

Georgia Literacy Plan: Vision 2030

Turn the page to a
brighter future.



Georgia Literacy State Goals & Action Plan Overview

Georgia is turning the page to a brighter future.

We will lead the nation in literacy by ensuring that every child is on a path to proficient reading and beyond. Every educator will have the knowledge, skills, and support to teach children to read. In Georgia, the development of literacy and language skills will begin at birth. Every child will be equipped with the foundational reading skills for learning and life. Every community in the state will have access and opportunities to grow and sustain successful, literate citizens.

“Reading should not be a privilege, but a birthright.”

Former Georgia First Lady, Sandra Dunagan Deal

The Georgia Literacy Plan: Vision 2030 is comprised of three documents:

1 | Background Information & Research

Provides background information and guidance about literacy, rooted in current literacy research.

2 | Goals, Objectives, & Action Plan

Outlines the state goals, actions, and metrics for improvement.

3 | Implementation Plan

Details an implementation plan for statewide improvement.

This plan is a collaborative effort of the Georgia Council on Literacy, in conjunction with state agencies, education practitioners, and experts in the field of education.

Georgia Literacy Goals & Objective Framework

1 Every child a reader

Every child in Georgia will be a proficient reader by the end of third grade.

Students beyond third grade will continue to enhance their literacy skills with increasingly rigorous and complex materials.

Children entering kindergarten will have a foundation of skills essential for language and literacy learning.



2 Every educator prepared

Educators will have the knowledge and skills to effectively teach all students to read.

Educational leaders will have the knowledge and skills to support educators in implementing effective literacy instruction for all students.

3 Every community supported

Families and communities will have access to knowledge and resources to actively engage in literacy.







Every adult in Georgia will possess literacy skills essential for the workforce and daily life.

Every child a reader

Objective 1.1: Every child in Georgia will be a proficient reader by the end of third grade.

Success Indicators

- Increase the percentage of students in grade 3 scoring in each Lexile category on the Georgia Milestones State Literacy Metric (grade level, grade plus, above grade level).
- Increase the percentage of students in grade 4 demonstrating proficiency or above on the NAEP test.






Priority Actions	Target Outcomes	Status	Timeline	Responsible Agency
Implement universal reading screening for K-3 rd grade students three times per year.	Educators will be able to identify students who need additional reading support and provide necessary interventions.		Ongoing Reporting began fall 2024	Georgia Department of Education
Implement vetted, high-quality instructional materials for teaching reading in grades K-3.	All K-3 educators will utilize instructional materials aligned to the science of reading.		Ongoing Reporting due 12/15/24	Georgia Department of Education
Provide intervention plans for students at risk for a significant reading deficiency.	All students in grades K-3 will be provided with the instruction and/ or reading support needed to become proficient readers.		Ongoing	Georgia Department of Education
Explore whole-child and targeted supports to address barriers to literacy.	The Literacy Council will research and make recommendations addressing student subgroup supports and barriers to literacy.		Ongoing Recommendations for hearing/vision screening will be shared fall 2024.	Georgia Council on Literacy
Implement Georgia's new K-12 ELA Standards.	Educators will be trained to implement updated ELA standards that support evidence-based literacy instruction.		Ongoing Full implementation begins fall 2025	Georgia Department of Education
Explore future action steps or research on improving writing instruction and language development.	The Literacy Council will evaluate current implementation and explore instructional needs for language development and writing.		Begin fall 2025	Georgia Council on Literacy

Every child a reader

Objective 1.2: Students beyond third grade will continue to enhance their literacy skills with increasingly rigorous and complex materials.

Success Indicators

- Increase the percentage of students scoring in each Lexile category on the Georgia Milestones State Literacy Metric (grade level, grade plus, above grade level).
- Increase the percentage of students in grade 8 demonstrating proficiency or above on the NAEP test.

