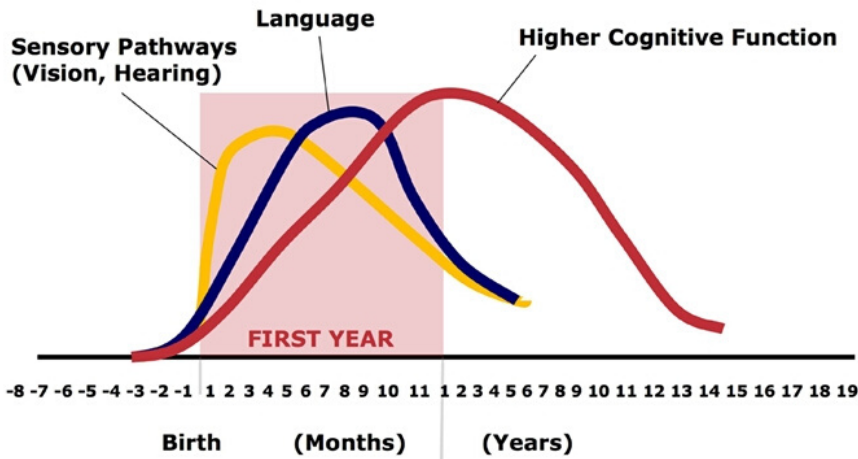


2019 IMPACT REPORT

WHY EARLY LITERACY MATTERS:



Arkansas



Cognitive processes develop rapidly in the first few years of life. At birth a baby's brain is only 25% of its adult size. In the first few years of life, a child's brain builds **1 Million** connections per second! By age three a child's brain will be 85% of its adult size. By the time a child enters kindergarten, their brain is nearly fully formed. (1)



85% of a person's intellect, personality, and social skills are developed by age 5.

95% of public investment in education occurs after age 5, when the most critical learning years have passed. (2)



Children in middle- and high-income homes have an average of 13 books per child.

Children living in poverty have an average of **1 book per 300 children.** (3)



Because of this, preschoolers from low-income families have fewer language and literacy opportunities than children from economically advantaged backgrounds - **a major reason why they lag behind** in reading achievement throughout the school years. (4)

Children growing up in homes with at least

20 Books

GET THREE YEARS MORE SCHOOLING

than children from bookless homes, independent of their parents' education, occupation, and class. (5)

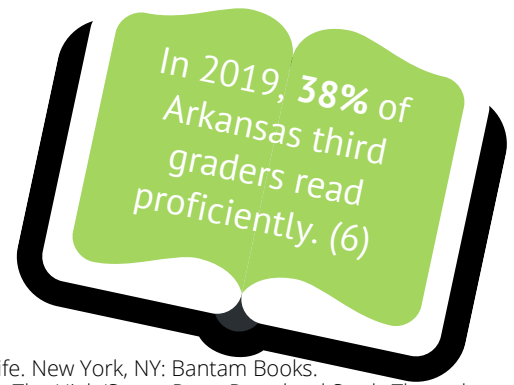


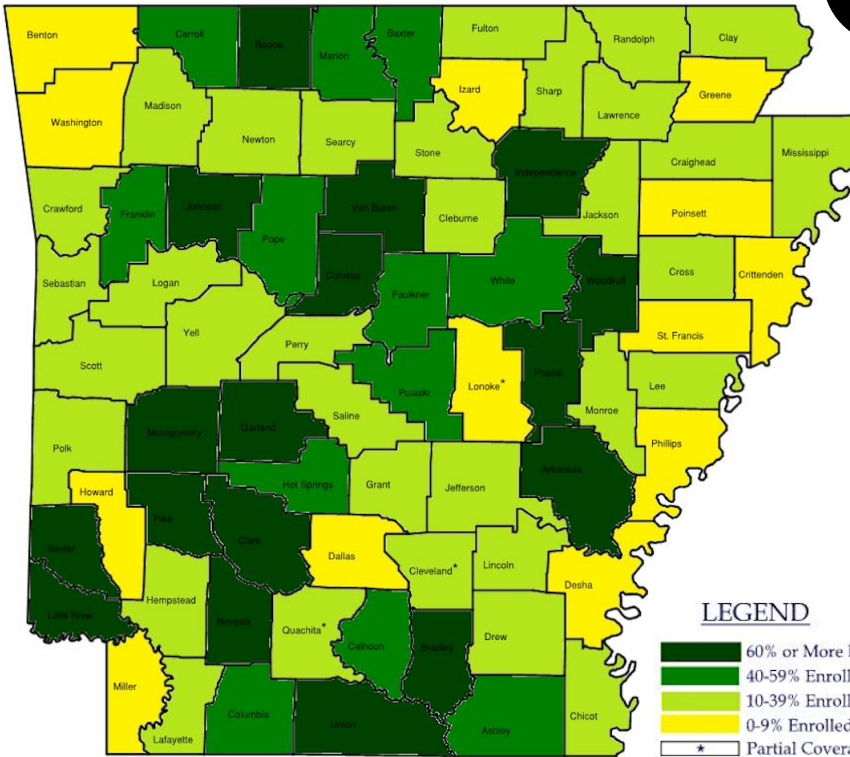
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2019 IMPACT REPORT

HOW ARIL IS HELPING:

427,327 Books
were mailed to Arkansas
children in the last 12
months.



1.7 Million

books and counting
have been delivered
since 2005.

More than
38,000

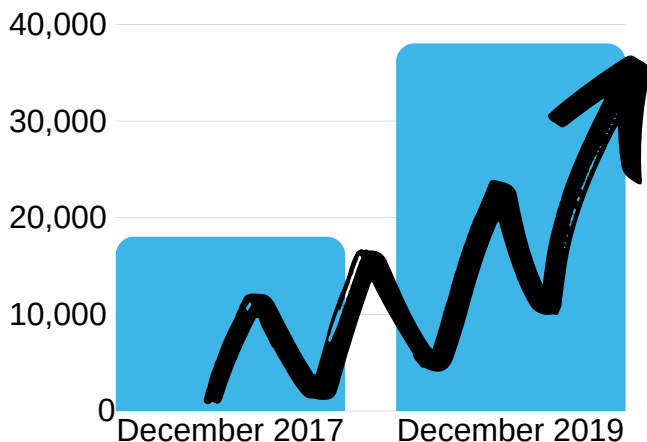
five-year-olds have
graduated from the
Imagination Library.

More than
39,000

Arkansas children age
0 to 5 are currently
receiving books.

20.5%

of Arkansas' 190,343
preschoolers are
enrolled in the
Imagination Library.



87%

The number of books mailed monthly
grew 87.3% in just two years, since ARIL
began operations.