



Innovation in the Early Years: Why Childhood Investments Make Sense



“Do all kids in
America today
have a fair shot?
I’m afraid the
answer is no”



50%

of all children entering
kindergarten in the U.S. today live
in low-income households


12 million children



50%

of all low-income children aren't
fully ready for kindergarten when
they enter school

6 million children




**In a given year,
25% of all children,
6 million children,
come from poor families,
and will arrive in their first
classroom,
simply unprepared for their
K-12 education.**



Research shows that in the first three years of a child's life, 700 new connections between cells in the brain are formed each second and

90%

of a child's brain development happens by age 5



**An ounce of
prevention is
worth a pound
of cure.**



Children who enter school **kindergarten ready** have an

82%

chance of mastering basic skills by age 11

Children who enter school **unprepared** only have a

45%

chance of mastering basic skills by age 11



Low-income children who are not exposed to nourishing experiences in their earliest years are

25%

more likely to drop out of school

40%


more likely to become teen parents

60%

less likely to attend college

70%

more likely to be arrested



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