

Situation

- 65% of children enter Kindergarten with inadequate literacy skills (Nelson et al., 2011).
- More than 50% of US and 70% of AZ 4th graders do not meet NAEP reading standards (US Department of Education, 2015).
- Low-income children are less likely to have adequate literacy skills & vocabulary development than their higher income peers (US Department of Education, 2015).
- Early literacy skills and vocabulary development are predictive of later reading ability, GPA, & graduation.
- Low-income preschoolers do not consume recommended amounts of fruits and vegetables (Ramsay, Eskelsen, & Branen, 2014).
- Fruit and vegetable consumption linked to diet
 Ex quality and overall health (Boeing, et al., 2012).





Program Development for Seed to Read: An Early Literacy & Healthy Eating Program for Preschoolers Katherine E. Speirs and Hope Wilson kspeirs@email.Arizona.edu, hopewilson@cals.Arizona.edu

Logic Model

Inputs	Activities	Participa
Established relationship between UACE & Head Start and early care and education (ECE) centers that serve low-income children Content knowledge, expertise & financial resources to	 Activities UACE provides curriculum, materials, & training to Head Start teachers and ECE providers. Teachers & providers implement Seed to Read in their classrooms with 3-5 year old children. Early literacy skills and fruit and vegetable consumption are promoted through shared book reading and extension activities (e.g. taste tests, gardening, crafts). 	 Participa Head Star teachers & providers low-incom 5 year old children Low-incom 5-year-old children
produce curriculum materials Research team to conduct program evaluation Extension staff to implement program		

Program Development Timeline

el			
ants	Outcomes		
	Short Term	Medi	
rt & ECE for ne 3- d me 3- ld	 <u>Teachers & ECE Providers</u> Increased knowledge of importance of shared book reading and fruit and vegetable consumption Increased knowledge of effective shared book reading strategies Increased knowledge of how to promote fruit and vegetable consumption 	reading t	
	 <u>Children</u> Engaged participation during book reading Increased exposure to variety of vocabulary words related to fruits and vegetables Increased awareness of a variety of fruits and vegetables. 	 Improve expressive vegetable knowledg preference try, and expressive 	

ium Term

& ECE Providers ent Seed to Read ribed in Im effective shared techniques e fruit and le consumption out the day

Children

ed receptive and ive vocabulary ed fruit and le exposure, ge, nce/willingness to consumption

Longer Term

Children

- Better prepared for Kindergarten
- More likely to read at grade level in elementary school
- Better diet, eating habits, and overall health
- Better educated and healthier workforce