

# Nemours Children's Reading BrightStart!

The Complete Program  
For Early Literacy Success



# What percent of your health is determined by nonmedical factors?

- a. 30%
- b. 50%
- c. 70%
- d. 85%

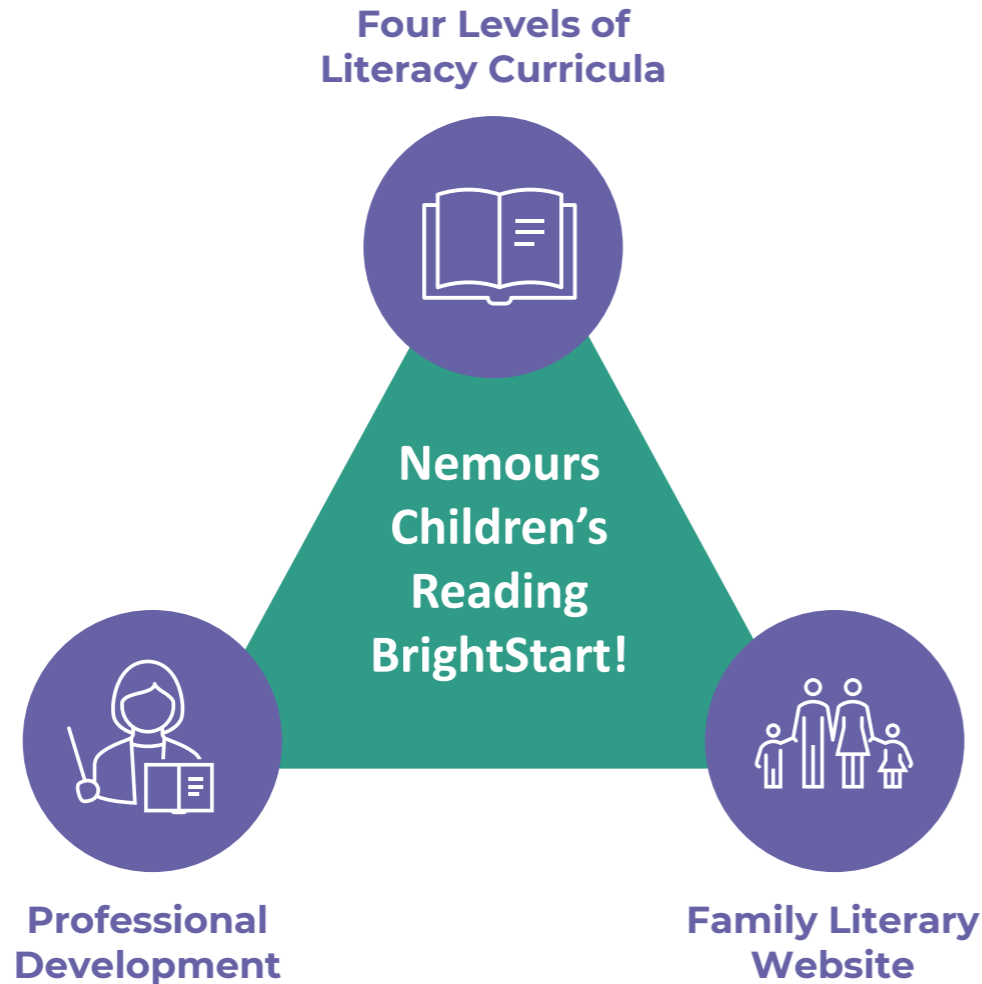




## Did you know?

- ✓ Literacy rates in our country continue to decline.
- ✓ Only 32 percent of our nation's 4<sup>th</sup> graders scored at a proficient level in reading on the National Assessment of Educational Progress
- ✓ When children are behind in first grade, they have only a 10 percent chance of catching up by 4<sup>th</sup> grade.
- ✓ Reading BrightStart! can help to support children's literacy development from birth

# Our Approach to Bridging the Gap



## We offer:

- ✓ **Four levels of literacy curricula:**
  - Infant
  - Toddler
  - Level One (Preschool)
  - Level Two (K - 1<sup>st</sup> grade)
- ✓ **Professional development** for educators to support curriculum implementation
- ✓ **A family literacy website** for parents and caregivers

