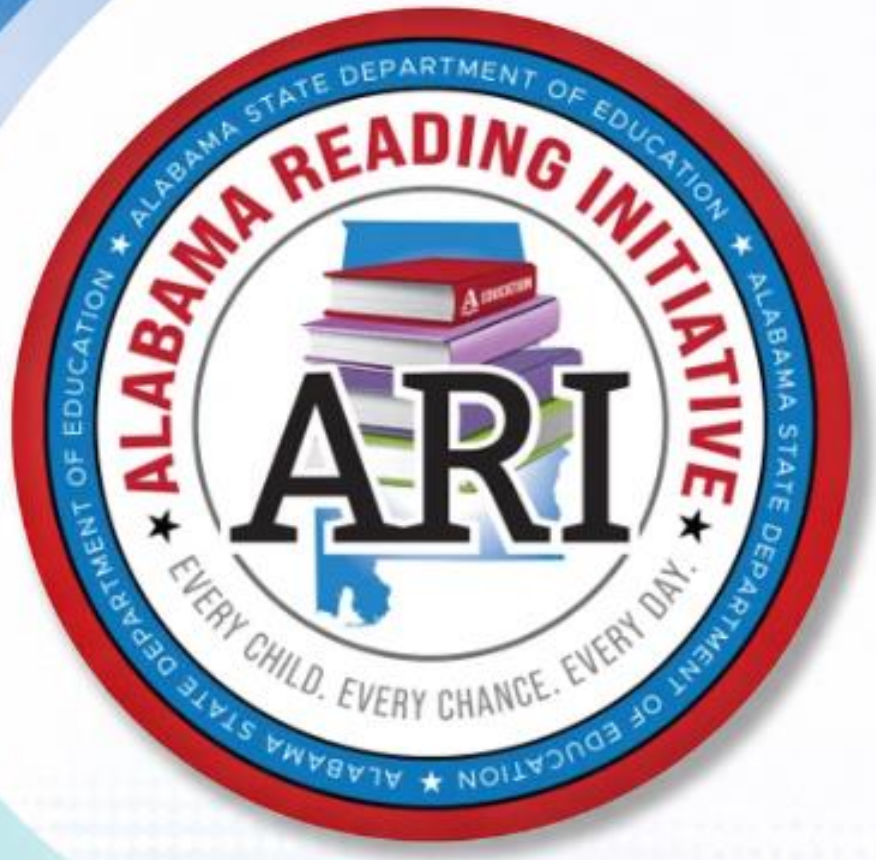


ALABAMA LITERACY ACT

Alabama State Department of Education

Alabama Literacy Act

for Families and Communities

2026-2027

Overarching Outcomes

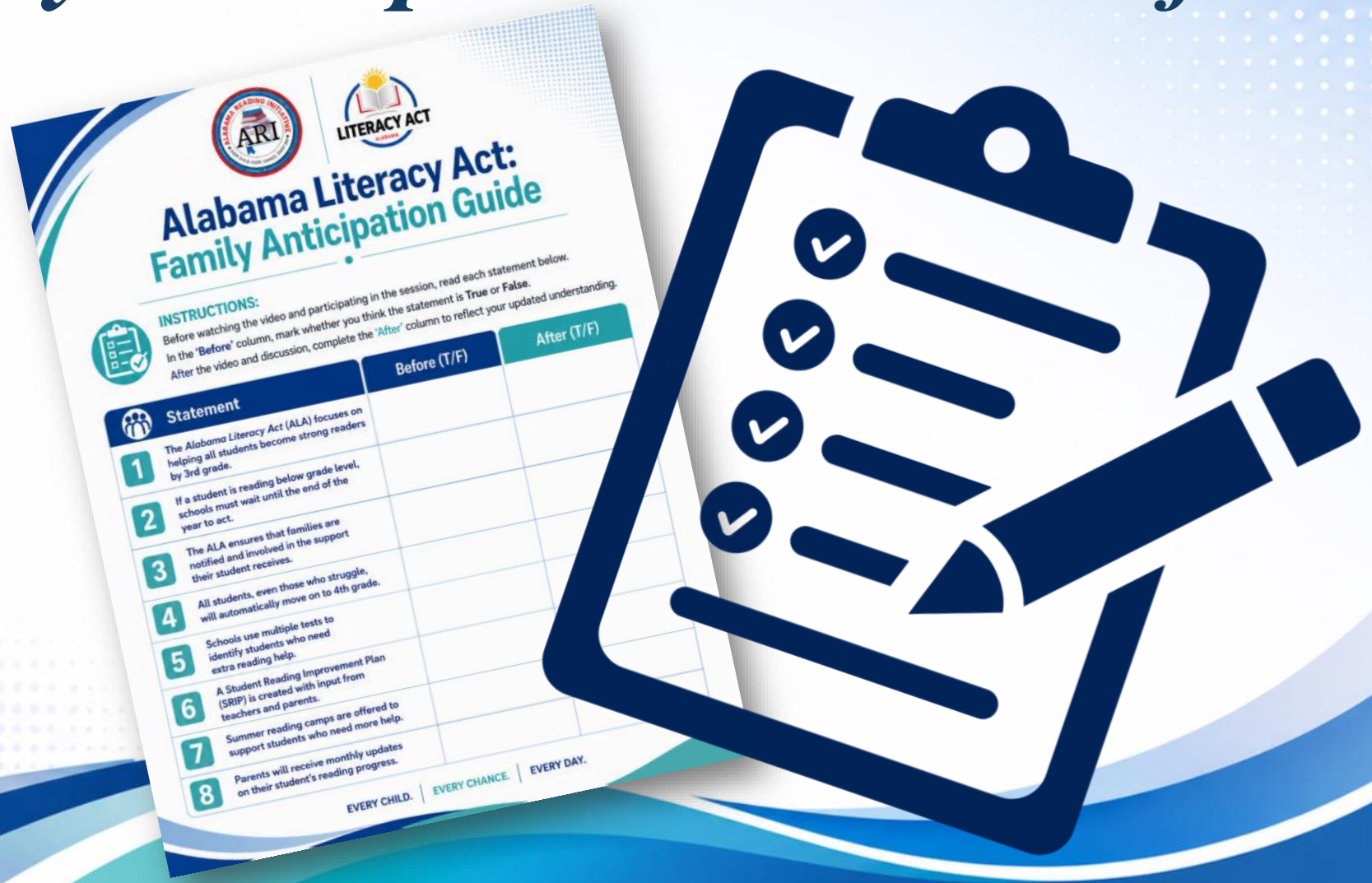
2026-2027 Sign-in link

Alabama Literacy Act for Families Module-2026-2027 – Fill out form

Participants will:

- Develop an initial understanding of the *Alabama Literacy Act* and its impact on classroom instruction and students' growth/achievement.
