

# The Importance of Early Childhood Literacy at Parkland School District

## By the Numbers

462

Number of School Districts in Pennsylvania That Currently Provide A Full-Day Kindergarten Program (from the 2015 Kids Count Data Center)

6

Number of States That Do Not Currently Require Kindergarten. Pennsylvania Is Included In This Minority. (from the 2015 Kids Count Data Center)

37

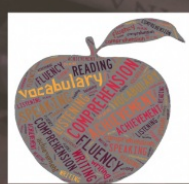
Percent of Parkland Kindergarten Students Requiring Intervention Based on the STAR Reading Readiness Assessment Administered in September, 2015.

24

Percent of Parkland Students Who Currently Qualify for Free or Reduced Lunch in 2015. This is a 5% Increase from 2014.

## Building Foundational Skills for the Future

### Building Vocabulary



Research shows that the more words parents use when speaking to an 8-month-old infant, the greater the size of their child's vocabulary at age 3. The landmark Hart-Risley study on language development documented that children from low-income families hear as many as 30 million fewer words than their more affluent peers before the age of 4.

### The Importance of Books



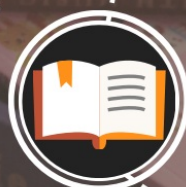
Books contain many words that children are unlikely to encounter frequently in spoken language. Children's books actually contain 50% more rare words than primetime television or even college students conversations.



Research has also revealed the detrimental effect to children when they are deprived of these opportunities. Gaps in reading readiness can hamper literacy development throughout a child's school years and beyond, hindering career options when the child becomes an adult (NELP, 2009).

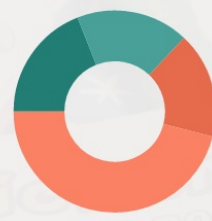
What are we reading tonight?

Let's visit the library!



### 2015 STAR Kindergarten Data

#### 2015 Kindergarten Reading Readiness Data



Extreme Intervention (19%) Intervention (18%) Marginal (17%) Proficient (46%)

## Literacy Is The Most Important Skill for Academic and Career Success

Read

Write

Think

Learn More at <http://psdearlyliteracy.wikispaces.net>