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## Four Levels of Literacy Curricula

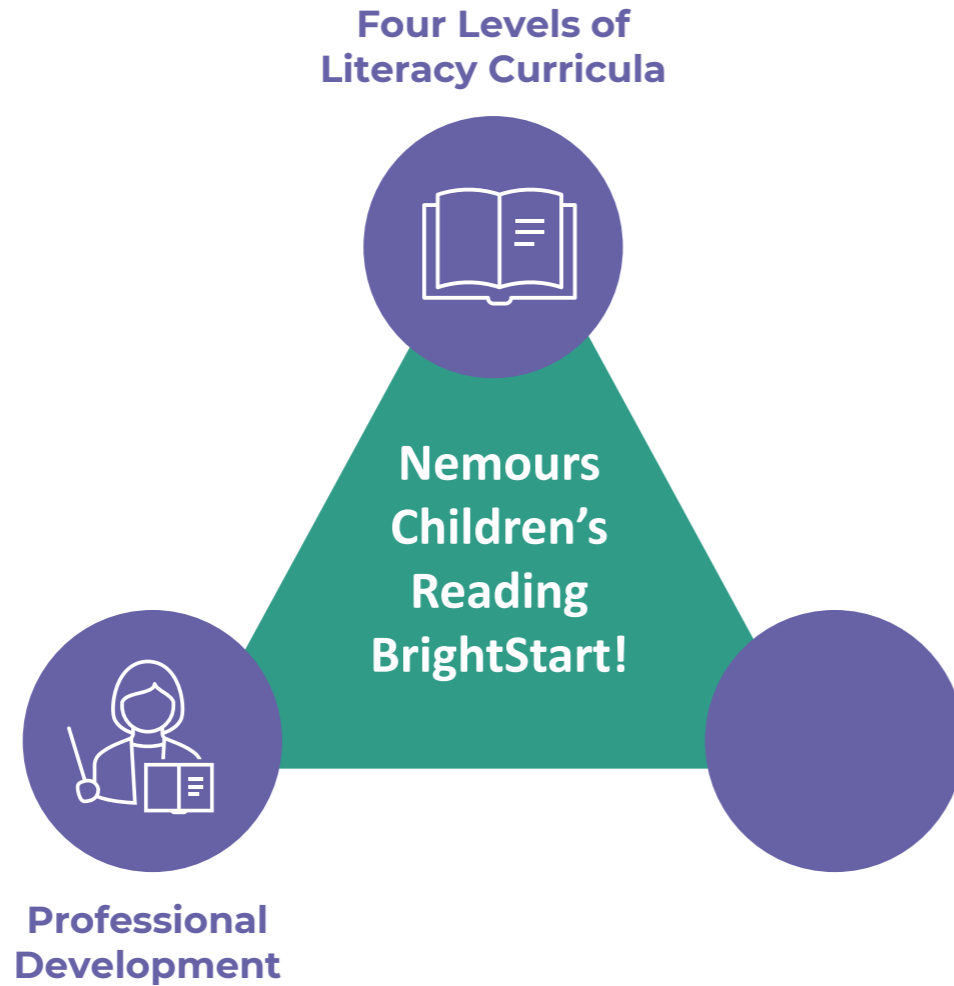