- Set goals for at-home literacy support.

Family Anticipation Guide: Before

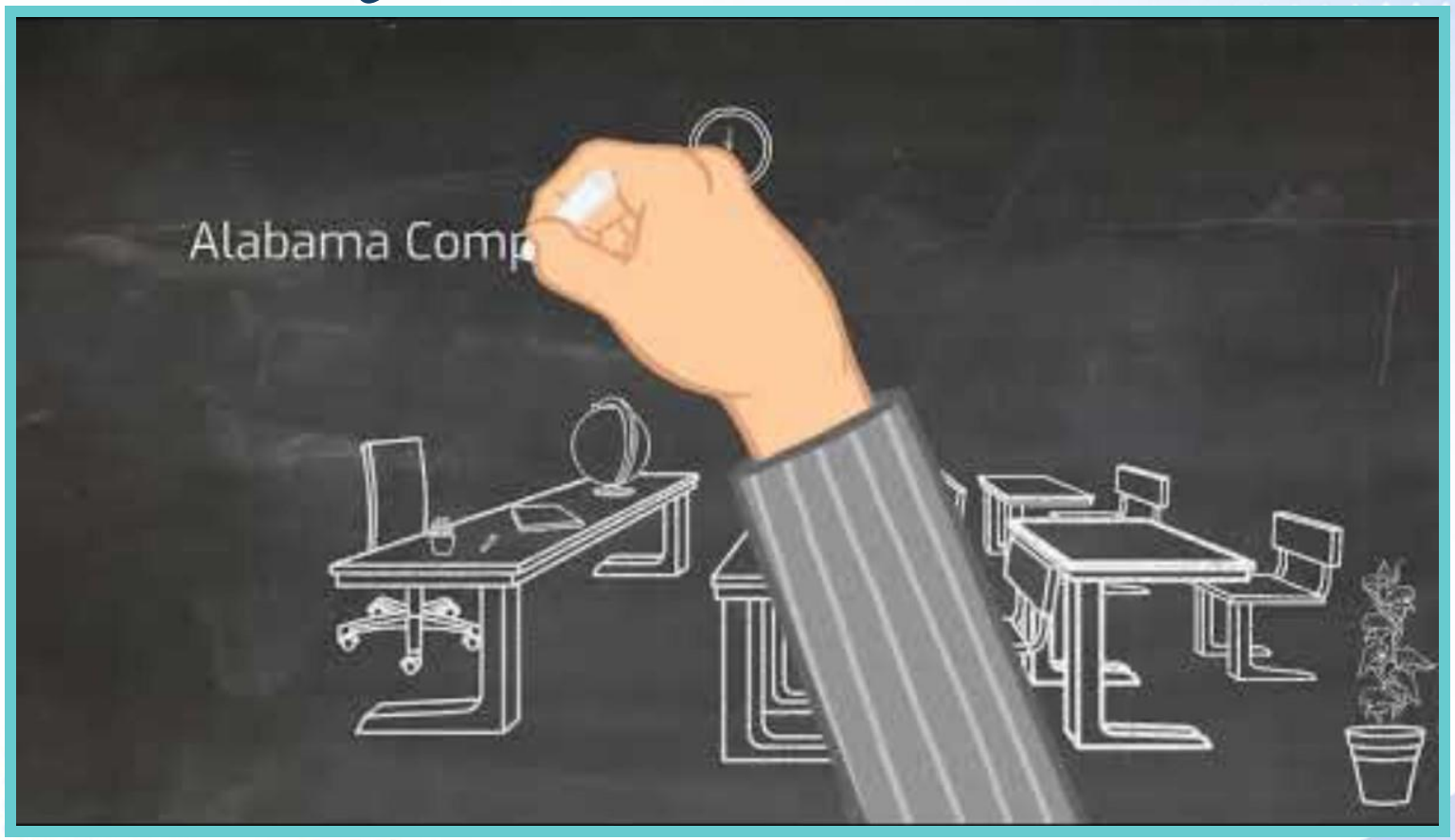


Let's Talk About Reading

- I know what the *Alabama Literacy Act* is.
- I've received a reading report but wasn't sure what it meant.
- I know how schools determine if my student needs additional support.
- I know what questions to ask after receiving assessment results.



