



The early years are so defining that by the time a child turns eight, their third grade outcomes can predict future academic achievement and career success.

Early child development investments produce results. Decades of research has identified programs proven to work for young children.



#### HIGHER READING & MATH SCORES

A 2017 Duke University study found that NC Pre-K raised children's math and reading test scores and reduced special education placement



#### BETTER HEALTH

A study of children who participated in the Carolina Abecedarian early learning program found participants experienced fewer illnesses as adults, made healthier lifestyle choices, had lower rates of high blood pressure and had significantly lower risk of heart disease than the control group that did not participate.



#### HIGHER SALARIES

At-risk children who participated in a high quality early childhood program were more likely to be employed and earned 33% higher average salaries.



#### HIGHER GRADUATION RATES

High quality early childhood programs increase graduation rates by as much as 44%.



#### 7-13% RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Every dollar invested in early childhood education produces a 7-13% annual return.



#### GREATER SELF-SUFFICIENCY

Voluntary home visiting programs reduce health care costs, improve school readiness and success, reduce need for remedial education and increase family self-sufficiency. Participants in high quality early childhood programs pay more taxes and are less likely to rely on government assistance.



#### LESS CRIME

At-risk children who participated in a high quality early childhood program were significantly less likely to be arrested for a violent crime by age 18.



The First 2,000 Days is an initiative of the North Carolina Early Childhood Foundation. References for all statistics are available online at [www.buildthefoundation.org/initiative/first2000days](http://www.buildthefoundation.org/initiative/first2000days)