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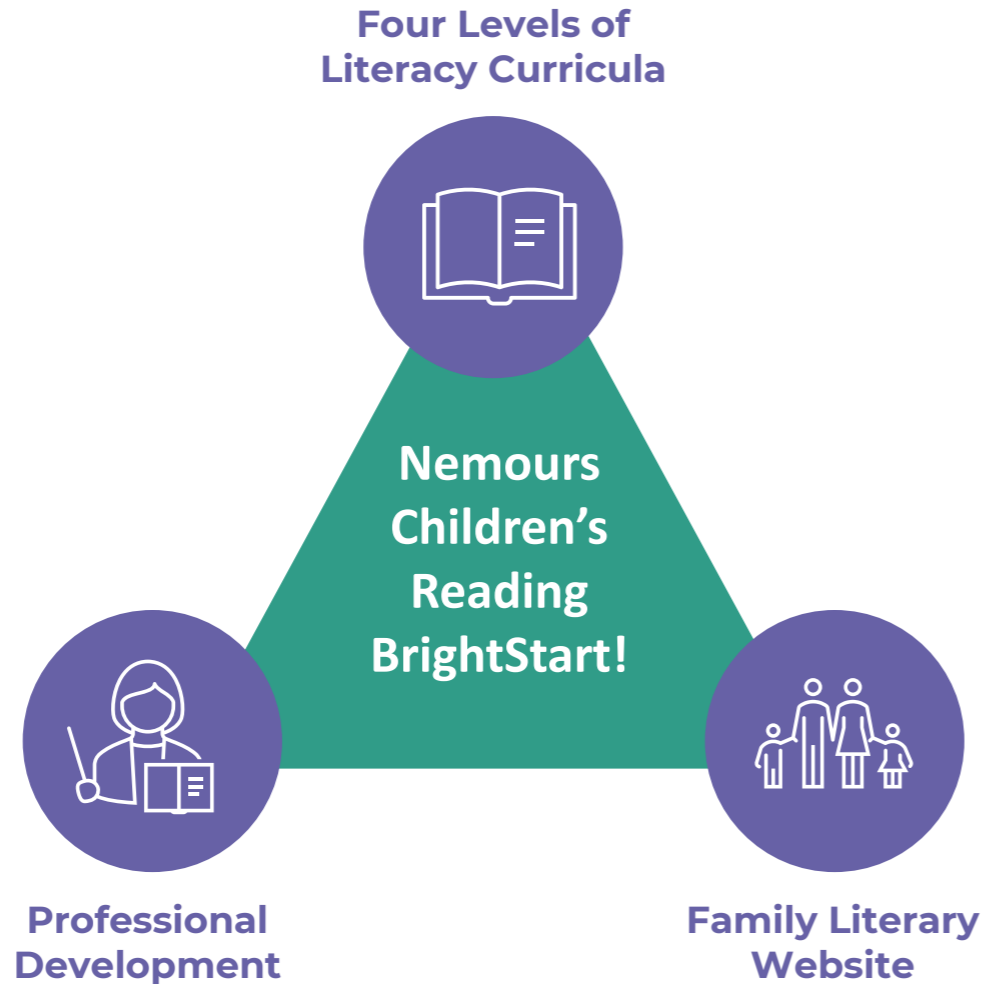
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