



When Arizona Reads, Arizona Thrives

Filling the gaps to
advance early literacy



Why Literacy?

- the 21st Century skill
- the “4 Cs” of 21st Century education



**critical thinking
communication
collaboration
creativity**

- the demand for high standards of reading/writing proficiencies required by today's society

Reading — the Connection to Academic and Vocational Success

**3rd
Grade**

reading levels
are strong
predictors of:

- Ninth grade course performance
- High school graduation
- College attendance



Early Literacy Building Blocks

Early
language
abilities
are
directly
related
to later
reading
abilities

Language is the
precursor to reading

Language Matters — Amount

Preschoolers whose parents read to them, tell stories, and sing songs tend to develop larger vocabularies, become better readers, and perform better in school.

*Amount of language a child hears affects
processing speed and later vocabulary*

*Amount and diversity of verbal stimulation
fosters early and rich language outcomes*



Early Literacy Gaps

- Disparities in language development emerge in infancy and widen in toddlerhood
- Low income children entering kindergarten are typically 12-14 months below national norms in language and pre-reading skills
- Nearly 40% of incoming kindergartners nationwide enter school without the basic language skills they need to learn to read

Arizona's Children Reading Achievement Scores

- 3 out of every 4 fourth graders in Arizona cannot read proficiently according to national standards* — only Nevada, Alaska, and Washington, D.C. have lower NAEP percentages.
- 85% of low-income children read below proficiency.

*National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Overview

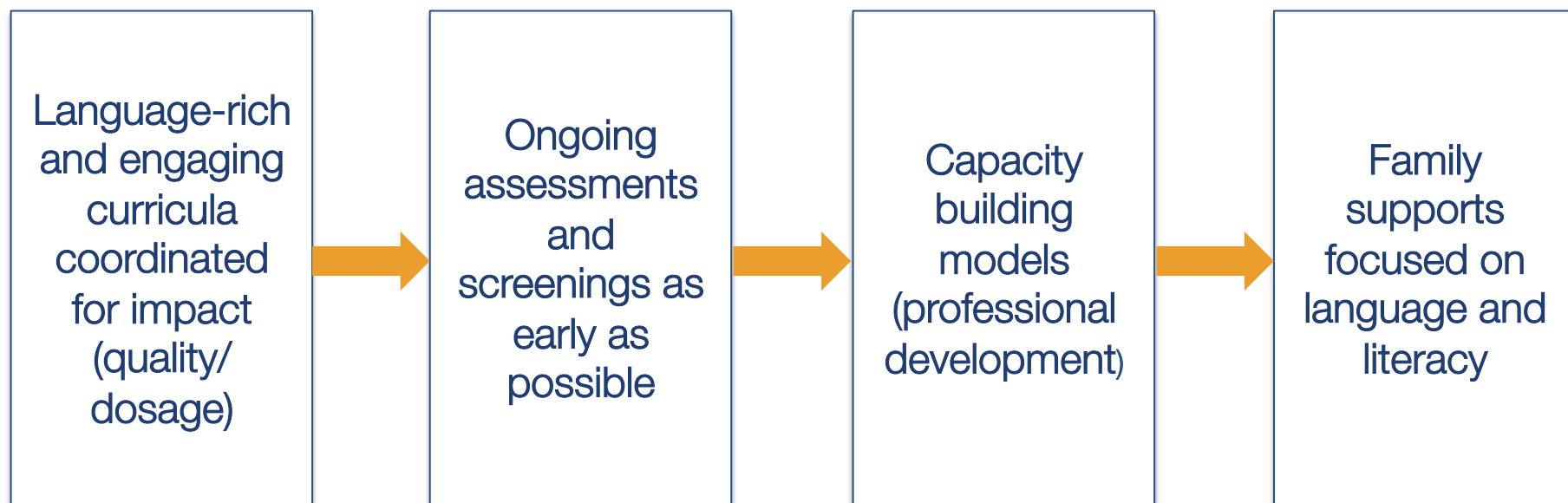


MISSION: Read On Arizona is a statewide public/private partnership of agencies, foundations and community stakeholders who are committed to a collaborative approach to improving language and literacy outcomes for Arizona's children from birth to age eight.



