



## Early Childhood Education:

Laying the Groundwork for  
a More Successful Ohio.



BRAINS ARE BUILT BY  
EARLY EXPERIENCES.

**90%** of **DEVELOPMENT**  
happens from birth to 5 years old.

We have a critical period  
of time to position all  
Ohio children for success.



NOT ALL CHILDREN HAVE  
THE SAME EARLY EXPERIENCES.

**BY AGE 3**, low-income  
learners have  
**HALF** the **VOCABULARY**  
as their high-income peers.

Kids who start behind  
often stay behind.



EARLY INVESTMENTS PAY OFF.

ROI for every 1 public dollar  
invested in early childhood  
programs:

**\$4.10 to \$9.20**  
through age 21 through age 40

High-quality early childhood  
education is the smart  
investment for all Ohioans.



YET WE SPEND OUR EDUCATION  
DOLLARS TOO LATE FOR TOO MANY.

**90-95%** are  
used  
on programs for kids  
older than age 5.

Early investments are  
the proven strategy.

**WE CAN'T  
AFFORD TO WAIT.**

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172 E. State Street, Suite 400 • Columbus, Ohio 43215  
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# SOURCES



*Data is collected from:*

- Starting Early, Starting Now, Education Commission of the States, 2001.
- [www.FFYF.org](http://www.FFYF.org)
- [www.DevelopingChild.Harvard.edu](http://www.DevelopingChild.Harvard.edu)
- [www.HeckmanEquation.org](http://www.HeckmanEquation.org)
- Shonkoff, J. & Phillips, D. (Eds.). (2000). From Neurons to Neighborhoods: The Science of Early Childhood Development. Committee on Integrating the Science of Early Childhood Development, National Research Council and Institute of Medicine. Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

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