

ELEVATE EARLY EDUCATION

Together, we can close the opportunity gap.

CLOSING THE OPPORTUNITY GAP

EARLY LEARNING TO THIRD GRADE

WHO WE ARE

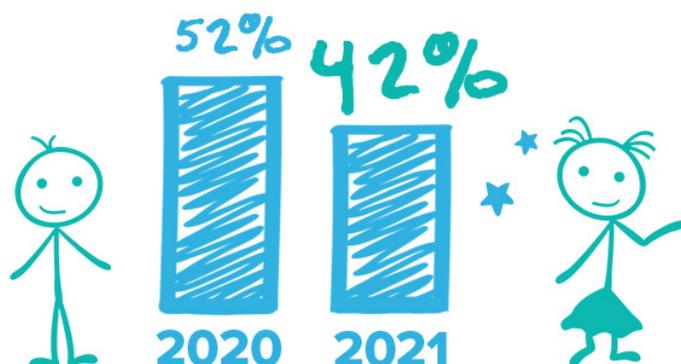
E3: Elevate Early Education is a nonpartisan issue-advocacy organization that advocates for policy initiatives and state funds to be invested in early learning through third grade. Our work focuses on improving equitable access to high quality for all children to build a strong foundation for later learning.

THE RESEARCH

- **90% of a child's brain is developed before the age of five.** Early brain development has a lasting impact on a child's ability to learn and succeed.
- **The "soft skills"** (attention, building relationships with teachers and peers, collaboration, critical thinking, cooperation, empathy, focus and persistence) set the stage for learning and life.
- **Children through third grade** are learning to read; after third grade they are reading to learn.
- **Parents** are a child's most important teacher.
- **Investing in quality early learning** through third grade benefits ALL children, families, communities and society.

THE PROBLEM

- **42% of Virginia's children are not ready** for kindergarten in literacy, math, social skills and self-regulation (VKRP, Fall 2021).
- **The gaps are widening** for Black, Hispanic, economically-disadvantaged, English learners and students with disabilities (PALS, Fall 2021).
- **The reading and math gaps** are widening (VKRP, Fall 2021).
- **More children in K-2** are at high risk for reading difficulties. This will impact third grade reading for years to come (PALS, Fall 2021).
- **Third graders** not reading on grade level are more likely to drop out of school (National Conference of State Legislators, 2019).



OUR INVESTMENT IS PAYING OFF

In 2020, 52% of our children weren't ready for kindergarten. Today, it is 42% not ready. Too many of Virginia's children are falling behind. Education from early learning on up **MUST** be a top priority.



THE SOLUTION

- **Make equitable access** to quality a top priority for all children.
- **Improve quality in the classroom** along the early learning continuum (preschool to 3rd grade).
- **Invest** in children, teachers and classrooms.
- **Equip and empower** teachers and families with tools to help children succeed.
- **Measure impact** from early learning through third grade.
- **Build strong** accountability and continuous improvement models.
- **Support** parents and families.



THE BATTEN-MINOR CHALLENGE

THE \$1: \$1 CHALLENGE

With your help, we can change the fact that too many children are entering kindergarten not ready. Now more than ever, our children and families need our help. Together, we can solve this problem and continue to secure big wins for our kids.

Our work is privately funded. Your gift will match the Jane Batten and Gil & Charlotte Minor Challenge to help us impact thousands of children across Virginia.

ACCESS.

Improve access to quality for **ALL** children.

EQUITY.

Work to improve equitable access.

QUALITY

Improve quality for **ALL** children.

IMPACT.

Our children are ready to succeed academically and socially.

ACT NOW!

- ✓ Sign up and advocate at vaearlyed.org
- ✓ Follow us on: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn & Twitter
- ✓ Give to our awareness and advocacy campaigns at e3va.org