Literacy Act Overview



What is the Alabama Literacy Act

Purpose:
To implement steps to improve the reading proficiency of public-school kindergarten to third grade students and ensure that those students are able to read at or above grade level by the end of the third grade by monitoring the progression of each student from one grade to another, in part, by his or her proficiency in reading.
(Page 1, Lines 4-9)

Let's Talk About It

What part of this law surprised you the most?



Curriculum & Standards



2021 ELA COS supports essential learning to improve reading proficiency in accordance with the *ALA.*

- Standards focus on **foundational skills** needed to support literacy development.
- Development of the standards was guided by the **science of reading.**
- Standards define the **minimum content** of what learners should know and be able to accomplish at each grade level.

Every Child. Every chance. Every day.

Scientifically-based reading instruction and multisensory language instruction in the following areas:

- Oral language development
- Phonological awareness
- Phonics
- Fluency
- Writing
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension



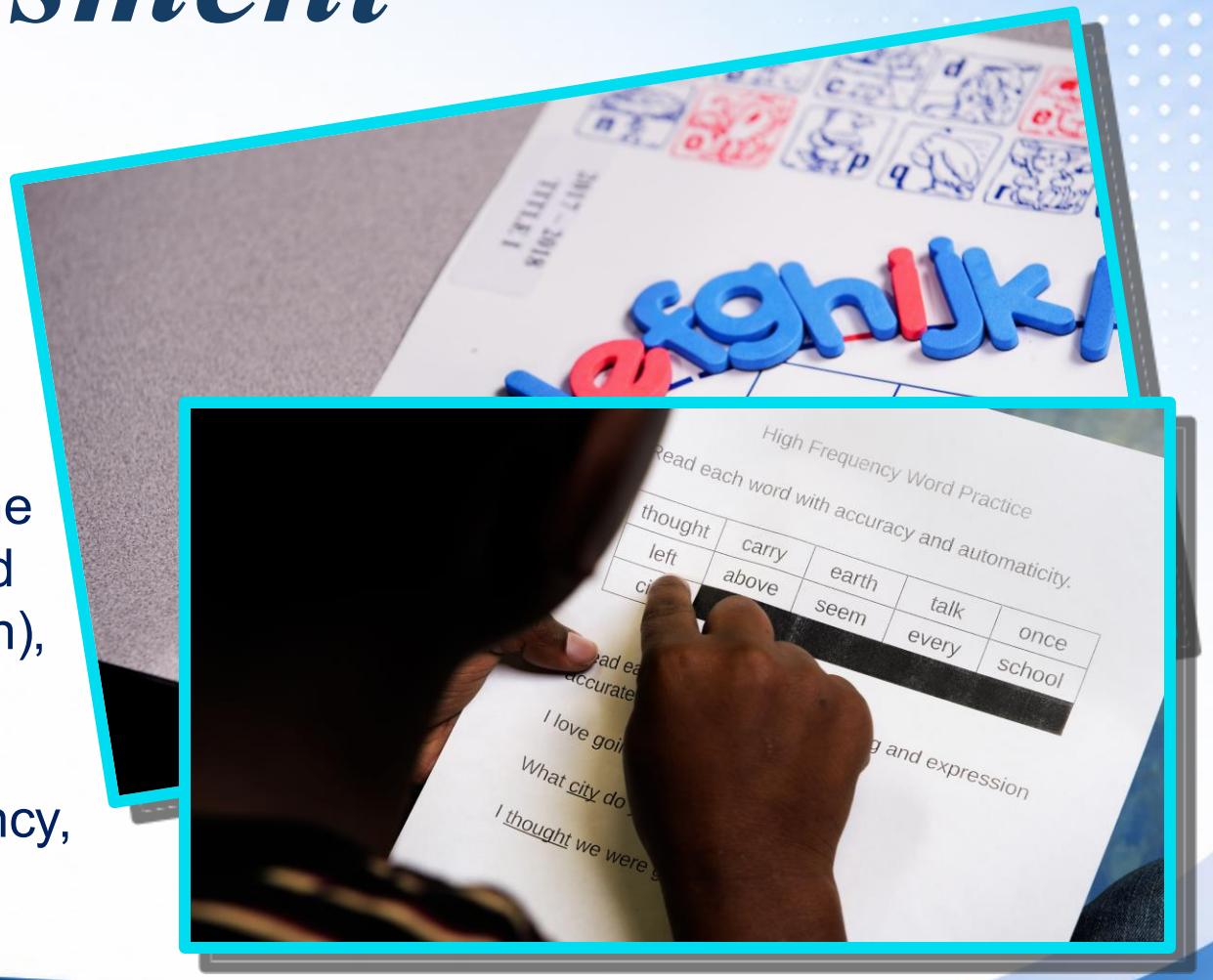
Intervention Requirements

- Additional instructional time spent on proven methods of reading instruction and intervention
- Daily small group reading intervention that focuses on what the student needs
- Frequent monitoring of the progress of the reading skills of each student throughout the school year and adjusting instruction according to student need