A model early literacy continuum (Birth to age 8)

The right program at the right time for every child



Outcome Goal: 3rd grade reading proficiency



SOLUTION: An Early Literacy Continuum

Building the continuum:

- **Alignment** of key stakeholders (cross sector engagement)
- **Framework** for collaboration (process/gap analysis/plan)
- **Momentum** to achieve results



Visionary Community Goals

- Increase the % of students reading at or above grade level by 3rd grade to 100%.
- Increase the % of children demonstrating school readiness at kindergarten entry in the language and literacy domain.
- Drive change through capacity building, group solutions, continuous instructional improvement, and integrated systems.

So that every child:
enters kindergarten ready for school success and
stays on track for college and career success.





Collaborative Partners

- Achievement Learning
- Advocacy and Communication, Inc.
- America Reads
- Arizona Academy of American Pediatrics
- Arizona Association Education of Young Children
- Arizona Board of Education
- Arizona Business & Education Coalition
- Arizona Center for Afterschool Excellence
- Arizona Charter Schools Association
- Arizona Community Foundation
- Arizona Department of Education
- Arizona K-12 Center
- Arizona Literacy and Learning Center
- Arizona Ready Education Council
- Arizona State Library
- ASU, Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College
- Association for Supportive Childcare
- ATI Online
- AZ K-12 Center
- Bookpals
- Boys and Girls Club
- BUILD Arizona
- Catholic Charities
- Central Arizona College
- Chicanos Por La Causa
- Children's Action Alliance
- Childsplay
- The Children's Museum of Phoenix
- City of Buckeye
- City of Chandler
- City of Flagstaff
- City of Goodyear
- City of Mesa, Mayor's Office
- City of Phoenix, Mayor's Office
- City of Scottsdale
- City of Tempe
- City of Tucson, Mayor's Office
- Cochise County Office of Education
- Educare Arizona
- Eight, Arizona PBS
- Expect More Arizona
- Experience Corp., AARP
- Experience Matters
- First Book
- First Things First Regional Councils
- Flinn Foundation
- Governor's Office of Education Innovation
- Grand Canyon University
- Greater Phoenix Economic Council
- Greater Phoenix Leadership
- Greater Phoenix Management Educational Council
- Head Start State Collaboration Office
- Helios Education Foundation
- International Dyslexia Association-AZ
- Jumpstart
- KPMG
- Lakeshore Learning
- Literacy Connects
- Make Way For Books
- Maricopa County Head Start
- Maricopa County Library
- Mesa Community College
- National Center for Family Literacy
- Northern Arizona University, College of Education
- Parent Teacher Association of Arizona (AZ PTA)
- Paradise Valley Community College
- Parents Education Network- Phoenix
- Pascuay Aquí Community Library
- Phoenix Public Library
- Pima Community College
- Raising A Reader
- Raising Special Kids
- Reach Out and Read Arizona
- Reading Is Fundamental
- Rodel Foundation
- Sanford Inspire Program
- Santa Cruz County Office of Education
- Southwest Human Development
- Southwest Institute for Families and Children
- Stand For Children
- Target
- Town of Globe
- Town of Miami
- Town of Payson, Star Valley, Pine, Strawberry, Tonto Basin, and Young
- Town of Sahuarita
- Toyota Family Literacy Program
- United Way of Northern Arizona
- United Way of Tucson/Southern Arizona
- United Way of Yuma County
- University of Arizona, College of Education
- Valley of the Sun United Way
- Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust
- And more....

Challenges / Solutions

Challenges and solutions

- Lack of information on critical factors prevents solutions
- Data integration and system linkages
- Lack of communication and coordination between efforts
- Read On Communities Network - a collaborative effort in each community to fill the literacy gaps
- Insufficient access to programs that work
- Continuum of effective practices
- Too little awareness and attention given to early literacy
- Community awareness and engagement




Statewide 10 Year Literacy Action Plan

- Ongoing introduction of evidence based practices
- Building a community of practice between regions
- National recognition of statewide model
- Assistance - Move On When Reading literacy plans
- Early Literacy Guide for Families
- Launched ReadOnArizona.org
- Summer reading collaborative
- Data integration pilot



Statewide Collaborative Resources



Contact Us

Search


About Us

Summer Reading

Read On Network

Literacy Resources


Partners




When Arizona Reads Arizona Thrives

Our Mission


Read On Arizona is a statewide, public/private partnership of agencies, philanthropic organizations, and community stakeholders committed to creating an effective continuum of services to improve language and literacy outcomes for Arizona's children from birth through age eight over the next ten years. Read On Arizona is committed to helping create an early literacy system that delivers the right program at the right time for every child. [Read More >](#)




Learn more about the Read On Network.