Priority Actions	Target Outcomes	Status	Timeline	Responsible Agency
Implement Georgia's new K-12 ELA Standards.	Educators will be trained to implement updated ELA standards that support evidence-based literacy instruction.		Ongoing Full implementation begins fall 2025	Georgia Department of Education
Develop protocols and data analysis interventions for older students who are struggling with foundational literacy skills.	Educators beyond 3 rd grade will have the tools needed to identify and support struggling readers.		Ongoing	Georgia Department of Education (MTSS Dept.)
Research current district use of Universal Screeners grades 4-8.	The Council will research and make recommendations to support adolescent learners.		The council will explore possible recommendations during the 2025-26 school year.	Georgia Literacy Council
Provide professional learning in the science of reading for adolescent learners.	*See Educator Preparation		Ongoing	Georgia Department of Education, RESA Network
Explore future action steps or research on student engagement and/or barriers to literacy for adolescent learners.	The Literacy Council will research and make recommendations addressing student subgroup supports and barriers to literacy.		Begin summer 2025	Georgia Council on Literacy







Every child a reader

Objective I.3: Children entering kindergarten will have a foundation of skills essential for language and literacy learning.

Success Indicators

- TBD

- Increase in the percentage of children with a CAPS Scholarship in a 2 or 3 star Quality-Rated childcare program.

Priority Actions	Target Outcomes	Status	Timeline	Responsible Agency
Increase access to high-quality child-care through the Child And Parent Services (CAPS) Program.	Families will have greater choice and increased options and for high-quality childcare in various settings.		ongoing	DECAL
Review and update Georgia Early Learning and Development Standards (GELDS) to reflect current research related to the science of reading.	GELDS will align with updates to the K-12 Georgia Standards of Excellence (literacy and English Language Arts).		Completed by December 2025	DECAL
Create equitable compensation and working conditions for the early learning workforce: To attract and retain quality educators.	Attracting and retaining high-quality educators will help promote more consistent, stable care for children in the earliest years of brain development.		ongoing	DECAL
Develop a library of high-quality foundational language and literacy trainings for B-5 educators to meet the annual training requirement.	*See educator preparation		Completed by June 2025	DECAL
Update the Early Educator Workforce Knowledge and Competencies (WKC) to align with the science of reading.	*See educator preparation		Completed by July 2025	DECAL
Review currently utilized child assessment tools, including formative assessment, and developmental screenings.	The Literacy Council will explore child assessment tools to better understand their effectiveness and utilization in the state.		fall 2025	Georgia Literacy Council





Every educator prepared

Objective 2.1: Educators will have the knowledge and skills to effectively teach all students to read.

Success Indicators

- Increase the number of educators trained in the science of reading (0-5, K-12)

- Additional GACE or Ed Prep measure TBD **



Priority Actions	Target Outcomes	Status	Timeline	Responsible Agency
Every educator will complete training in the science of reading.	Every educator (pre-service, 0-5, and K-12) will have the knowledge and skills rooted in evidence-based practice to support every student in reading.		ongoing	GaDOE, USG, DECAL, PSC
All educator preparation programs will be aligned with the science of reading and evidence-based practice, as outlined by HB538.	Every new educator will enter the profession prepared students in improving literacy skills.		In progress Program alignment & GACE by fall 2025	USG, PSC
Provide coaching support for teachers statewide.	Every elementary school will have a literacy coach to support implementation and best practices.		ongoing	USG, RESA, GaDOE
Exploration of recommendations for expansion of programs, endorsements, or funding to improve literacy teacher preparation.	The Council will research possible recommendations to support expanded opportunities for literacy teacher/coach preparation.		Begin summer 2025	Georgia Literacy Council

Every educator prepared

Objective 2.2: Educational leaders will have the knowledge and skills to support educators in implementing effective literacy instruction for all students.

Success Indicators

- Increase the number of school leaders trained in the science of reading (Pre-K, K-12)

Priority Actions	Target Outcomes	Status	Timeline	Responsible Agency
Every leader will complete training in the science of reading.	Every leader will have the knowledge and skills rooted in evidence-based practice to support every student in reading.		Ongoing	DOE, K-12 Districts
The Literacy Council will explore additional research and recommendations for school and district literacy leadership.	The Council will create a school leadership working group to research and make recommendations for leadership areas such as structured literacy implementation, data utilization, subgroup growth, and learning climate.		spring 2025	Georgia Literacy Council






Every community supported

Objective 3.1: Families and communities will have access to knowledge and resources to actively engage in literacy.

