



**Families Reading Together
for Student Success**

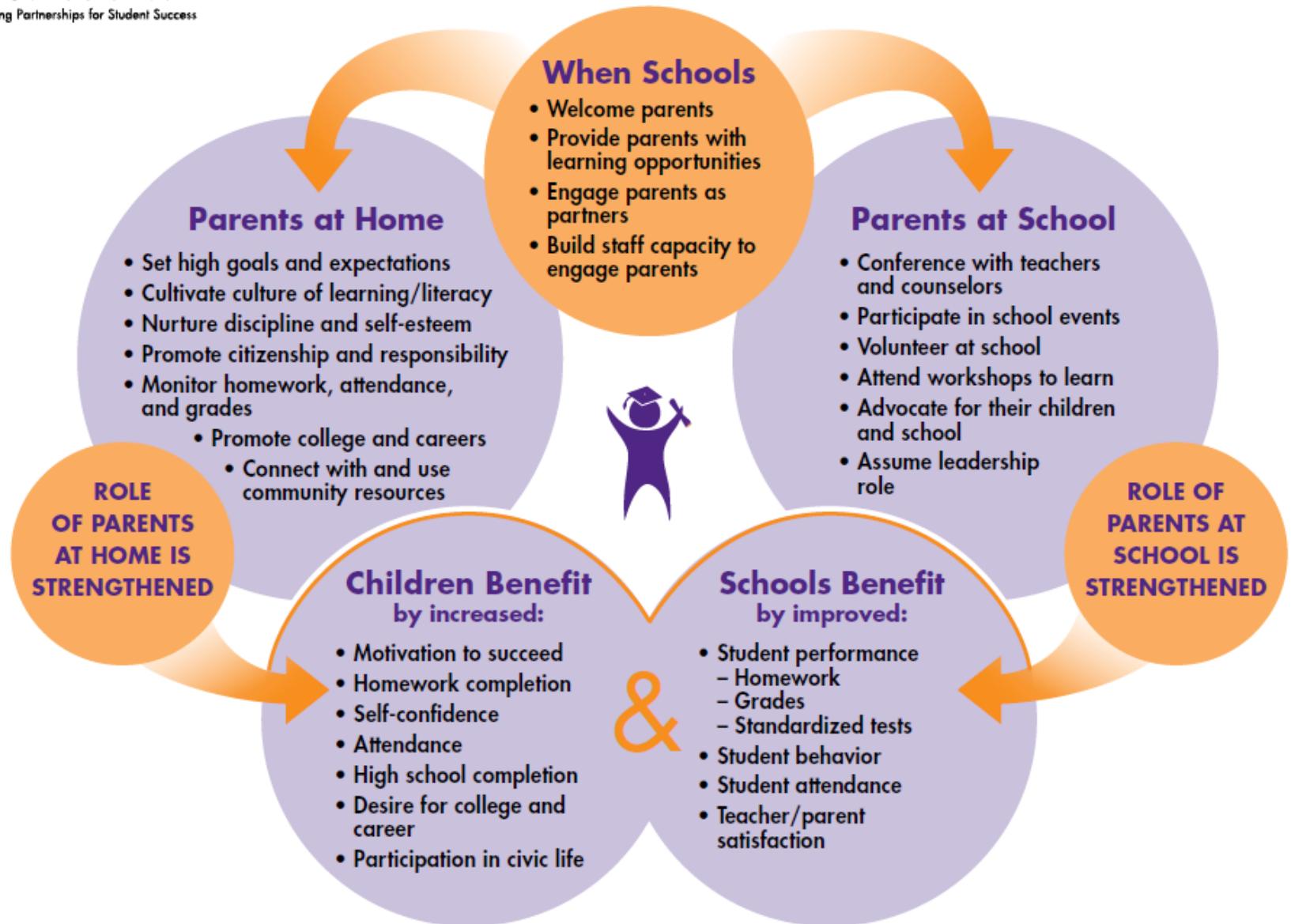
Presented by



Overview of Families In Schools

- History of Families In Schools
- Mission
 - to involve parents and communities in the education of their children to achieve lifelong success
- Key Focus Areas
 - Curricula and Professional Development
 - Community Engagement and Advocacy
 - Nonprofit Empowerment