Find a Book



Dig into Reading



Find a Library

www.ReadOnArizona.org



When Arizona Reads, Arizona Thrives

Connect with Your Child through READING!

50 FUN IDEAS

1

Try a New Genre
Encourage children to develop an interest in a variety of genres such as adventure, mystery, fantasy and poetry.

2

Word Games for Everyone
Lead by example — exercise your mind by doing crossword puzzles, word jumbles and word searches. Play board games as a family to develop vocabulary skills.

3

Current Events
Encourage family members to develop a habit of reading and discussing items from the daily newspaper to keep up-to-date on what is happening around the world.

4

Transitions Tunes
Sing with young children every day to help them make transitions. Make up songs about daily activities such as waking up, taking a walk, or going to the store.

5

Young Illustrators
Ask your children to illustrate stories and engage them in dialogue about their artwork. Keep an album of their artwork so the family can continue to talk about it and so children can see their progress.

6

Bring Home a Book
Be reading into an outing. If you're going to a museum, bring home a book about a favorite exhibit, so children see reading as an experience.

7

Author Study
Help your child learn more about a favorite author. Look up titles of other books by that author, and help your child send a letter or e-mail to the author.

8

Reading Journal
Help your child keep a journal of what books he or she reads. Include the book title, author, what your child liked or didn't, and a simple rating system (make it fun with stars or stickers).

9

Stops!
Point out signs during the day and read them together. Talk about what the symbols on the sign mean.

10

Scavenger Hunt
Hide a special book for your child. Write out simple clues and have a scavenger hunt to find the book.

11

Living Room Theatre
Read a story and then act it out using puppets, dolls or stuffed animals.

12

Let the Pictures Tell the Story
With your child, look at the pictures in a book and guess what happens. Then, read it together to see if you were right!

13

Play with Your Food
N is for Noodle! Help your child spell their name or form the letters of the alphabet using cooked spaghetti noodles.

14

Simon Says...
By playing the listening game, your child will get practice listening carefully and following directions — two things that are important on school days.

15

Spell My Name
Help your child cut out letters from a newspaper or magazine. Try to find the letters in your child's name and your name. Together, string together the letters to spell the names.

16

Make Your Own Story
Look at the pictures in a book or magazine together. Try to make up a story using the pictures.

17

At Home with the Gnome
Make up rhymes about things you see in your home and as you go about your daily routine. "Step over the dog like he's a log!" "Would you like to share my stuff?"

18

Talk About Reading
Read to your child books that were your favorites when you were a child, and talk about why you loved them.

19

The Best Part of Your Day
Read to your child how much you enjoy reading with him or her. Talk about story time as the favorite part of your day.

20

Read Together
Keep reading to your child even after she learns to read. A child can learn and understand more difficult stories than she can read on her own.

21

Improving Reading Comprehension
Show your child how events in the book are similar to events in your child's life.

22

Reading Together
Invite your child to join in whenever there is a repeated phrase in the text.

23

Storytelling
Encourage him to tell you stories, to put happenings into a logical order.

McDonald's® hosts

Family Reading Day

Día de Leer con la Familia

Saturday, November 2 at 1 pm

Sábado, 2 de Noviembre, a las 1 pm



**FREE BOOKS!**
We're giving away 25,000* books to encourage early reading!

**A FREE McDonald's book for the first 100 children who visit their local McDonald's.**
*Books are for ages 4-10 for 4th grade. (McDonald's reserves the right to change.)

**FREE Read On Arizona New to Me When Reading Early Literacy Book for Families!**
A hands-on guide full of strategies to help support your child with reading.

**FREE Reading Screenings**
Attention Parents: Did you know that beginning in 2015 third graders may be asked to read aloud to a teacher or parent? Bring your child to a reading screening to learn more.

**Visit our Facebook page**
Read On Arizona's website includes social media links to Read On Arizona's reading resources and Facebook page.

