

ACHIEVING READING PROFICIENCY BY THE END OF THIRD GRADE

A Resource Guide

To Accompany the 2010 KIDS COUNT Special Report

From the Annie E. Casey Foundation

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

ASPIRA: Founded in 1961 to address the high drop-out rate and low educational attainment of Puerto Rican youth in New York City, ASPIRA today has evolved into a national association of organizations in six states and Puerto Rico serving all Latinos and a substantial group of non-Latinos. Many of ASPIRA's programs target youth, but it also is managing a number of charter schools that include preschool and early grades and sponsors the ASPIRA Reading Institute, which supports adult, child and family literacy. The ASPIRA Parents for Excellence (APEX) program provide a series of workshops designed to increase the involvement of Latino parents in their children's education and enhance their effectiveness. ASPIRA receives public, philanthropic and corporate support, including funding from these foundations: Verizon Foundation, FINRA Investor Education Foundation, NBNA Foundation, PepsiCo Foundation, Prudential Foundation, and JustGive.org.

Web site: <http://www.aspira.org>

For more information, contact: (202) 835-3600

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP): Established in 1969, CLASP advocates for federal and state policies to support and strengthen children, youth, and families, create pathways to education and work, and improve the lives of low-income people. Child Care and Early Education is one of its focus areas. The web site provides access to a variety of CLASP-produced materials, including reports, articles, analyses, fact sheets, and presentations. CLASP is supported by institutional, individual, and philanthropic contributors, including: Atlantic Philanthropies, Birth to Five Policy Alliance, Buffett Early Childhood Fund, California Endowment, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Casey Family Services, Endowment for Health, EOS Foundation, Ford Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, George Gund Foundation, Irving Harris Foundation, Hagedorn Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Joyce Foundation, Louisiana Disaster Recovery Foundation, Lumina Foundation, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, A.L. Mailman Foundation, Moriah Fund, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, New Prospect Foundation, Northwest Area Foundation, Open Society Institute, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Public Welfare Foundation, Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina, Twenty-First Century Foundation, and Women's Funding Network.

Web site: <http://www.clasp.org>

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Child Care and Early Education Research Connections: Research Connections is a project of the National Center for Children in Poverty, the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, and the U.S. Administration for Children and Families, the last of which provides funding to support the program. The web site provides access to an extensive collection of scholarly research, policy briefs,

government reports, data, and instruments from a wide range of sources. Research Connections also compiles and distributes bibliographies, develops issue briefs, and synthesizes research on key topics. Web site: <http://www.researchconnections.org>

Child Trends: Child Trends is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research center that seeks to improve outcomes for children by: identifying emerging issues; evaluating programs and policies; and providing data-driven, evidence-based guidance on policy and practice. Among the topics addressed are: early childhood development/school readiness (birth through early elementary school) and education (K-12). The web site offers an extensive library of resources and the LINKS database. LINKS includes a continually updated database of programs to enhance children's development and publications that synthesize lessons learned from experimentally evaluated programs. Child Trends has an extensive list of public, nonprofit and philanthropic supporters, including the following foundations: Atlantic Philanthropies, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Casey Family Programs, Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, Commonwealth Foundation, Duke Endowment, Eckerd Family Foundation, Freddie Mac Foundation, Irving B. Harris Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, Walter S. Johnson Foundation, W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, Minnesota Early Learning Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, Sierra Health Foundation, Alexander and Margaret Stewart Trust, Stuart Foundation, Summit Fund of Washington, John Templeton Foundation, Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, and Wallace Foundation.

Web site: <http://www.childtrends.org>

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Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO): CCSSO is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization representing the top state education officials. It educates federal policy makers on the education policy needs of the states and provides assistance to states in areas such as improving and supporting the education workforce, designing and using robust information systems, and developing comprehensive and balanced assessment systems. In partnership with the National Governors Association, CCSSO led development of the recently-released Common Core State Standards. The web site provides access to policy statements, project descriptions, and CCSSO publications on a wide variety of education-related topics.

Web site: <http://www.ccsso.org>

For more information, contact: (202) 336-7000

Foundation for Child Development (FCD): FCD is the oldest private, independent, grantmaking foundation in the nation with a sustained focus on improving the life prospects of children. Over the course of its 100-plus-year history, FCD has contributed to the field of child development by supporting research, policy, programs, and advocacy. In addition to specific FCD-supported efforts cited previously in this Resource Guide, the Foundation's web site and Resource Library provide additional information on pre-K-3rd grade issues and access to all material published by FCD and its grantees.

