Literacy for All Students

Our Students. Our City. Our Future.

Literacy for All Students is a citywide effort to make sure every child in Kansas City can read by third grade. We focus on kindergarten through third grade, when children build the foundation for all future learning. By bringing proven supports into classrooms, we give teachers the tools they need and students the practice they deserve so every child has the chance to succeed.

Right now, only **26% of Kansas City's 3rd graders read on grade level**. That number shows how urgent the challenge is and why this work matters for every child, every family, and every neighborhood in our city. Literacy for All Students is here to change that story.

Why It Matters

When children read well by third grade, they are more likely to:

- Do well in school and graduate on time
- Feel confident and curious
- Have more choices for their future

How It Works

High-Impact Tutoring

Every K-3 student gets 20 minutes of extra reading help, three times each week. Tutoring happens both in-person & online.

Classroom Support

Literacy coaches partner with teachers inside the classroom, helping them use the best resources & ideas so every child can learn to read.

Whole-School Support

Principals & school leaders receive training & support, ensuring the entire school is focused on reading success.

Community Partnership

SchoolSmartKC connects schools with literacy organizations and researchers to monitor progress and improve results across the city.

SCHOOLSMARTKC

Co-Designed with KCPES Parent Leaders

A Day in the Life of a 1st Grader in Literacy for All Students

Meet Jordan, a 1st grader at a Literacy for All Students school.

Supported Teacher

Jordan's teacher works hand-in-hand with a literacy coach who helps plan lessons, model new reading strategies, and provide extra tools to support every child in the classroom.

Personalized Tutoring

Three times a week, Jordan receives 20 minutes of targeted reading practice from either a trained tutor or an online resource. This high-quality tutoring helps Jordan build confidence, catch up quickly, and get excited about books.

Stronger School Leadership

Behind the scenes, Jordan's principal and school leaders receive additional training and tools. This support makes literacy the focus of the whole school, not just one classroom.

With stronger teaching, leadership support, and consistent tutoring, Jordan is on track to read at grade level, opening the door to a smoother path through school, greater confidence, and more opportunities ahead. This same approach is making a difference for children across all kindergarten through third-grade classrooms in Literacy for All Students schools.

Every Child Deserves This

Right now, Literacy for All Students supports **3,200 of 8,800 K–3 students** in Kansas City at **14 of 39 schools**. Your child's school is currently participating in LFAS. Our goal is for **every child** to have this support.

How Families Can Get Involved

Literacy for All Students works best when schools and families work together. Parents are partners in this effort, and your voice matters.

- Learn more at **schoolsmartkc.org/literacy**
- Ask your child's teacher how tutoring is helping your student grow
- Talk with your school's principal about how Literacy for All Students is building a focus on reading across the whole school

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