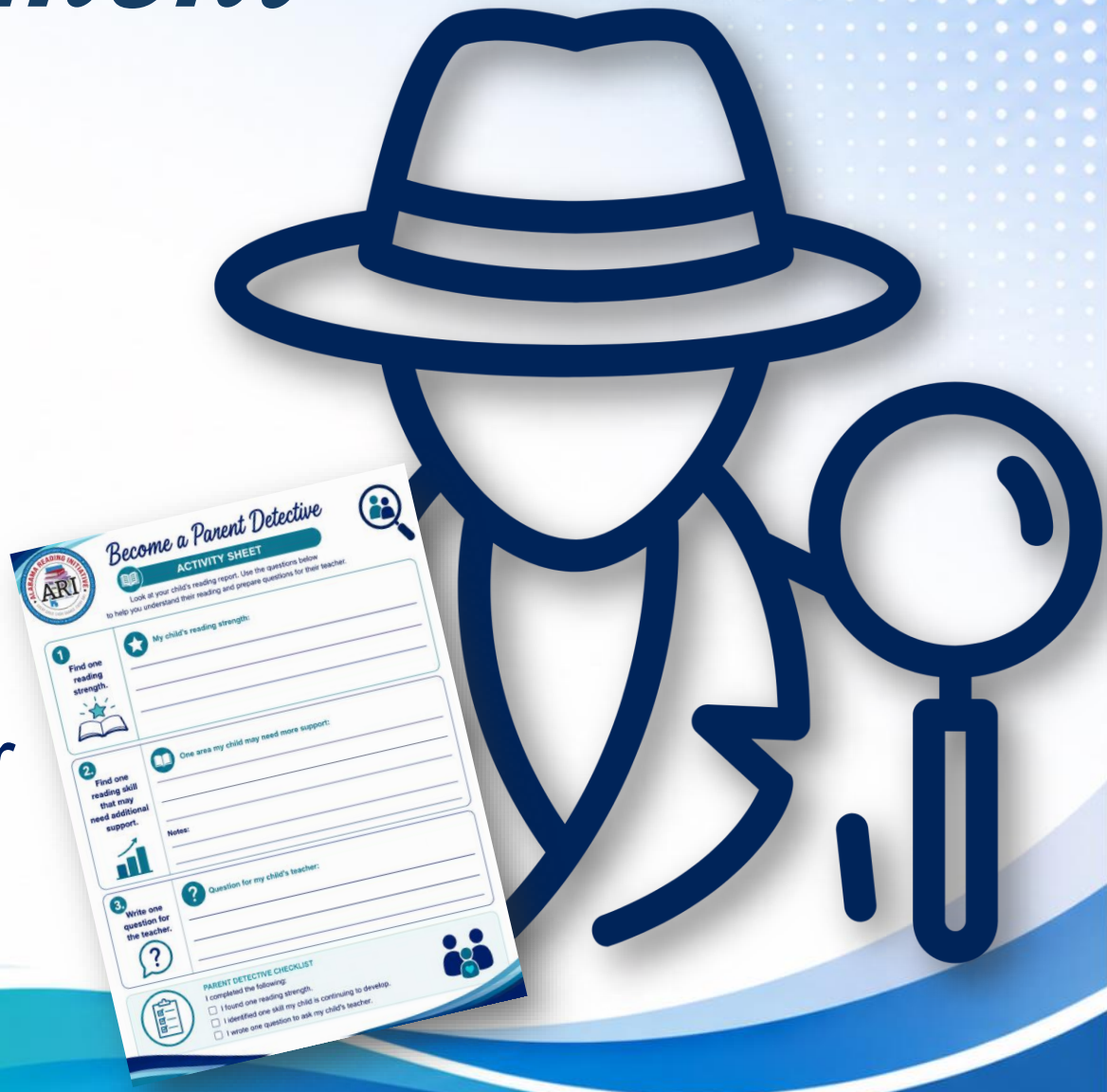
Assessment

- Use multiple assessments to monitor student progress
- Measure phonological awareness (hearing the sounds), the alphabetic principle (letter/sound knowledge), decoding (letter/word recognition), encoding (spelling), accuracy, vocabulary, and comprehension
- Help to identify students with reading deficiency, including those who exhibit characteristics of dyslexia