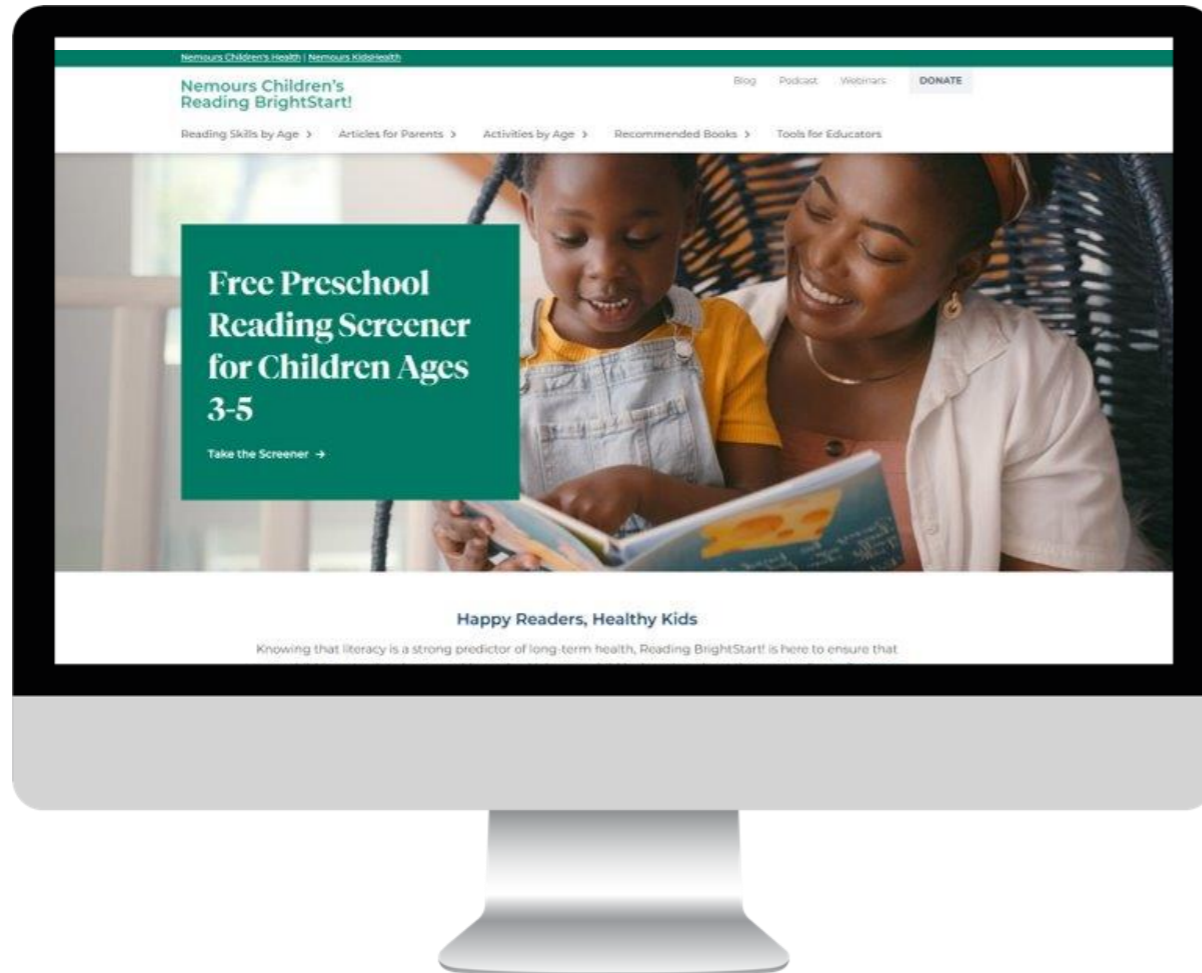
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# Family Literacy Website



