

City's First Readers

Impact Study 2021-2023

City's First Readers (CFR) surrounds families with free early education programs to build a strong literacy foundation for children from birth through five.

RESEARCH SHOWS...



Birth to age five is a critical time for developing early literacy skills... and **parents play a crucial role.**



Children from low-income backgrounds are **exposed to less language** compared with peers from higher income backgrounds.



Children who frequently experience reading literacy activities at home go on to **become better readers and better students.**

Measuring the Impact: CFR's StimQ Evaluation

KEY RESEARCH QUESTION:

Do families in CFR programs engage more in literacy activities with their children?

8 CFR partners participated in a 2 year¹ study using the StimQ², a proven tool for evaluating the quality and frequency of parent-child interactions

1. 2021 - 2023

2. Alan L. Mendelsohn, Carolyn B. Cates, Matthew Jonson, Adriana Weisleder, and Bernard Dreyer, NYU School of Medicine 2016.

StimQ Inquiry Findings

AFTER PARTICIPATING IN CFR PROGRAMS, RESEARCHERS IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS

1. Parents are reading more books to their children and reading more often with their children
2. Parents are creating regular reading routines at home
3. Parents are using best practices to teach language and literacy skills when reading with their children, like:
 - Pointing to pictures
 - Asking questions
 - Talking about characters and feelings while reading
4. Parents are promoting their child's cognitive development at home, by:
 - Teaching letters and sounds
 - Teaching numbers and counting
 - Teaching colors, shapes and sizes
 - Playing and pretending
 - Singing songs
5. Parents are talking with their children about the world around them:
 - Pointing to things around the house
 - Talking and describing household chores as they do them
 - Asking about objects they see in the grocery store
6. Parents are using more learning materials at home to promote their child's development:
 - Toy letters
 - Toy numbers
 - Matching games



THE StimQ INQUIRY DEMONSTRATES THAT Families who participate in CFR programs talk, read, play, and sing more often with their children.