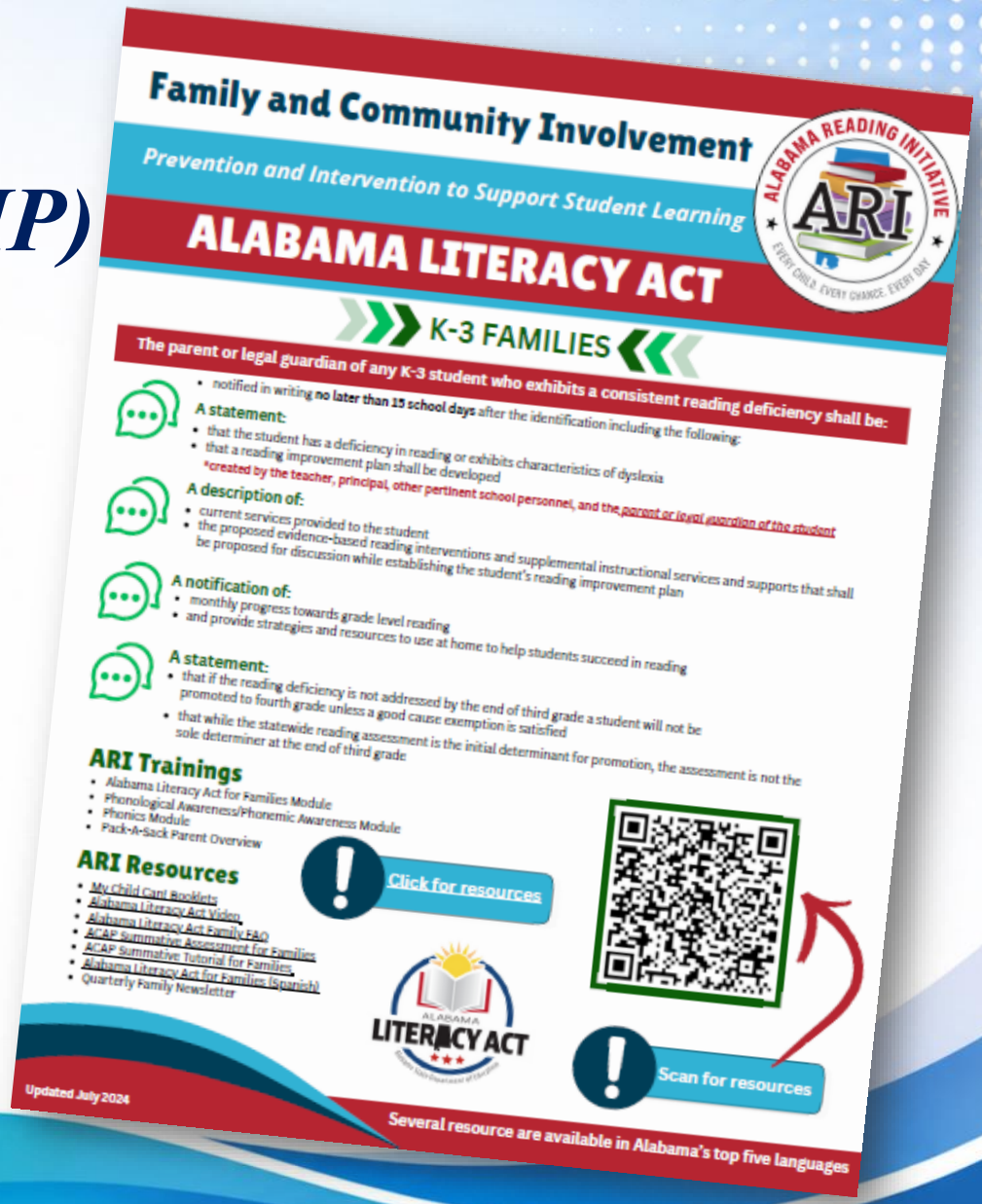
Assessment

- Find one reading strength
- Find one reading skill that may need additional support
- Write down one question you would ask your student's teacher after reviewing this report



Student Reading Improvement Plan (SRIP)

- A guide for instruction for the student based on the specific deficiency in reading
- Developed for the student by teachers and others in the school, along with parent input, within **30 days of the identification of deficit**
- Parents are notified monthly of progress
- Intervention instruction is evidence-based reading intervention
- Parents or legal guardians are provided resources and strategies to use at home to help students succeed in reading.



Layers of Support

Parent Letter



Additional Tutorial Support



Intensive Reading Intervention



Before and/or After School Tutoring



Summer Reading Camp



Student Reading Improvement Plan



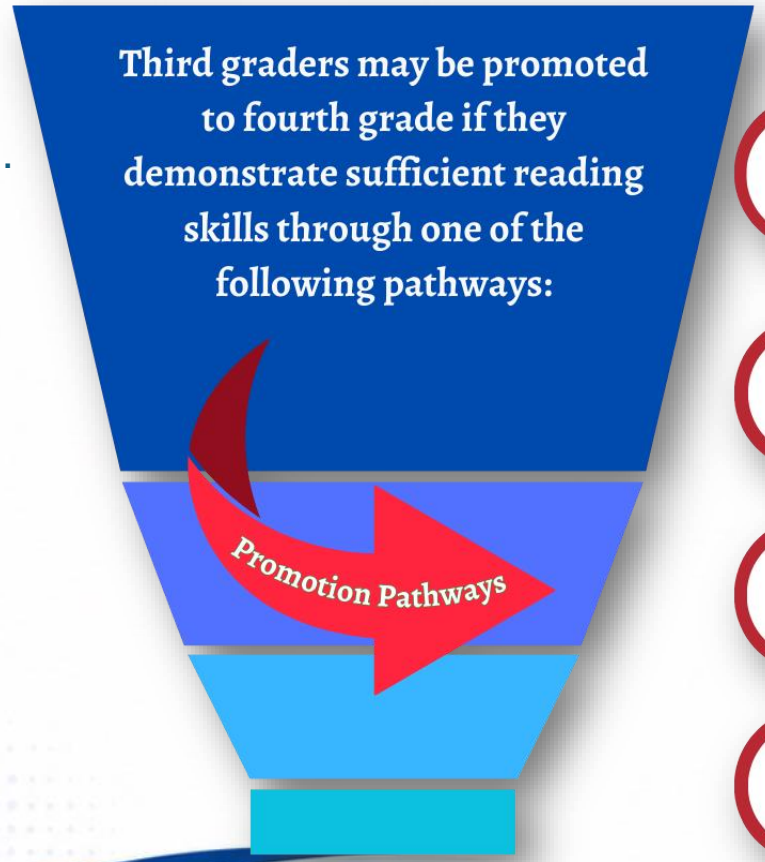
Summer Reading Camp

- **Your student may qualify** if they need additional support with reading or have been identified with characteristics of dyslexia.
- **Camps provide** at least **60 hours** of engaging, science-based reading instruction designed to strengthen reading skills.
- **Students receive a reading assessment** at the beginning and end of camp so families and schools can see their progress.
- **The goal is to help students** return to school with stronger reading skills and greater confidence.