Success Indicators

- Increase the number of Georgia counties with Georgia Reads communities and/or other established literacy partnerships.

- Increase public library engagement, as measured by library cardholders, checkouts, and program attendance.





Priority Actions	Target Outcomes	Status	Timeline	Responsible Agency
Increase partnerships with organizations and businesses across Georgia.	Every county in Georgia will have a Georgia Reads community and/or other literacy support partnership.		Ongoing	GOSA
Increase access to learning opportunities for parents.	Expanded partnerships between TCSG & DOE along with community initiatives will increase opportunities for parents to engage in learning and literacy.		Ongoing	TCSG, DECAL, DOE, Local Communities
Promote exemplars of effective community literacy practices supporting through Georgia Reads.	Best practices of Georgia Reads communities will be highlighted and shared on the Georgia Reads website and via social media.		Ongoing	GOSA
Increase access to books and early learning for families. Remove barriers to literacy for families.	Expand library programs across Georgia.		Recommendation shared fall 2024 Ongoing	Georgia Public Library Service
Explore opportunities to expand access to maternal and child health and language nutrition support.	The Council will research and making recommendations current maternal health and child health issues and support.		fall 2025	Georgia Council on Literacy

Every community supported

Objective 3.2: Every adult in Georgia will possess literacy skills essential for the workforce and daily life.

Success Indicators

- Adult literacy measure TBD

Priority Actions	Target Outcomes	Status	Timeline	Responsible Agency
Grow portfolio of Adult Education providers. Create a comprehensive list of providers for adult literacy and learning.	Adults across Georgia will have access to learning and literacy improvement opportunities.		ongoing	TCSG
Remove barriers to access and expand offerings for learning and literacy improvement.	The Council will research and make recommendations for removing barriers to literacy and for increasing access for adult subgroups.		Begin fall 2025	Georgia Literacy Council
Increase employer partnerships and workplace literacy.	TCSG will expand partnerships with businesses to offer additional access to literacy and learning opportunities.		ongoing	TCSG
Explore additional supports for literacy and learning for adult English Language Learners.	The Council will research and make recommendations for opportunities to improve literacy for adult English Language Learners and families.		Begin fall 2025	Georgia Literacy Council

Georgia Literacy Plan Success Targets

Goal	Success Indicator(s)	Baseline Data (23-24)	Annual Improvement Target	Target 2030
Every Child a Reader	Increase the percentage of students in grade 3 scoring in each Lexile category on the Georgia Milestones State Literacy Metric (grade level, grade plus, above grade level).	24 % above grade level 19% grade level plus 22 % grade level 36 % below grade level	TBD	TBD
	Increase the percentage of students in grade 4 demonstrating proficiency or above on the NAEP test.	32% at or above proficiency	TBD	TBD
	Early learning/kindergarten readiness literacy metric (TBD)	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Increase in the percentage of children with a CAPS Scholarship in a 2 or 3 star Quality-Rated childcare program.	72.3%	TBD	TBD
Every Educator Prepared	Increase the number of educators trained in the science of reading (0-5, K-12)	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Educator prep metric (TBD) (Possibly GACE percentage)	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Increase the number of school leaders trained in the science of reading (Pre-K, K-12)	TBD	TBD	TBD
Every Community Supported	Increase the number of Georgia counties with Georgia Reads communities and/or other established literacy partnerships.	Fall 2024: 0 Georgia Reads Communities TBD	TBD	TBD
	Increase public library engagement, as measured by library cardholders, checkouts, and program attendance.	2023: 4,906,161 cardholders 32,340,137 checkouts 1,812,979 program attendees	TBD	TBD
	Adult literacy metric (TBD)		TBD	TBD

Questions?

Feedback?

Thank you!

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— GEORGIA —
COUNCIL on LITERACY