

A Comprehensive, B-3rd Grade State Strategy for Improving Language and Literacy Outcomes

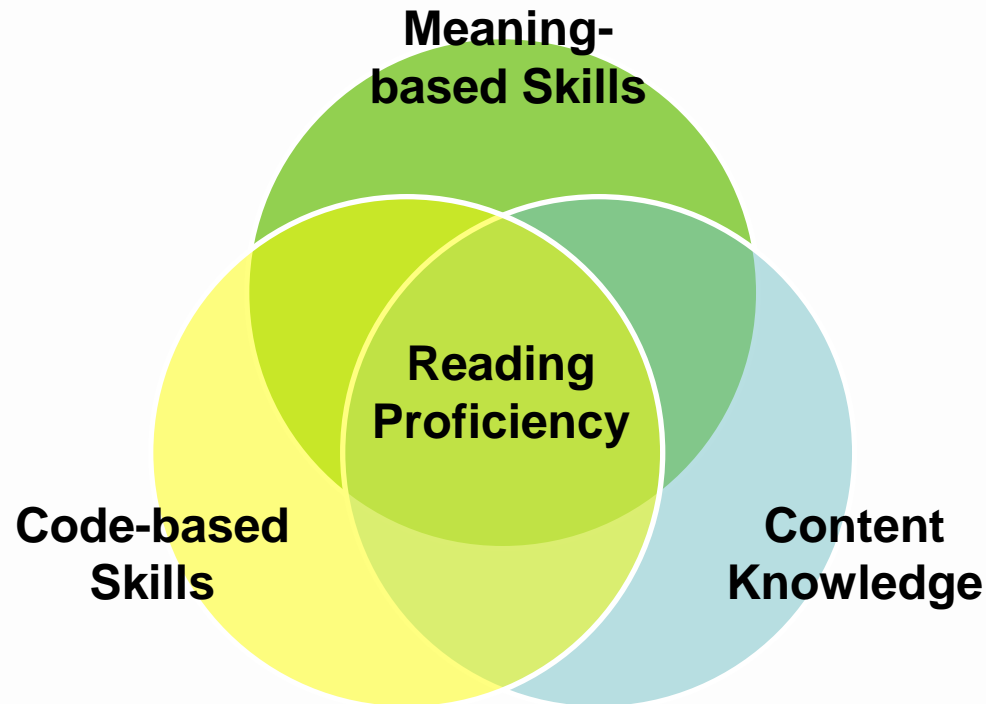
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NCSL Early Learning Fellows



Research Consensus 1:

Reading Proficiency Requires a Comprehensive Approach



Research Consensus 2:

Language and Literacy Development Begins at Birth

Research Consensus 3:

Parents, Caregivers, Educators Have the Most Influence

6 Actions for a Comprehensive Strategy

1. Ensure language and literacy standards, curricula, assessments reflect a comprehensive approach
2. Increase access to high-quality ECE
3. Build capacity of early childhood and early elementary educators with the skills and knowledge to support language and literacy development
4. Engage and support parents as partners in language and literacy development

6 Actions for a Comprehensive Strategy (Cont.)

5. Strengthen continuous improvement and accountability mechanisms to ensure that policies have intended impacts
6. Cultivate buy-in and leadership from diverse stakeholders to bridge early learning and K-12 systems

Opportunities for State Policymakers

- Develop a B-3rd/PreK-3rd strategy
- Beef up early learning opportunities
 - Access to pre-k and full-day kindergarten
 - Quality standards – monitoring and support
 - Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
- Focus on educators' knowledge *and* practice
 - Strengthen teacher & principal preparation
 - Make professional development count
- Build state & district capacity