Promotion to Fourth Grade

Third graders can be promoted to fourth grade by…

1. Scoring above the lowest achievement level on a State Board approved assessment in reading. (ACAP)
2. Earning an acceptable score on the supplemental reading assessment **during the summer.**
3. Demonstrating mastery of essential third grade state reading standards. Evidence pieces will be collected and stored in a Literacy Act Portfolio for each third-grade student.
4. Meet one of the Good Cause Exemptions



1. Score above the lowest achievement level for the ACAP Reading Subtest in the spring
2. Earn an acceptable score for the ACAP Supplemental Assessment
3. Master grade 3 Essential Reading Standards in the Student Reading Portfolio
4. Meet one of the Good Cause Exemptions

*This step should be considered after other pathways have been explored.

Good Cause Exemption

Good Cause Exemptions:

Good cause exemptions allow students who are reading below grade level to be promoted to the fourth grade but still receive interventions and other supports. The good cause exemptions include:

(1) Students identified as English language learners who have had less than three years of instruction in English as a second language.

(2) Students with disabilities who participate in the statewide English Language Arts reading assessment and who have an Individual Education Plan or a Section 504 plan that reflects that the student has received intensive reading intervention for more than two years and who still demonstrates a deficiency in reading or was previously retained in kindergarten, first grade, second grade, or third grade.

(3) Students who have received intensive reading intervention for two or more years and who still demonstrate a deficiency in reading and who were previously retained in kindergarten, first grade, or second grade for a total of two years.

*No student shall be retained more than once in the third grade.

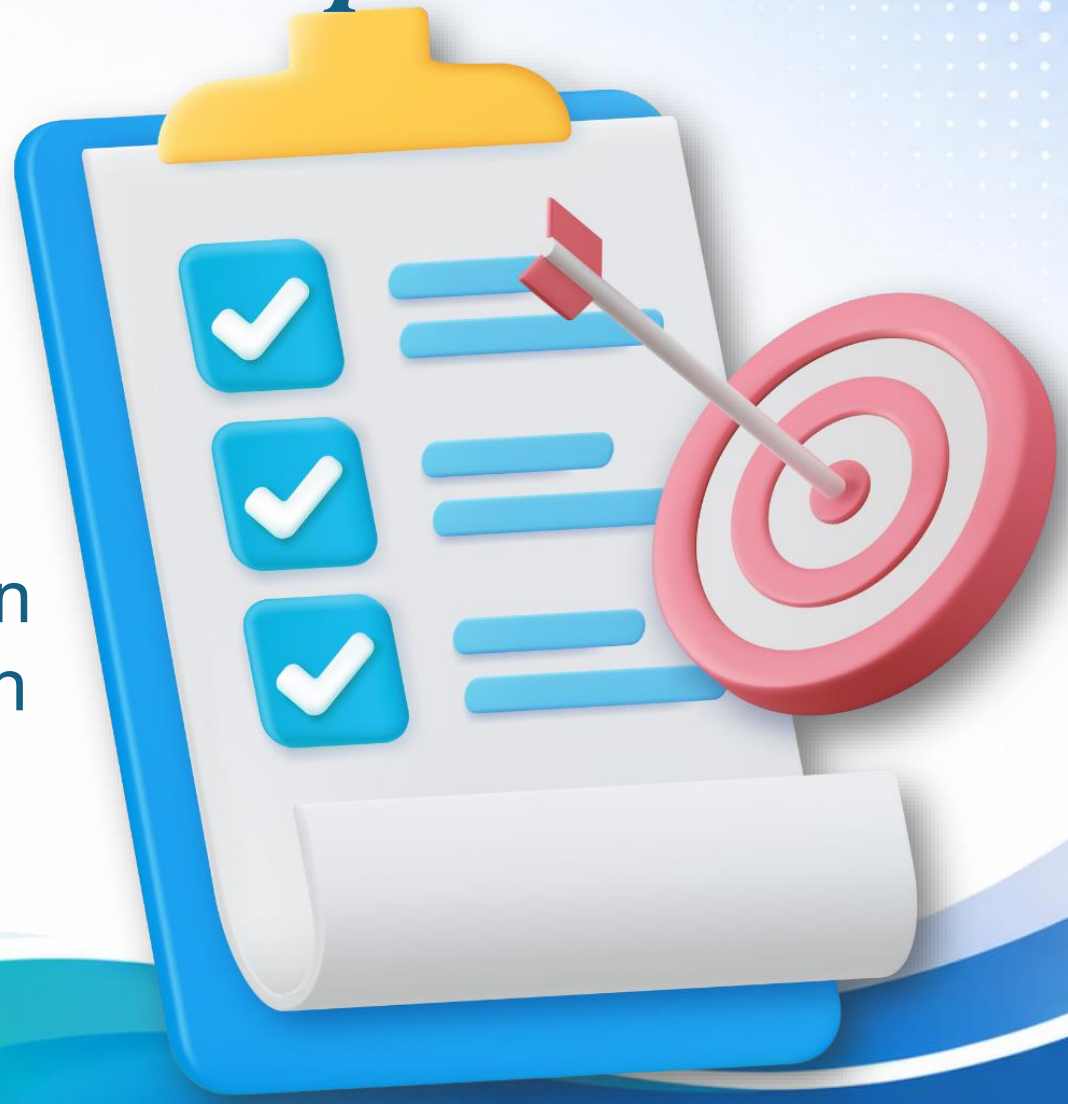
NOTE: Students with disabilities whose Individualized Education Plan indicates that participation in the statewide assessment program is not appropriate, consistent with state law, are automatically exempt from demonstrating sufficient reading skills outlined in this chapter in order to achieve promotion.