Free Preschool Reading Screener



Articles for Parents



At-Home Activities



Book Recommendations

# Background

- 10 years of developing unique and highly effective instructional curricula
- Shift in focus to a younger age group
- 2017 - Infant and Toddler product in pilot phase.
  - Early Head Start Classrooms and Home Visiting
  - Private Childcare (3 counties of Florida)
  - Family Childcare Homes
- 2020 - Placed on the Florida OEL approved Curriculum list

# The Complete Program for Early Literacy Success: Infant and Toddler

- ✓ Designed to enhance the skills of early childhood caregivers to support the growth of pre literacy skill for **ALL infants and toddlers**
- ✓ Uses a combination of unique experiences, books and sensory items to teach critical language and literacy skills
- ✓ Incorporates research on brain development knowledge to lay the foundation for literacy and lifelong health



Lakeshore®



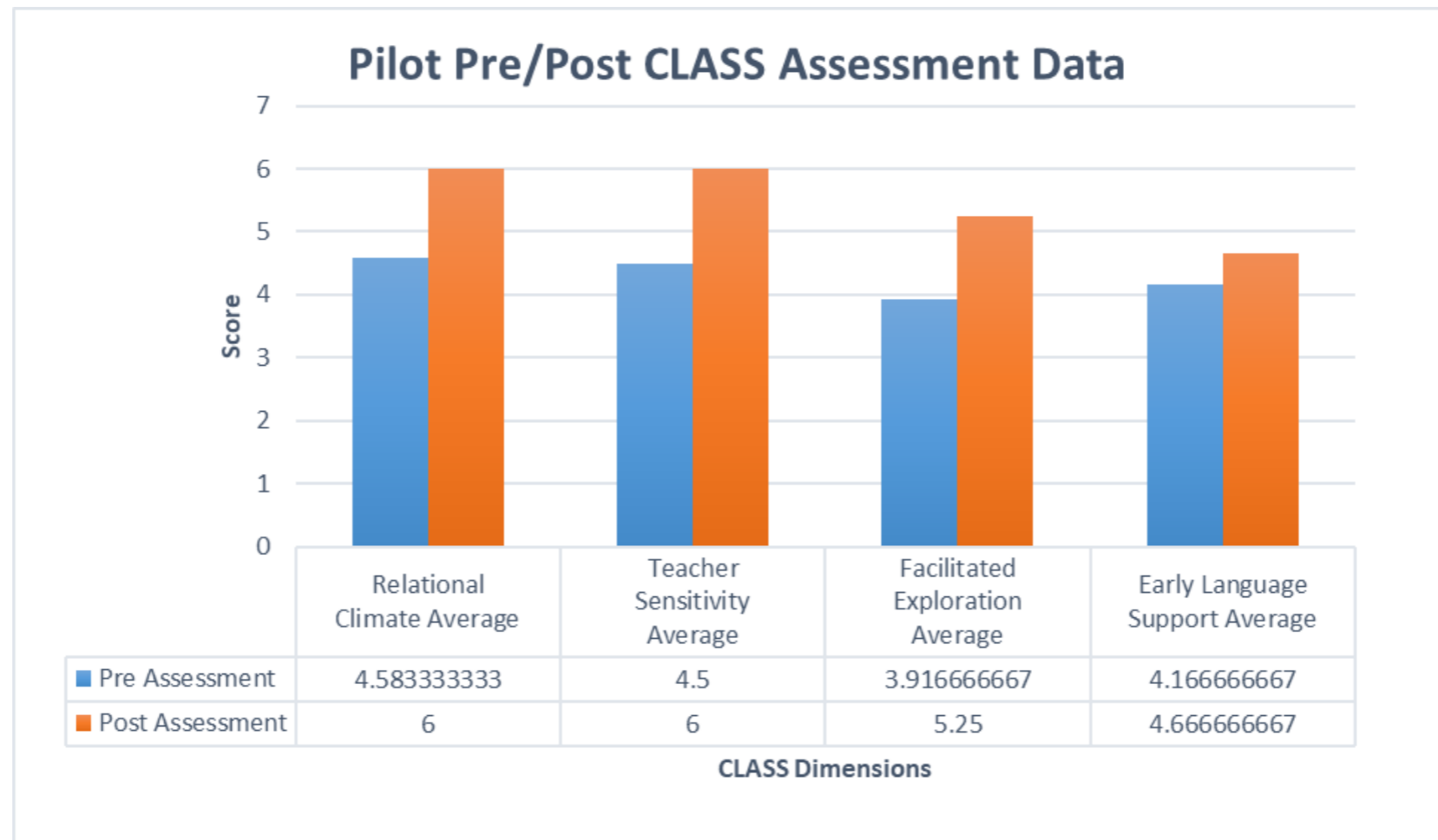


## Goals of Curriculum

- ✓ Laying the foundation for language, literacy, and lifelong health through high-quality, engaging learning activities
- ✓ Empowering caregivers to improve the quality of interactions and build knowledge for each child in their care
- ✓ Encouraging caregivers to connect families with the concepts, vocabulary, and experiences their children encounter in the classroom

# Pilot Outcomes

Providers from the pilot showed significant gains in Pre/Post Infant CLASS assessment data



# Educator Preparation and Supports

## What implementation looks like...

- ✓ Implementation Training (1-Day)
- ✓ Materials Provided
- ✓ Coaching Support and On-going Feedback

## Coaching Model

- ✓ Coach conducts bi-weekly classroom observations
- ✓ Following observations coach provides feedback during debrief sessions with each teacher.
- ✓ Fidelity Implementation Record and Coaching Forms used to document adherence to lesson components and structure..

