






Supports Head Start and Early Head Start Criteria


The purpose of *Head Start* is to promote the school readiness of low-income, preschool-age children by enhancing their physical, cognitive, social, and emotional development. This must take place in a learning environment that supports children’s growth in language, literacy, social and emotional functioning, and other areas. Children and their families must be provided with educational, social, and other services that are determined, based on family needs, to be necessary.


The chart below shows how Scholastic’s **Read and Rise** program aligns to critical parts of *Head Start*, as well as to critical parts of *Early Head Start*, which is for children ages birth-three and their low-income families. Please visit http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ohs/legislation/HS_act.html#645 to see all of the criteria for these programs.


Key Criteria for Head Start	 Read and Rise
<p>1. Provide high-quality, preschool programs to ensure that children participating in the program develop and demonstrate school readiness skills and abilities, which at a minimum include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language knowledge and skills, including oral language and listening comprehension • Literacy knowledge and skills, including phonological awareness, print awareness and skills, and alphabetic knowledge <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>If you have any questions about Read and Rise or would like to place an order, please call your sales representative at 800-387-1437 or fax to 877-242-5865.</p> </div>	<p>Read and Rise is a sustainable and systematic literacy program designed to bring families, schools, and communities together to support young children’s literacy development. It increases teacher and school leader effectiveness through high-quality, interactive professional development and engaging children’s books and family materials. Read and Rise uses a Train-the-Trainer model, in which Scholastic literacy consultants train facilitators, who in turn train families or child care providers during six interactive workshops.</p> <p>Children participate in the Read and Rise program with their families or child care providers. Read and Rise currently offers in <u>English or Spanish</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>20 take-home books</u> that reinforce what children are learning in preschool, while building a text-rich environment at home • Corresponding <u>Family Reading Fun Activity Cards</u>, which provide useful tips and suggestions to help expand the reading experience • <u>Family Guide</u>, which provides information, ideas, age-specific short stories, and literacy-based activities <p>Read and Rise materials are divided into three groupings in order to provide age-appropriate instruction and practice that build from one set to the next. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ages 0-2: Board books for little hands • Ages 2-5: Read-alouds to share with preschoolers • Ages 5-8: Books with richer content for slightly older children <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>


<p>Key Criteria for Head Start</p>	<p> Read and Rise</p>
<p>Provide high-quality, preschool programs, Continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cognitive abilities related to academic achievement and child development • Approaches to learning related to child development and early learning • Social and emotional development related to early learning, school success, and social problem solving <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Early Head Start legislation requires programs to provide early, continuous, intensive, and comprehensive child development and family support services that will enhance the physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development of participating children.</p> </div>	<p>Each workshop session addresses specific literacy principles and benchmarks to guide classroom activities and experiences. The National Head Start Performance Standards were chosen to anchor Read and Rise with a clear understanding of the knowledge and skills essential to a young child's development and future success. Read and Rise helps children meet the following <i>Head Start</i> language and literacy standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate increasing abilities to understand and use language to communicate (<i>speaking and communicating</i>) • Listen and respond to conversations (<i>listening and understanding</i>) • Show an increasing ability to discriminate and identify sounds in spoken language (<i>phonological awareness</i>) • Progress in recognizing matching sounds and rhymes in familiar words (<i>phonological awareness</i>) • Demonstrate increasing ability to attend and understand conversations, stories, songs and poems (<i>listening</i>) • Show growing interest in reading-related activities (<i>book knowledge and appreciation</i>) • Show progress in recognizing the association between spoken word and written word; recognize words (<i>print awareness</i>) • Show ability to discriminate and identify sounds in spoken language (<i>phonological awareness</i>) • Use language purposefully (<i>speaking</i>) • Demonstrate an interest in written language such as letters and words (<i>reading and alphabet knowledge</i>) • Recognize words as a unit of speech (<i>reading</i>) • Recognize letters of own name and those of familiar objects found in a variety of contexts (<i>reading and alphabet knowledge</i>) <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>

Key Criteria for Head Start	 Read and Rise
<p>Provide high-quality, preschool programs, Continued</p>	<p>Developmentally appropriate</p> <p>The children’s books, family activities, and workshops in the Read and Rise program are designed to help children develop language and literacy skills appropriate to their social, emotional, and cognitive development. For example, the <u>Family Guide</u>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains a <i>Milestones</i> section in each chapter that explains what language and literacy skills children should be able to develop at certain ages • Lists <i>Try This!</i> strategies families can use with their children at certain stages of language and literacy development • Provides a <i>Book Nook</i> section with developmentally appropriate book titles and selection criteria that families can use for more reading • Contains developmentally appropriate stories and poems <p>Read and Rise delivers the message that from the day children are born, parents and family members can begin to support literacy development, paving the way for children to succeed in school and life.</p>
<p>2. Provide programs that ensure that limited English proficient students progress towards acquisition of the English Language while making meaningful progress in attaining the knowledge, skills, abilities, and development described in the criteria above, including progress made through the use of culturally and linguistically appropriate instructional services</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Early Head Start is based on nine principles, including the value of supporting the home culture and language of each family.</p> </div>	<p>The Read and Rise initiative creates an <u>inclusive framework</u> that may be customized to fit the cultural and demographic needs of the community. Read and Rise helps limited English proficient students acquire language skills by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing materials and books in <u>English or Spanish</u>, so Spanish-speaking students can learn concepts and reading principles regardless of their English proficiency • Presenting a wide variety of <u>vocabulary and oral language-building activities</u> • Demonstrating how <u>parents can use their first language to help their children learn English</u> • Embracing participants’ <u>culture and traditions</u> as an integral part of building literacy and content knowledge • Offering a wide variety of <u>multicultural books</u> that celebrate diversity