***If a student does not demonstrate sufficient reading skills through one of the three pathways or does not qualify for a good cause exemption, the student may not be promoted to fourth grade.**

June 2024

Rising 4th Graders with Good Cause Exemptions

A student who is promoted to fourth grade with a good cause exemption shall continue to receive intensive reading intervention that includes specific reading strategies prescribed in the student's reading improvement plan until the deficiency is improved.



RETAINED THIRD GRADERS

How will schools help students who are retained in 3rd grade because the student does not meet the promotion requirement?



Students retained in 3rd grade will receive more intensive reading intervention services including:

- Reading instruction provided by a highly effective teacher;
- Dedicated time each day for intensive reading instruction;
- Reading instruction that is grounded in the Science of Reading;
- Frequent monitoring to help ensure students are progressing and on track to meet grade-level reading standards;
- A Family Read-at-Home Plan



Reading Specialists

The local reading specialist is available to coach and mentor.



- Leads teacher training and learning groups
- Models effective reading instruction
- Coaches and mentor teachers
- Share resources for community support
- Helps teachers use data to meet student needs
- Focuses on activities that boost reading achievement
- Monitors student progress at least 3 times a year

Every child. Every chance. Every day.

Frequently Asked Questions

ALABAMA LITERACY ACT
Frequently Asked Questions
FOR K-3 FAMILIES



What is the ALABAMA LITERACY ACT?

The **Alabama Literacy Act** was passed in 2019 to help improve reading in Alabama public schools to ensure students are reading on grade level by the end of the 3rd grade. Reading is the gateway to lifelong achievement and the students of Alabama deserve a strong start on their path to success.

Parent Resources





The Alabama Reading Initiative presents PHONICS: Family Engagement Information...