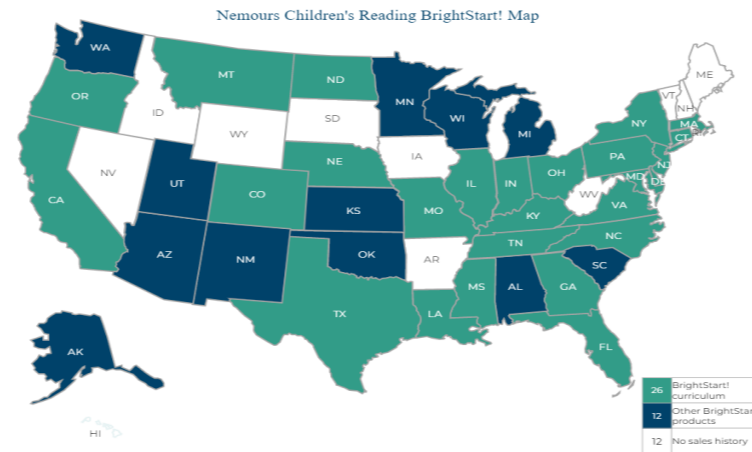
# Our Reach and Impact



**5,500+**

**Early Childhood Educators Trained**

in curriculum implementation and early childhood professional development courses.



**38**

**States in the USA**

and 61 of 67 Florida Counties using Reading BrightStart! curriculum and resources.



**300,500+**

**Children Served**

with Reading BrightStart! tools and services.

Updated: October 2025

# Our Research

Years of rigorous research show significant boosts in early literacy skills in at-risk young children. In successive studies involving about **3,300 preschoolers** who were behind in their early literacy skills:

## What does the research tell us?

- ✓ Nearly **2/3 moved** to the age-appropriate range
- ✓ **Average gain of 114%** after receiving NCRBS! Level One lessons
- ✓ **Fidelity, dosage, and administrative support** are key

### Essential Research Articles

Bailet, L, Repper, K, Piasta, S, & Murphy, S (2009). Emergent literacy intervention for prekindergarteners at risk for reading failure. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 42(4), 336–355.

Bailet, L, Repper, K, Murphy, S, Piasta, S, & Zettler-Greeley, C (2013). Emergent literacy intervention for prekindergarteners at risk for reading failure: Years two and three of a multi-year study. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 46(2), 133–153.

Zettler-Greeley, CM, Bailet, LL, Murphy, S, DeLucca, T, & Branum-Martin, L (2018): Efficacy of the Nemours BrightStart! Early Literacy Program: Treatment outcomes from a randomized trial with at-risk prekindergarteners. *Early Education and Development*, DOI: 10.1080/10409289.2018.1475202

# Science of Reading Alignment

## Science of Reading

- ✓ A body of evidence that tells us how students learn to read.
- ✓ Includes evidence supporting the importance of phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and word recognition, fluency, vocabulary, content knowledge development, and comprehension.
- ✓ Encourages knowing the needs of each individual child and providing instruction to meet those needs.
- ✓ **The Science of Reading is not a curriculum but evolving knowledge that is based on decades of research on how children best learn to read.**

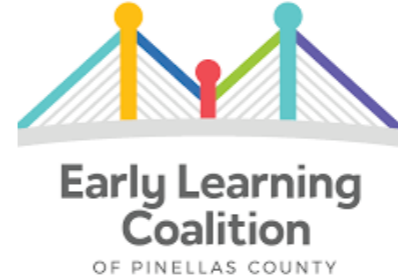
## Reading BrightStart!

- ✓ Based on the National Early Literacy Panel recommendations.
- ✓ Built on five foundational literacy skills: Print Awareness, Letter Knowledge, Phonological Awareness, Oral Language, and Emergent Writing.
- ✓ Curricula also focus on building comprehension and vocabulary skills through conversation and read-alouds.
- ✓ Designed to be used individually or in small groups, the curricula use a multisensory approach to engaging all learning styles.
- ✓ **Curricula are a research-proven resource with learning objectives that support language and literacy development which align to state and national early learning standards.**

# Reading BrightStart! Partner Organizations



United Way of Delaware





## How to Partner with Us?

- For additional information email us: [nemoursbrightstart@nemours.org](mailto:nemoursbrightstart@nemours.org)