

## EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY

The early childhood period is defined as birth to age eight.

Studies show that children who attend high-quality early childcare programs (rated 3 stars on a scale of 1 to 3) are more prepared for kindergarten with the highest risk children showing the greatest educational gains.

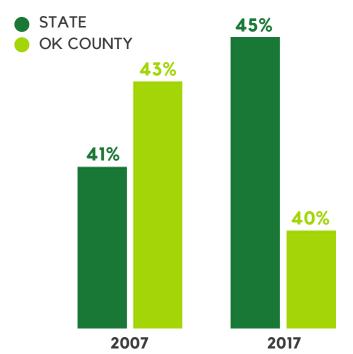
To improve literacy rates among these children:

- Support and equip primary caregivers as children's first and best teachers
- Fund early identification of reading issues and intervention
- Implement and support parent education
- Fund parent-child learning activities

Students are expected to <u>learn to read</u> in grades K to 3 and then <u>read</u> to <u>learn</u> in grade 4. Students who struggle with reading after 3rd grade often fall behind and are at risk for behavioral issues and negative attitudes toward school.

A mother's literacy level is one of the most significant predictors of a child's future academic success – more significant than neighborhood and family income.

## PERCENT OF 3- AND 4-YEAR-OLDS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC PRESCHOOL<sup>5</sup>



## PERCENT OF K-3RD GRADERS RECEIVING READING REMEDIATION - 2017<sup>6</sup>