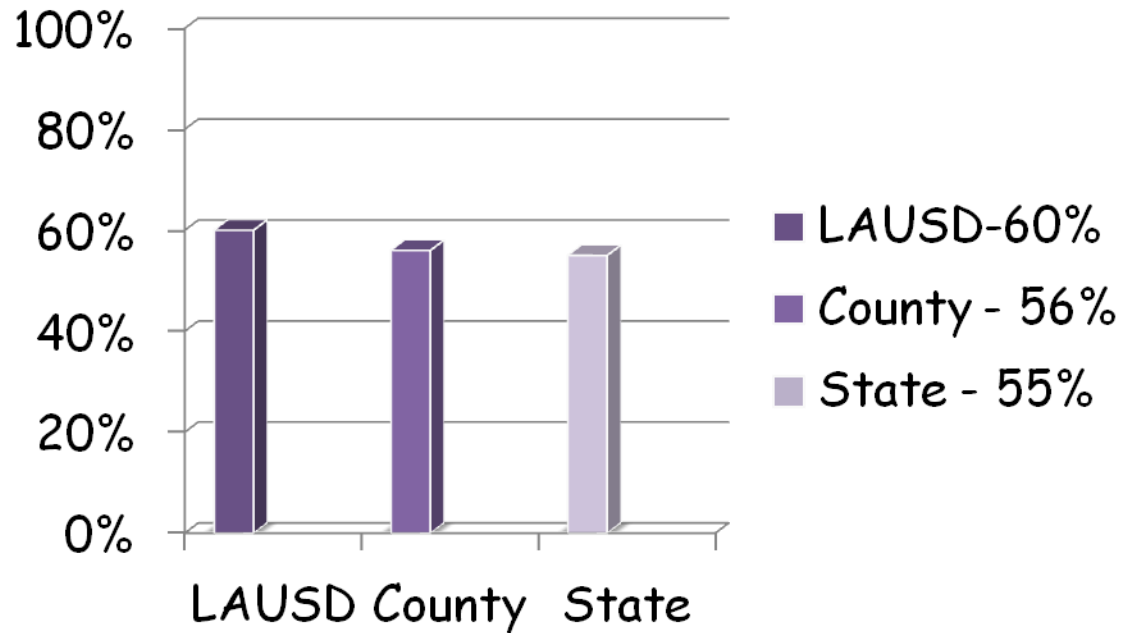
THEORY OF CHANGE



State of Literacy in Los Angeles County

- 55% of 3rd grade students in Los Angeles County are not reading at grade level.

(Source: California Department of Education CST ELA Scores, 2013)



Intersection of Poverty and Early Literacy

- A typical middle class child enters 1st grade with 1000 to 1700 hours of one-to-one picture book reading, while a child from a low income home averages only 25 such hours. (Source: Adams, 1990)
- Children living in poverty hear fewer than a third of the words heard by children from higher-income families, revealing a 30 million word difference by age four. (Hart, B. & Risley, T.R. 2004)

Reading Builds Success

Educational research overwhelmingly supports the premise that “the *single* most important activity for building understandings and skills *essential* for reading success appears to be reading aloud to children.

(Source: Bus, Van Ijzendoorn & Pellegrini, 1995)



Reading Roads Overview

- Parent engagement program
- Strengthens family literacy
- up to 9 sessions
- Each lesson focuses on a:
 - Theme
 - Children's book
 - Literacy Skill

Reading Roads Goals

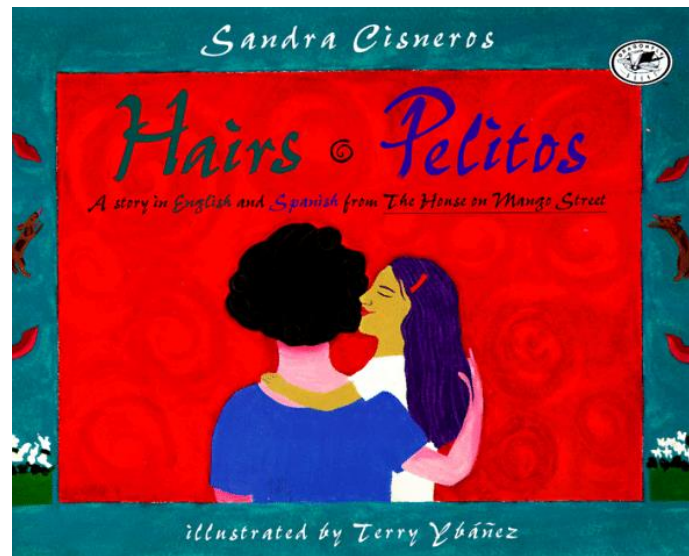
- Increase students reading skills by:
 - Increasing read-aloud experiences between parents and children.
 - Strengthening parents' skills and knowledge to support their child's literacy development
 - Building parents' confidence to partner with school staff

Methodology and Approach

- Popular education
- Participatory curriculum development
- Strength-Based Approach
- Socio-Contextual Learning

Using Story as a Way to Teach

- Hairs/Pelitos by Sandra Cisneros
- Theme: Family
- Literacy Skill: Describing people, places, and things



READ. ASK? PLAY!

**Everyday, take the time
to R.A.P. with your child!**





Trip Tips

Handout: Lesson 1

Everyday, take the time to R.A.P. with your child!



Reading Roads is a program of
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Read *Hairs/Pelitos* by Sandra Cisneros is a book about a young girl and her family. In this story, the author describes her family members and the special relationship she has with her mother. Pick a daily reading time and share this story with your child. To help your child understand how to use descriptive language, focus on words in the story that describe people, places, and things.

Ask After reading the story, ask your child the following questions:

- What different types of hair did the family members have in this story? What kind of hair do you have?
- Why did the daughter in the story like the smell of her mother?
- The daughter in this story liked to snuggle with her mother at night. What special activities do you enjoy with your family?

Play

Play Activity 1: Picture Time

- Share a story with your child about when you were young using descriptive words. For example what smells remind you of your family?
- Ask your child to draw a family picture. Help your child write the names of the family members on the drawing. Then, ask your child to share one word that describes each family member.
- Assist your child in counting the number of members in your family.

Play Activity 2: Family Member Match

- Gather pictures of family members. Write each family member's name on masking tape and place it on the photograph.
- Next, write each family member's name on an index card.
- Play a game and ask your child to match the names on the cards with the names on the pictures.

Play Activity 3: Hair Pair

- Pick out a family member's type of hair and have your child describe the type. For example, is the hair curly, straight, soft, dark, short, long, etc.
- Walk through your neighborhood with your child and look for that kind of hair. Count how many people that you see that match that hair. Keep a record of your count together in a notebook and review it again at home to strengthen their understanding of descriptive words.



Teacher Talk

"What activities are taking place in the classroom this year to support my child's literacy development?"

Impact and Evaluation

Impact

- Over 100 facilitators trained
- Available at 74 sites

Evaluation

- 92% of parents reports that their child's reading skills have improved
- 94% of parents report that their reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills improved

Questions

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