FREE Game for Kids
Read On Arizona's website includes a free game for kids to play with family and friends.





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Statewide Collaborative Resources

Early Literacy Guide for Families (available in English and Spanish):



When Arizona Reads, Arizona Thrives

Early Literacy Guide for Families

Guía de Alfabetización Temprana para las Familias

This guide is for any parent or caregiver of an Arizona child age birth through third grade. It explains:

- The importance of early literacy and how you can help your child develop reading skills.
- Why third grade is an important milestone and what Arizona law says about reading requirements for third grade students.
- The importance of de-alfabetización temprana o alfabetización temprana en español y cómo puede ayudar a su hijo a desarrollar habilidades de lectura.
- A list of home literacy thinking books to explore with your child.

Take your place as a parent or caregiver. You are the first and most important teacher your child will have. This guide is for you.

Early Literacy (ages 0-2)

Early Literacy

THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF EARLY LITERACY (BIRTH TO AGE EIGHT)

Reading is a skill for a child's ability to learn and succeed in school. Your child's ability to read develops from birth, but it doesn't happen automatically. Children learn to read by hearing words, seeing letters, and practicing reading. When they hear and see language, their brains develop the important connections needed to learn how to read.



(TALK • READ • THINK)

What you know?

- At four to five months of age, a child recognizes the sound pattern of his/her name. At eight months, a child understands word patterns.
- At age three a child can repeat common phrases.
- By age five a child starts to match letters with words.

Children whose parents read to them, tell them stories, talk and sing songs with them – develop larger vocabularies, become better readers, and do better in school. Children develop important language skills from birth – and early language abilities are directly related to later reading abilities.

90% of a child's brain develops before kindergarten.

SKILLS NEEDED TO MOVE FROM LEARNING TO READ TO READING TO LEARN:

- 1. Oral language skills (speaking and listening) are the building blocks of early literacy.
- 2. Children need developing phonological awareness, understanding the different ways that spoken language can be broken down into smaller units – sentences into words, words into syllables, syllables into individual sounds.
- 3. The next step is phonics, the relationship between letters and the sounds they represent. A reader can decode words by matching the letters to their speech sounds.
- 4. Young readers need developing fluency, the ability to read text accurately, automatically, and with proper expression.
- 5. Vocabulary is important to reading comprehension because readers cannot understand what they are reading without knowing what most of the words mean.
- 6. Comprehension, a last important step in being a reader, is understanding the information being read and being able to describe it and talk about it.

EASY WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD BECOME A READER

Daily activities for young children from birth to age five:

- Talk with your child and build his/her language skills. Encourage your child to ask questions.
- Sing your child words that help build his/her vocabulary for pointing and naming the name of objects around them. Print out new words when reading a book for the first time.
- Sing with your child and make up rhymes.
- Tell stories and encourage conversation, make it interactive and fun. Parents need to support a strong development of home language skills so that students enter school prepared with the core knowledge and vocabulary in their home language that will help them in school.
- Read aloud to your child in whatever language you are most comfortable. Through a child's first language is critical to his/her success in learning a second language.
- Play books that encourage your child to become a reader to read them again and again.

Building Skills in Young Readers

Once your child starts reading on his/her own:

- 1. Encourage your child to read 10 minutes a day.
- 2. Help your child find books that meet his/her interests.
- 3. Make an at-home library. Reading books in a quiet place makes it more likely that your child will want to read.

Kindergarten – 1st grade

Tips for reading now or tricky words:

- 1. Think about the word. Does it make sense?
- 2. Sound out the word. Look more closely at the parts. Look at all the letters in the word, not just the first letter.
- 3. Look for patterns or a clue word within the word.
- 4. Check the picture for any help.
- 5. Go back and re-read.

2nd – 3rd grade

Tips for reading now or tricky words:

- 1. Identify the prefix or suffix.
- 2. Look at the root and decide the word, focusing on the pattern. Start at the beginning, sound out each part, and blend it together.

Attendance is Important!

Every school day counts. Starting in kindergarten, attendance can affect your child's progress in school. Research shows that a student who misses 10 days of a 180-day school year (5%) is twice as likely to fail as a student who attends.

