

Yoncalla Early Works

2018 Update

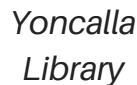
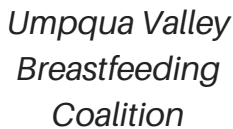
Who We Are

Yoncalla Early Works is a project that helps young children get ready for kindergarten and succeed in school. Early Works focuses on early reading skills, health, and helping families support their children's education.

Starting early helps kids develop reading skills and stay on track through third grade. Success in third grade reading and math gives kids a better chance of graduating from high school.



Partners



What We Do

Activities and events for children and families, including:

- Preschool and other early learning opportunities at Yoncalla Elementary
- Parenting classes, kindergarten readiness workshops, and other family-friendly activities in the community
- Community events to get family input on new projects and services
- Parent-teacher home visits for preschool through sixth grade families
- A lending library with books for kids and parents
- An annual summer retreat and celebration

Join Us!

- Attend Community Café meetings.
- Visit and use the Family Room at Yoncalla Elementary.
- Join the Yoncalla Early Works Leadership Team.
- Attend the annual community baby shower.
- Stay connected with your community.
- Join our Yoncalla Early Works Facebook Group.
- Learn about ways to support your child's education.

Have questions? Want to get involved with Yoncalla Early Works?
Please contact Erin Helgren at erin@childinst.org or 541.525.5096.
Learn more about Early Works at childinst.org.

About Yoncalla Elementary (2018)

- 85% of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.
- 73% of incoming kindergarteners had formal preschool.
- 46% of students meet math benchmarks.
- 36% of students meet English benchmarks.
- 34% of kindergarteners are absent on a regular basis.
- 17% of students are absent on a regular basis.

Our Goals

- **Improve school attendance.** Consistent attendance improves reading, writing, logic, and social skills.
- **Improve math skills over the summer.** Preventing the loss of math skills between kindergarten and first grade helps kids stay on track in school.
- **Improve access to local medical and dental services.** Improving the health of children and families helps kids stay in, and succeed at, school.
- **Improve food and nutrition resources.** Expanding community gardens, food pantries, and nutrition classes supports health and learning for kids.
- **Improve the social emotional well-being of children.** Supporting social-emotional growth and development helps kids succeed through elementary school.

Improving Attendance

- Help your child feel comfortable at school and with teachers and staff.
- Use a regular bed time and morning routine.
- Set out clothes, lunches, and backpacks at night to make the morning easier.
- Develop back-up plans with family members, neighbors, or friends for getting to school if something happens.
- Schedule medical and dental appointments after school.
- Seek help from school staff, teachers, or other parents if your child is anxious or struggling.

Reading Skills = Life Skills

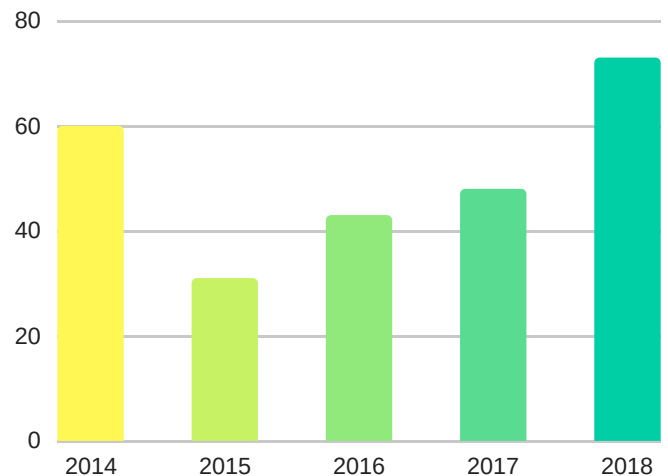
Learning to read is a skill that lasts a lifetime. Here are some tips for reading with your child:

- Read every day for at least 10 minutes.
- Tell stories and talk with your child frequently.
- Ask your child questions about pictures and stories.
- Use songs to help your child learn words.
- Invite siblings and family members to read with your child.

2018 Progress at Early Works

- Kindergarteners started school with strong behavior skills that improved during the school year.
- Kindergarteners gained vocabulary and math skills that continued to grow during the school year.
- Kindergarteners started school knowing more letter names and sounds—essential skills for learning to read.
- Parents reported feeling welcome in the school, using the lending library, and having more books in their homes to stimulate reading and learning.
- Parents had more leadership opportunities and influenced school and district decisions.

Access to preschool is increasing, largely because of expansion through the state-funded Preschool Promise program.



More preschool and kindergarten students have access to books in the home. All families report reading at least 3 times a week to their child.