Web site: <http://www.fcd-us.org>

For more information, contact: (212) 867-5777 info@fcd-us.org

Harvard Family Research Project (HFRP): This organization focuses on three components of complementary learning – early care and education, out-of-school time, and family and community involvement in education. The web site provides access to issue briefs and topical digests, reports, and periodicals, as well as searchable databases/bibliographies.

Web site: <http://www.hfrp.org>

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National Center for Children in Poverty (NCCP): Founded in 1989 as a division of the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, NCCP uses research to inform policy and practice to ensure positive outcomes for children. Several NCCP projects focus explicitly on early care and learning, including Improving the Odds for Young Children, which has assembled state-specific, regional and national profiles about policies that affect early childhood development (available at the web site).

Web site: <http://www.nccp.org>

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National Center for Latino Child and Family Research: The Center seeks to increase understanding and visibility of Latino child and family issues by synthesizing and disseminating information, conducting new research, helping to increase the representation of Latino families and children in major research efforts, and providing research-based technical assistance. Funders include: A.L. Mailman Foundation, Council of Chief State School Officers, First 5 LA, Foundation for Child Development, National Center for Research in Early Childhood Education, National Task Force on Early Education of Hispanics, U.S. Administration for Children and Families, University of Denver, and Pew Charitable Trusts

Web site: <http://www.latinochildresearch.org>

National Center for Rural Early Childhood Learning Initiatives: Established in 2004 with support from the U.S. Department of Education, this program of the Mississippi State University Early Childhood Institute fosters original and applied research on the quality, accessibility, and replication of early educational intervention services for at-risk young children and families in rural America.

Web site: <http://earlychildhood.msstate.edu/national-initiatives/ruralec.htm>

For more information, contact: (662) 325-4836

National Council of La Raza (NCLR): NCLR is the largest national Latino civil rights and advocacy organization in the United States. Tracing its origins back more than forty years when the Southwest Council of La Raza was established to address the challenges facing Mexican Americans, today it works to improve opportunities for all Hispanic Americans. One of its priority areas is early care and education, which it sees as key to equalizing educational outcomes. Sixty NCLR affiliates working in sixteen states and the District of Columbia offer some form of early childhood education for 38,000 preschool-age children and their families. NCLR also conducts research and policy analysis to inform federal and state policy development aimed at improving access to and the quality of early education programs for Latino children and English Language Learners.

Web site: <http://www.nclr.org>

For more information, contact: (202) 785-1670

National Governors Association (NGA): This bi-partisan organization is the collective voice of the nation's governors. NGA's Center for Best Practices' Education Division provides information, accessible through the web site, on early childhood care and education, elementary, secondary and postsecondary education, turning around low-performing schools, high school redesign, and extra learning opportunities. Also available is information on the Common Core State Standards, a state-led effort coordinated by NGA and the Council of Chief State School Officers, to define the knowledge and skills student should acquire during their K-12 education.

Web site: <http://www.nga.org>

For more information, contact: (202) 624-5300

National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER): NIEER conducts and communicates research to support high quality, effective early childhood education for all young children. It offers independent, research-based advice and technical assistance to policymakers, journalists, researchers, and educators. Past and current supporters include: Pew Charitable Trusts, Carnegie Corporation of New York, The Fund for New Jersey, Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Prudential Foundation, Schumann Fund for New Jersey, Smith Richardson Foundation, Tulsa Community Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Education. The web site provides access to: research and publications by NIEER and others, including an annual Yearbook profiling state-funded pre-K programs; a listing of experts with contact information; and an extensive list of links to organizations working in the early childhood education arena.