WHY THIRD-GRADE MATTERS

Connecting standards, instruction, and assessment. Reading is the foundation skill for all subsequent learning and reading by third grade is a crucial milestone in a child's future academic success. Research shows that third grade reading level is a strong predictor of sixth grade course performance, high school graduation and college attendance.

Arizona's College and Career Ready English Language Arts standards include grammar, spelling, reading and writing. Students are expected to master these standards at the end of each grade. Each spring, third grade students are required to take a reading assessment. With these standards – working in alignment with the reading programs in our schools – parents, teachers, and administrators will be able to identify those children who need additional help earlier so that they can get the supports they need and be on track to graduate and/or ready for college.

Young Readers (ages 5-8)

Move On When Reading Policy

Move On When Reading

ARIZONA'S PUSH FOR EARLY LITERACY

ARIZONA'S THIRD GRADE READING RETENTION LAW (A.R.S. §15-701)

Arizona law A.R.S. §15-701, also known as the "Move On When Reading" policy, requires that a student not be promoted from third grade to fourth grade if he or she scores at the "Not Yet Ready" level on the state's third grade reading test. "Not Yet Ready" indicates that the child is reading at a much lower level than is expected of a third-grade student.

The purpose of the policy is to give children who have significant reading challenges more time to learn. It ensures that these students will receive the intensive instruction they need to accelerate their learning and catch up in reading.

What Schools are Required to Do:

- Arizona law A.R.S. §15-701 states that students or children are required to:
- Have a comprehensive 30-day assessment system.
- Provide for universal screening of pupils in preschool through third grade programs to identify students who have reading difficulties.
- Have a research-based reading curriculum.
- Provide explicit instruction and intensive intervention.
- Develop an individual action plan for each student who is not yet ready to move on.
- Develop a second action plan for those students who are not yet ready to move on.

For parents of students who have been identified as having difficulties with reading, a separate written notification is sent that includes:

- Description of current reading services provided to your child.
- Description of supplemental services to be provided.
- Planned strategies to assist student in attaining reading proficiency.
- Retention statement and explanation of assessment policy.
- Description of district or charter policy on student promotion to a higher grade.

If a Child Scores "Not Yet Ready"

Students may be eligible for promotion to fourth grade through "second chance" or "move on" reading.

- A student who scores at the "Not Yet Ready" level on the state's third grade reading test may be eligible for promotion to fourth grade through "second chance" or "move on" reading.
- A student who scores at the "Not Yet Ready" level on the state's third grade reading test may be eligible for promotion to fourth grade through "second chance" or "move on" reading.

If your child is held back in third grade...

Remember, does not mean that your child has failed. It does not mean that teachers or parents are not working hard enough. It means that your child needs more time to learn and help to catch up and meet at grade level.

The law requires that students held back must be supported through appropriate strategies, which include:

- Intensive reading instruction before, during, or after the regular school day.
- Being assigned a different teacher for reading instruction.
- Intensive school reading instruction.
- Online reading instruction.

Learn more at www.azed.gov/moveon

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR PRINCIPAL OR SCHOOL:

- How will you ensure that my child has a reading problem?
- How often will my child be assessed and how will the results be used in my child's program?
- How do you determine what kind of extra support and intervention my child needs?
- What parent activities or workshops are available to help my child with reading?
- If my child is retained or makes progress in reading proficiency during the summer or school year, can my child be promoted to fourth grade?

Emerging Literacy (ages 3-4)

Statewide Collaborative Resources



**HELP ARIZONA
PUT READING FIRST!**

Read 20 minutes every day this summer!

**INCREASE SUMMER READING -
5 THINGS YOU CAN DO:**

- 1. **Sign up the whole family** for the library's *Fizz, Boom, Read!* summer reading program at your local public library (www.azlibrary.gov/library-directory).
- 2. **Ask your librarian** for suggestions of great books to read with your child.
- 3. **Use the "Find a Book" tool** (www.readonarizona.org) to find books that match a developing reader's reading level.
- 4. **Set a goal** of reading 20 minutes every day. For very young children and struggling readers, the 20 minutes can be spread throughout the day.
- 5. **Make reading fun!**



**EXCITING NEW WAY
TO TRACK SUMMER
READING**

Many Arizona libraries are piloting an exciting new way to track summer reading.

