: Annie E. Casey, Double Jeopardy report, 2011.



When Arizona Reads, Arizona Thrives

Read On Arizona is a public/private collaboration committed to building an early literacy system that improves language and literacy outcomes for Arizona's children from birth through age eight—delivering the right program at the right time to every child.

To Join the Effort Visit: ReadOnArizona.org

Visionary Community Goals

- Ensure every child entering school is ready for school success by increasing the % of children demonstrating school readiness in language and literacy at kindergarten entry.
- Ensure every student is on track for college, career, and life success by increasing the % of students reading at or above grade level by the end of third grade to 100%.
- Driving change through capacity building, group solutions, continuous instructional improvement, and integrated and coordinated systems.



When Arizona Reads, Arizona Thrives

Read On Phoenix will engage parents, businesses, and the community by addressing four key areas:

- School readiness
- Summer learning loss
- Afterschool literacy enrichment
- Volunteerism

Read On Phoenix's first year focuses on Early Childhood Education programs, library programs, and select after school programs in Balsz, Riverside, Roosevelt, Fowler, Murphy, and other high need school districts.

For more information visit
www.ReadOnPhoenix.org



2013/2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more information visit:
[Read On Arizona.org](http://ReadOnArizona.org) and
[Read On Phoenix.org](http://ReadOnPhoenix.org)

Friday, November 8, 2013

11:30am Early Literacy Summit at
Channel 8 Studio/Arizona PBS

November to December 2013

November Picture Book Month
11/14/13 Flagstaff Commission on Excellence
in Education
11/15/13 Arizona Library Association Conference
11/20/13 Arizona Department of Education
Mega Conference (Family Engagement)
12/7/13 Festival of Tales, Paradise Valley
Community College

January to March 2014

3/3/14 Dr. Seuss Read Across America Day
March Early Childhood Fair hosted by
First Things First (Flagstaff)

April 2014 to June 2014

5/12 to 5/18/14 National Children's Book Week
June - July Arizona Summer Reading Collaborative
6/21/14 National Summer Learning Day
June Arizona Department of Education
Leading Change Statewide
Education Conference (Tucson)
June KinderCamp Kickoff Event (Flagstaff)

July 2014 to September 2014

August First Things First Statewide Early
Childhood Summit
September Attendance Awareness Month
9/8/14 International Literacy Day

October 2014 to December 2014

11/1/14 Family Reading Day