Web site: <http://nieer.org>

For more information, contact: Carol Shipp (732) 932-4350 x225 cshipp@nierr.org

Pat Ainsworth (732) 932-4350 x229 painsworth@nierr.org

“Reading by Grade Three: A National Goal to Help Every Child Succeed”: This July/August 2010 Special Report by The American Prospect includes articles on why early literacy is critical, the challenges that must be addressed, and effective strategies to improve outcomes. Available at:

http://www.prospect.org/cs/archive/view_report?reportID=96

Social Programs That Work: This web site is maintained by the Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy with funding from the MacArthur Foundation and the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation. The Coalition is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization created to serve as a neutral, independent source of information about programs shown through rigorous studies to produce sizeable, sustained benefits. The web site provides summary information and links to Early Childhood and Education interventions that meet the Coalition's criteria of effectiveness. Among these interventions are: Nurse-Family Partnership (home visitation program); Abecedarian Project (high-quality child care/preschool for children from disadvantaged backgrounds); Perry Preschool Project (high-quality preschool for children from disadvantaged backgrounds); Success for All (school-wide reform program with strong emphasis on reading instruction); Good Behavior Games (classroom strategy for dealing with disruptive/aggressive behavior); SMART (volunteer tutoring program for at-risk readers); and Lindamood curriculum (tutoring intervention for at-risk readers in grades K-2).

Web site: <http://evidencebasedprograms.org>

For more information, contact: (202) 239-1248

SparkAction: SparkAction, which is managed by the Forum for Youth Investment in partnership with the National Collaboration for Youth, Campaign for Youth, and Child Advocacy 360, is an on-line resource for journalists, advocates, and organizations working on behalf of children, youth and families. In addition to a biweekly newsletter, the organization offers a searchable site that features links to research, reports, policy briefs, action alerts and other materials from a wide variety of sources. Among the featured topics is Early Care and Education.

Web site: <http://sparkaction.org>

Stand for Children: Stand for Children is an advocacy organization that envisions “a society where all children receive the education and community supports that will enable them to live successful, fulfilling lives, and where parents and other concerned citizens are engaged and vigilant in ensuring that elected

officials make decisions in the best interest of children and families.” It focuses on state and local levels, building networks of trained grassroots advocates who work on priorities such as adequate funding for public schools, improving teacher quality, and accountability for results. In addition to the national organization, currently there are state affiliates in Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Massachusetts, Oregon, Tennessee, and Washington State. Stand’s successes led TIME magazine to name its founder, Jonah Edelman, as one of “11 Education Activists for 2011.”

Web site: <http://www.stand.org>

For more information, contact: (800) 663-4032

Voices for America’s Children: This non-partisan non-profit network of more than sixty organizations located throughout the country leads advocacy efforts at the community, state, and federal levels to improve the lives of all children, especially those most vulnerable, and their families. School Readiness and School Success are two of Voices’ key policy goals. Among Voices’ funders are: A.L. Mailman Family Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Atlantic Philanthropies, Birth to Five Policy Alliance, California Endowment, Casey Family Programs, CRY America, Hagedorn Foundation, Kansas City Power and Light, Kellogg Action Lab, Marguerite Casey Foundation, Ohio Children’s Foundation, Peppercorn Foundation, Sprint Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and William Penn Foundation.

Web site: <http://www.voices.org>

For more information, contact: (202) 289-0777

The Wallace Knowledge Center: The Wallace Foundation invests in independent research and demonstration projects to develop, test, and then share information about promising approaches to expand learning and enrichment opportunities. Its Knowledge Center provides access to reports, articles and tools on a number of topics, including: Education Leadership; Out-of-School Time Learning (including Summer Learning Loss); and Teacher Recruitment and Retention.

Web site: <http://www.wallacefoundation.org/KnowledgeCenter>

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For more information, contact: (212) 251-9700

What Works Clearinghouse (WWC): A U.S. Department of Education resource that is administered by Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., the WWC was created to provide educators, policymakers, researchers and the public with a central, trusted source of scientific evidence about "what works". Among the topics covered are: Beginning [grades K-3] Reading Interventions; Early Childhood [ages 3-5] Interventions; Early Childhood Interventions for Children with Disabilities; and English Language Learner Interventions. Quick Reviews, designed to provide timely and objective assessments of quality of research evidence, examine recently released research papers and reports.

Web site: <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc>

For more information, contact: (866) 503-6114

Zero to Three: This organization promotes the health and development of infants and toddlers by providing information, training, and support to professionals, policymakers, and parents. Among the areas on which Zero to Three focuses are: child care, infant mental health, early language and literacy development, early intervention, and the impact of culture on early childhood development. Zero to Three also operates the Early Head Start National Resource Center.

Web site: <http://www.zerotothree.org>

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Additional resources available online at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org/readingmatters.aspx>