634 views • 7 months ago







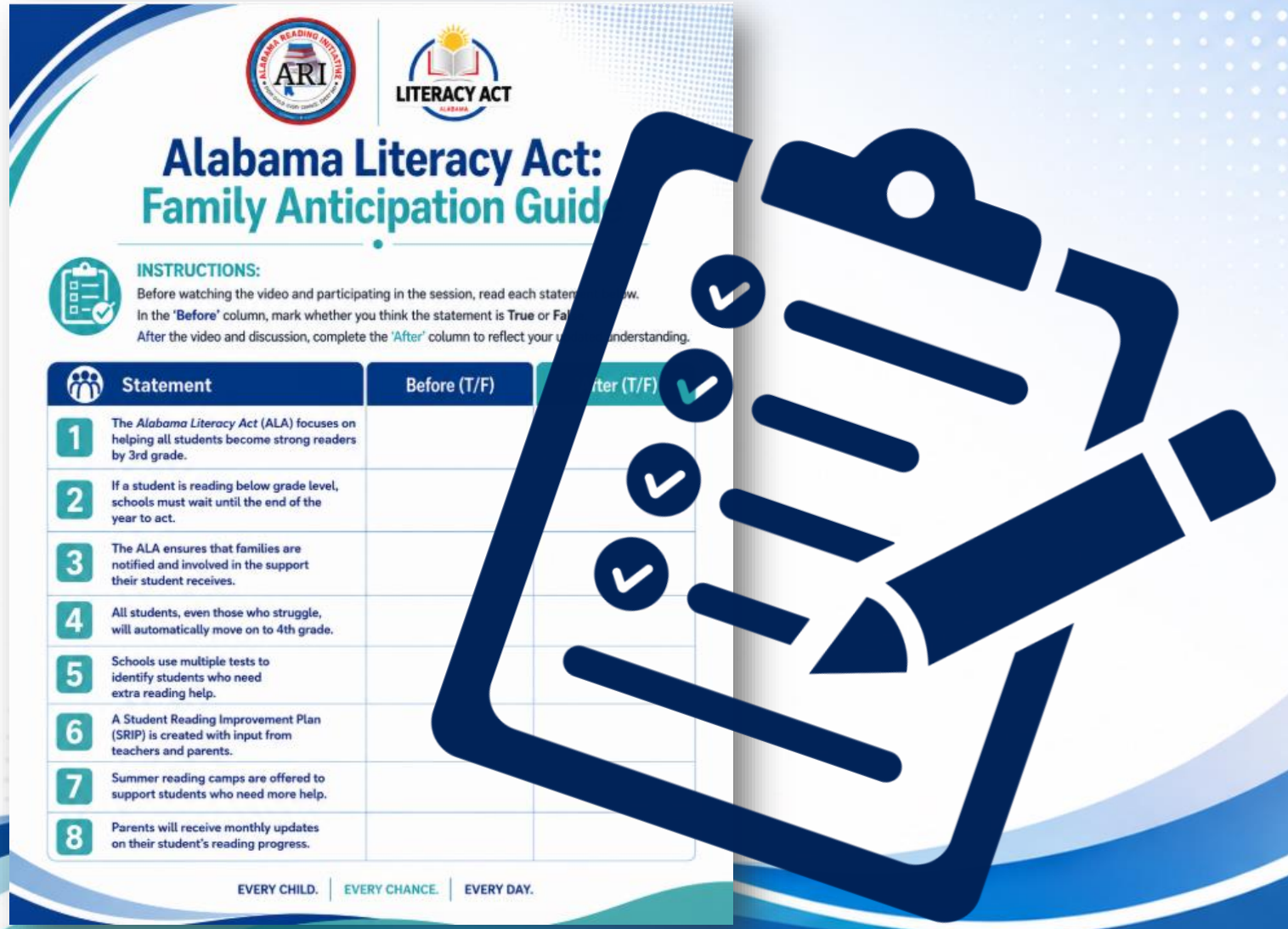


The Alabama Reading Initiative presents PHONEMIC AWARENESS: Family...

1K views • 8 months ago



Family Anticipation Guide: After



Revisit Outcomes

2026-2027 Sign-in link

Alabama Literacy Act for Families Module-2026-2027 – Fill out form

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- Develop an initial understanding of the *Alabama Literacy Act* and its impact on classroom instruction and students' growth/achievement.
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Thank You

THE ALABAMA READING INITIATIVE IS YOUR PARTNER IN EDUCATION!

Links to Presentation Handouts

Slide Number	Handouts/Material Needed: (Microsoft Links)	Handouts/Material Needed: (Google Links)
Slide 1	No handouts needed • Chart Paper for a Questioning Parking Lot • Sticky Notes • Pens or Index Cards	• No handouts needed • Chart Paper for a Questioning Parking Lot • Sticky Notes • Pens or Index Cards
Slide 2	• Alabama Literacy Act for Families Module - 2026 - 2027 - Fill out form • **Handout 1** - Handout 1- QR Code for ALA for Families Module - 2026-2027.pdf • **Handout 2** - Handout 2-Sample Sign-in Sheet.pdf	• **Handout 1** - Handout 1 - QR Code for ALA for Families Module - 2026 - 2027 • **Handout 2** - Handout 2 - Sample Sign - in Sheet
Slide 3	• **Handout 3** - Handout 3 - ALA_Anticipation Guide_English_Spanish.pdf	• **Handout 3** - Handout 3 - ALA Anticipation Guide_English_Spanish
Slide 4	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 5	No handouts needed • The Alabama Literacy Act (updated 8.15.23) - The Alabama Literacy Act (updated 8.15.23) (youtube.com)	No handouts needed • The Alabama Literacy Act (updated 8.15.23) - The Alabama Literacy Act (updated 8.15.23) (youtube.com)
Slide 6	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 7	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 8	No handouts needed • One copy of the Alabama 2021 English Language Arts Course of Study	No handouts needed • One copy of the Alabama 2021 English Language Arts Course of Study

Links to Presentation Handouts

Slide 9	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 10	• **Handout 4** - Handout 4 -Parent Resources Handout_English_Spanish.pdf	• **Handout 4** - Handout 4 - Parent Resources Handout_English_Spanish
Slide 11	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 12	• **Handout 7** – Sample Parent Assessment Report • **Handout 8 -** Handout 8 - Parent Detective Activity Sheet.pdf	• **Handout 7**- Handout 7 - Sample Parent Assessment Report • **Handout 8** - Handout 8- Parent Detective Activity Sheet
Slide 13	• **Handout 5** - Handout 5- ALA Family Communication Tool_English.pdf • **Handout 5** - Handout 5- ALA Family_Communication Tool_Arabic.pdf • **Handout 5** - Handout 5- ALA Family_Communication Tool_Korean.pdf • **Handout 5** - Handout 5- ALA Family_Communication Tool_Spanish.pdf	• **Handout 5** - Handout 5 - ALA Family Communication Tool_English • **Handout 5** - Handout 5 - ALA Familiy Communication Tool_Arabic • **Handout 5**- Handout 5- Handout 5 - ALA Family Communication Tool_Korean • **Handout 5**- Handout 5 - ALA Family Communication Tool_Spanish
Slide 14	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
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Slide 16	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 17	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 18	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 19	No handouts needed	No handouts needed
Slide 20	No handouts needed	No handouts needed

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Slide 21	• **Handout 6** - Handout 6 - ALA FAQ_Updated August 2024 English.pdf • **Handout 6** - Handout 6 - ALA FAQ for Families August 2024_AR.pdf • **Handout 6** - Handout 6 - ALA FAQ for Families August 2024_CHT.pdf • **Handout 6** - Handout 6 - ALA FAQ for Families August 2024_VI.pdf • **Handout 6** - Handout 6- ALA FAQ for Families 2024_English.pdf	• Handout 6 - Hanout 6 - ALA FAQ_Updated August 2024 English • **Handout 6 -** Handout 6 - ALA FAQ for Families August 2024_AR • **Handout 6 -** Handout 6 - ALA FAQ for Families August 2024_CHT • **Handout 6 -** Handout 6 - ALA FAQ Updated August 2024_VI • **Handout 6 -** Handout 6 - ALA FAQ for Families August 2024_Spanish
Slide 22	**Introduced in Slide 10 • **Handout 4** - Handout 4 -Parent Resources Handout_English_Spanish.pdf	**Introduced in Slide 10 • **Handout 4** - Handout 4 - Parent Resources Handout_English_Spanish
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Slide 25	No handouts needed	No handouts needed