Read, play games, and do other fun activities to earn achievement badges online.

**Visit your local public library and
put reading first this summer!**

Schools, public libraries, and a collaboration of state agencies and private organizations have partnered to promote summer reading in Arizona.



myON: A Digital Library For Every Child In Arizona



It takes only a few simple steps to access myON books:

Go online to: www.myon.com

Click the **Log In Now** button and enter the following information:

School Name: Read On Arizona, Digital Library
(Begin entering the first few letters and then select from the drop-down menu)

User name: read

Password: read

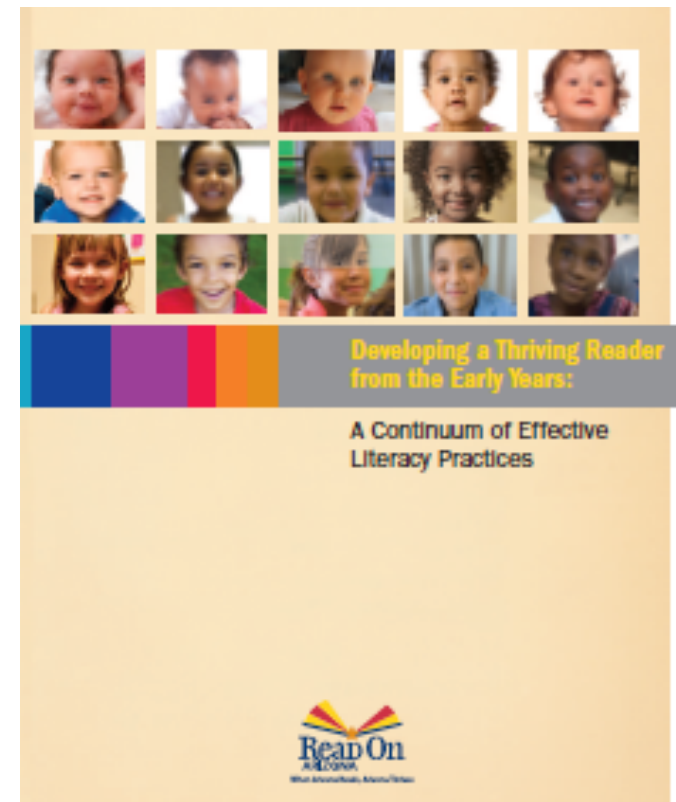
Click on **Sign In**, select a book and start reading!



Continuum of Effective Literacy Practices Task Force

Key areas from birth through age eight:

- Approaches to learning and literacy instructional practices (school readiness, chronic absenteeism, out of school time learning, etc.)
- Professional development focused on literacy
- Family engagement centered around literacy
- Screening/assessment involving literacy
- Digital literacy
- Transitions



Read On Communities Network



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.

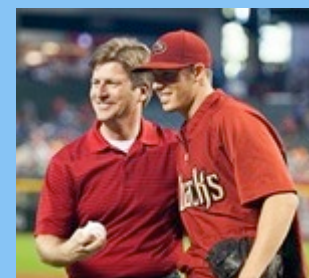




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Engaging parents, businesses and the community by addressing these four key areas:

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



Read On Phoenix has pursued these key areas by:

- Organizing and holding an Early Childhood Literacy Summit at Arizona PBS Studios. with education, business, and community leaders focusing on third grade reading proficiency. November 8, 2013 named Read On Phoenix Day by Mayor Stanton.
- Partnering with Diamondbacks on early literacy in afterschool setting.
- Exploring a possible partnership between Read On Phoenix, AARP Experience Corps. and Experience Matters around volunteer tutoring opportunities.
- Phoenix library hosting *Every Child Ready to Read* workshops for families.
- Exploring grant opportunities.

PRIORITIES:

Work together to address the challenges for our most at-risk children in developing solutions in critical areas such as:

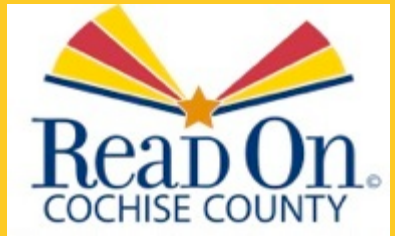
- School readiness and reading at grade level
 - Family engagement
 - Professional development
-

PARTNERS:

Cochise County School Superintendent
First Things First Regional Partnership Council
Head Start (Benson, Bisbee, Douglas, Sierra Vista, Willcox)
Cochise County Public Library
United Way of Sierra Vista and Cochise County
And more...

