

# #AreYouKiddingMe?

**“42% of Florida's  
third grade students  
cannot read at a  
minimum proficiency.”**

-Florida Department of Education



Reading by the end of third grade matters. **It is the moment when children who are learning to read start reading to learn.**

If children cannot read at a proficient level by the end of third grade, chances are they will never catch up.

In fact, **50% of Florida's high school sophomores cannot read at grade level.** What does this tell us? That once you are behind it is incredibly difficult to reach proficiency.



**We need to close the gap between those who can and cannot read proficiently,** and raise the bar to improve the achievement of all children.

Be part of the change! Sign up to be a ReadingPal and make a difference in the life of a child learning to read.