

# BREAK THE CYCLE

LITERACY CAN CHANGE THE FUTURE



Literacy is using printed and written information to function in society, to achieve one's goals, and to develop one's knowledge and potential.

- The National Assessment of Adult Literacy

## LITERACY STATISTICS

16%

OF ALL STUDENTS DO NOT RECEIVE A DIPLOMA BY AGE 19

Bureau of Labor Statistics' National Longitudinal Study of Youth

A STUDENT WHO CAN'T READ ON GRADE LEVEL BY 3RD GRADE IS

4X'S

LESS LIKELY TO GRADUATE BY AGE 19 THAN A CHILD WHO READS PROFICIENTLY IN 3RD GRADE

American Educational Research Association

A STUDENT WHO CAN'T READ ON GRADE LEVEL BY 3RD GRADE AND LIVES IN POVERTY IS

13X'S

LESS LIKELY TO GRADUATE BY AGE 19 THAN A WEALTHIER CHILD WHO READS ON GRADE LEVEL

American Educational Research Association

33%

OF AMERICAN 4TH GRADERS SCORE BELOW THE BASIC COMPETENCY LEVEL

2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress

67%

OF AMERICAN 4TH GRADERS CAN'T READ AT THE 4TH-GRADE PROFICIENCY LEVEL

2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress

STUDENTS WHO STRUGGLE WITH READING THE FIRST FEW YEARS OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMPRISE

88%

OF THOSE WHO DO NOT RECEIVE A DIPLOMA BY AGE 19

Bureau of Labor Statistics' National Longitudinal Study of Youth



The link between academic failure and delinquency, violence, and crime is **WELDED** to reading failure.

- Department of Justice



## CORRELATION TO CRIME & POVERTY

90%

OF WELFARE RECIPIENTS ARE HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

National Assessment of Adult Literacy

3 OUT OF 4

FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS PERFORM IN THE LOWEST LITERACY LEVELS

National Assessment of Adult Literacy

43%

OF THOSE WITH THE LOWEST LITERACY SKILLS LIVE IN POVERTY

National Center for Educational Statistics

2/3

OF STUDENTS WHO CAN'T READ PROFICIENTLY BY THE END OF 4TH GRADE WILL END UP IN JAIL OR ON WELFARE

One World Literacy Foundation

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INMATES IN 2007 IN FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LOCKUPS WAS

2,419,241

U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics

1 IN 100

U.S. ADULTS 16+ IS IN PRISON OR JAIL IN AMERICA

National Assessment of Adult Literacy

50%

OF AMERICA'S INMATES READ AT OR BELOW A 4TH-GRADE READING LEVEL

U.S. Department of Education

THE AVERAGE INMATE COSTS TAXPAYERS

\$25,000

PER YEAR—DOUBLE FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Penal Institution Records

85%

OF ALL JUVENILE OFFENDERS HAVE READING PROBLEMS

U.S. Department of Education

WHEN INMATES PARTICIPATE IN CORRECTIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS, RECIDIVISM RATES DROP BY

29%

Education Reduces Crime, Three-State Recidivism Study, February 2003



THE AVERAGE STUDENT GAINS  
2-3  
GRADE LEVELS IN READING AFTER  
40-60  
HOURS OF INSTRUCTION  
WITH READING HORIZONS



ReadingHorizons®  
The Foundation for Reading English

At first we used Reading Horizons as a tack on to another program, but we all started getting such good results that it became a staple for all of our correctional programs. It really helps with a whole host of writing, spelling, and reading problems—for both lower-level and higher-level students.

Frances Tracy-Mumford  
Maryland Academic Coordinator  
of Correctional Education