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Hosting first partner meeting on January 23, 2014 with panel discussion entitled *Cochise County Early Literacy Successes and Challenges*
- Cochise County Resource Guide and next steps in community literacy scan



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COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:

Alliance for Children's Early Success
Association for Supportive Childcare
Boys and Girls Club
City of Flagstaff
Coconino Coalition of Children and Youth
Coconino Community Education Report Advisory Committee
Coconino County Superintendent of Schools
Flagstaff City-Coconino County Public Library
Flagstaff Family Food Center

Flagstaff Unified School District
Native Americans for Community Action
North County Healthcare
Northern Arizona Council of Governments, Head Start
Northern Arizona University
Reach Out and Read
Southside Neighborhood Associations
Sunnyside Neighborhood Association

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Home-based coaching to families
- KinderCamp
- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
- A "community of practice" focused on early literacy development



Lead Contact:
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PRIORITIES:

- The communities of Globe and Miami have developed a cooperative partnership focused on early literacy, particularly among their most at-risk children.

PARTNERS:

First Things First
Town of Miami
City of Globe
Globe and Miami Rotary
CASA of Gila County
Globe Unified School District
Miami Unified School District
Gila County School Superintendent
Globe Head Start
Miami Head Start
Globe/Miami Chamber of Commerce
Copper Rim School
Cenpatico
Gila County Health Department
Freeport McMoRan
Capstone
Arizona Silver Belt
Copper Country News
Globe/Miami Times
Cobre Valley Hospital
Canyonlands Health Care
Destiny Schools
Gila County Library District
Globe Library
Miami Memorial Library

Dolly Parton Literacy Program
Horizon Domestic Violence Safe Home
United Fund
Teen Outreach Pregnancy Services
Healthy Steps for Young Children
Globe/Miami Ministerial Association
St. Pauls United Methodist Church
Farmers Fogle Agency
Southern Gila County Network Team
Community Action Program
State Farm Insurance
Early Childhood Network
Gila Reading Council
Claypool United Methodist Church
Gila Community Food Bank
Copper Rim Preschool
Miami Vandals Preschool
Bejarano Elementary School
Rhonda's Child Care
Sylvia's Preschool
Friends of Globe Library
Southeastern Arizona Behavioral



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UPCOMING:

Collaborative planning sessions involving community partners



Collaborative Partners:

- City of Mesa
- Mesa Public Schools
- Mesa Public Library
- Mesa United Way
- Maricopa County Head Start
- Mesa Community College



Highlights:

- Jumpstart early literacy preschool pilot program
- Volunteer recruitment for MPS afterschool reading program

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COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:

City of Nogales
Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
First Things First Regional Partnership Council
Nogales Family Resource Center
Rio Rico Resource Center
Patagonia Resource Center
Santa Cruz County Provisional Community College
University of Arizona- Santa Cruz County
Ed Options Learning Center
St. Andrew's Preschool
Dino Bones Preschool
Smart Kids Preschool
Kids House Montessori
Rainforest Montessori
Rio Rico Head Start

Lourdes Catholic School
San Cayetano Elementary
Mountain View Elementary
Pena Blanca Elementary
Santa Cruz Elementary #28
Sonoita Elementary #25
Patagonia Elementary #6
A.J. Mitchell Elementary
Bracker Elementary
Challenger Elementary
Fco. Vasquez de Coronado
Lincoln Elementary
Mary L. Welty Elementary
Nogales Rotary

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Action planning
- Exploring family engagement literacy strategies





- **Collaboration**

- Local partners such as FTF, local school districts, Easter Seals Blake Foundation, ADE, Library, Western Area Council of Governments, and many others...

- **Programs**

- Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
- KinderCamp
- Summer Reading Program
- Raising A Reader (coming soon)
- Abriendo Puertas (coming soon)



Contact:
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Summary



Framework



Alignment



Continuum

= 3rd grade
reading
proficiency



When Arizona Reads, Arizona Thrives

Contact: Terri Clark, State Literacy Director

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