

Kids living in poverty start school so far behind. *And it's hard to catch up.*

By age three, low-income children have heard over **30 million fewer words** than their middle-class peers **because they've never owned a book.**



High school dropouts are **unqualified for 95% of available jobs**, thus much more likely to be dependent on government/social programs.

Meet Angel
2nd grader
not yet
reading at
grade level



I hate reading.

I'm behind — and
always will be.

I'm embarrassed.

Children who do not read proficiently by the end of third grade are **four times more likely** to drop out of high school.



WITHOUT
BOOK TRUST

3rd Grade 4th Grade

WITH
BOOK TRUST

Let's choose
some great books
together.

What animals
do you like?

I LOVE sharks!

These are ours
to keep?

Your books
have arrived!



Did you
know...?

Wow!

Hmmm. Maybe I'll like
this one too. It's another
killer animal!

Choice Interest-based, guided book selection drives reading enthusiasm • Choice and interest grows with practice
Consistency New books every month • Building the healthy habits of great readers and learners daily
Celebration Kids understand that they are readers - and love to read!

Today's the day!
Your new books
are here!

YES! My favorite
day of the month!

I feel like I can
learn ANYTHING if I
find the right book.

This science class
is tough, but I
really like it!

I can't believe
I used to hate
reading!

You bet! Let's
read all the books you
got this month.

Mom, can I
read to you?



Academic success!

Angel successfully transitions from "learning to read" to "reading to learn."

"His level of engagement and comprehension has led me to reflect on what I thought I knew as a reading teacher."

- Erika Guerrero