

A Comprehensive, B-3rd Grade State Strategy for Improving Reading Proficiency

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Policy Forum on Raising 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency

Minnesota Department of Education

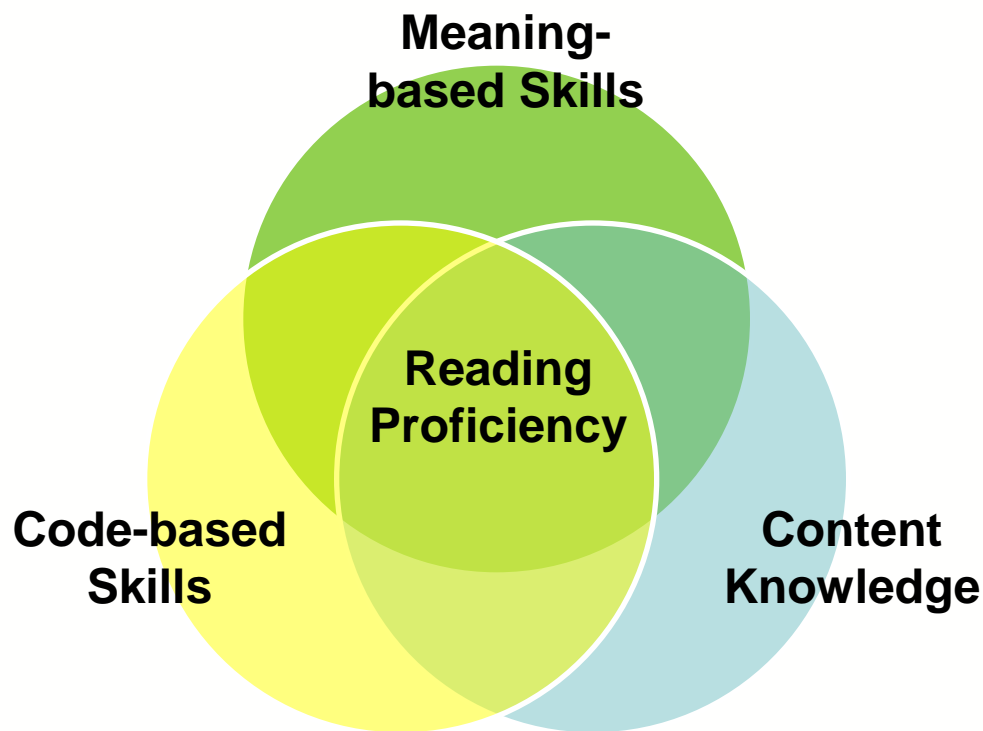
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The logo for the National Governors' Association features a stylized, golden-yellow graphic of a star or a compass rose on the left, with a long, thin, golden-yellow line extending from its center towards the right. The text "NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION" is positioned to the right of the graphic, with "NATIONAL" and "ASSOCIATION" in a smaller, blue, serif font, and "GOVERNORS" in a larger, blue, serif font.

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Research Consensus 1:

Reading Proficiency Requires a Comprehensive Approach...



- *More attention paid to code-based skills.*

Research Consensus 2:

Language and Literacy Development Begins at Birth...

- *Policies mostly focus on K-3*
- *Limited access to early learning opportunities*

Research Consensus 3:

Parents, Caregivers, Educators Have the Most Influence

- *These adults lack supports to provide high-quality interactions or instruction.*

5 Policy Actions for a Comprehensive Strategy

1. Adopt comprehensive language and literacy standards to inform curricula and assessments.
2. Expand access to high-quality early care and education.
3. Engage and support parents as partners in early language and literacy development.
4. Equip B-3rd educators with the necessary skills and knowledge for improving reading proficiency.
5. Develop mechanisms to promote continuous improvement and accountability.

Opportunities for State Leaders

- Develop a B-3rd strategy and use the “bully pulpit”
- Cultivate cross-agency leadership
- Beef up early learning opportunities
 - Child care quality
 - Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
 - Access to pre-k and full-day kindergarten
 - Quality standards – monitoring and support
- Focus on educators’ knowledge *and* practice
 - Professional standards and expectations
 - Strengthen teacher & principal preparation
 - Make professional development count
- Build state & district capacity for implementation

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