<p>Key Criteria for Head Start</p>	<p> Read and Rise</p>
<p>3. Provide family literacy services that are of sufficient intensity in terms of hours, and of sufficient duration, to make sustainable changes in a family, and that integrate the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive literacy activities between parents and their children • Training for parents regarding how to be the primary teacher for their children and full partners in the education of their children • An age-appropriate education to prepare children for success in school and life experiences <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Early Head Start legislation requires programs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the level of services offered to families responds to their needs and circumstances • Promote positive parent-child interactions • Provide services to parents to support their role as parents and help move the families toward self-sufficiency <p>Early Head Start is based on nine principles, one of which fully supports the full participation of children with disabilities.</p> </div>	<p>The first Scholastic workshops that employed the methods and materials used in Read and Rise were implemented in Danbury, CT and Osceola, FL under the name Lee y serás (Read and You Will Be). The Education Development Center, Inc. evaluated the programs through pre- and post-program parent and family surveys, session-by-session feedback forms, observations, and interviews. Both quantitative and qualitative analyses were conducted. The reports showed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents learned that their home environment and community surroundings—as well as their own culture, language, and everyday activities—are valuable resources in helping their children to develop early literacy skills. • Parents were empowered to take on more purposeful roles in supporting their children’s literacy development by directly engaging their children in early literacy activities, such as expanding their oral literacy development, reading to them, and teaching them new letters and words. • The workshops allayed many parents’ concerns around the use of their first language to promote and enrich their children’s literacy (Educational Development Center [EDC] 2007, 2009) <p>A copy of the Education Development Center, Inc. evaluations of Lee y serás as it was implemented in Danbury, CT and Osceola, FL can be supplied by your Scholastic representative.</p> <p>In the Read and Rise edition, the Lee y serás focus was expanded to include the needs of all children, especially those who have been historically underserved.</p> <p>As guiding principles, the Read and Rise curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stresses the importance of reading and literacy • Acknowledges family and community strengths • Fosters new attitudes, new behavior, and changed conditions • Provides “hands-on,” practical literacy experiences and activities for educators and providers to use in their classrooms and with their families • Inspires action at school, home, and within the community <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>

Key Criteria for Head Start	 Read and Rise
<p>Provide family literacy services, Continued</p>	<p>In order to promote positive parent-child literacy activities, Read and Rise provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Engaging materials</u> that hold children’s attention and make learning fun (colorful board books and paperbacks with interesting, age-appropriate content; Family Reading Fun card activities related to the books) • <u>Strategies for high-quality interactions</u> between children and child care providers or children and parents that reinforce skills (singing songs, doing meaningful literacy activities together in the everyday environment; telling stories about family traditions) • <u>Action Pledges Journal pages that emphasize the family’s importance in helping children learn to read</u> (Families affirm that they are their children’s first and most important teacher and role model, and they pledge to talk and listen to their children, read aloud to them, sing songs, share rhymes, and tell stories.) • <u>Activities using a variety of learning modalities to meet children’s needs and interests</u> (hands-on activities, read-aloud sessions, printed materials, music, and movement activities) • <u>Age-appropriate books, themes, and activities</u> that can help prepare children for success in school and life experiences
<p>4. Provide high-quality professional development activities that will improve the knowledge and skills of <i>Head Start</i> teachers and staff, including activities that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are part of a sustained effort to improve overall outcomes for enrolled children and their families • Are developmentally appropriate for the children being served • Include instruction in ways to work more effectively with parents <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>	<p>Research base</p> <p>Scholastic Inc. developed all of the Read and Rise materials and training practices based on the latest research around both early literacy development and adult education. This includes the following findings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best educational practices build on research and demonstrate how to create successful opportunities for our youngest learners. Sharing stories, rhymes, games, and daily talk in a family’s home language supports language and literacy development, which in turn supports academic success (Strickland and Riley-Ayers, 2007) • Many people assume that young children will acquire rich language and vocabulary on their own (Resnick & Snow, 2008). On the contrary, language development happens in a social and cultural context—between adults and children, as well as among children themselves (Hilliard, 2001). <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>

<p>Key Criteria for Head Start</p>	<p> Read and Rise</p>
<p>Provide high-quality professional development activities, Continued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the knowledge and skills needed to instruct and support children of diverse backgrounds, including limited English proficient children, students with disabilities, and migrant students • Advance teachers' understanding of effective, research-based, instructional strategies, curricula, and ongoing assessments designed to help meet the <i>Head Start Child Outcomes Framework</i> and state standards, when appropriate <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Early Head Start legislation requires professional development programs to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective strengths-based parent education, including methods to encourage parents as their child's first teachers • Early childhood development with respect to children from birth through age three • Methods to help parents promote emergent literacy in their children from birth through age three, including use of research-based strategies to support the development of literacy and language skills for children who are limited English proficient. </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families and child care providers can make an even greater impact if they intentionally support other literacy skills, including an awareness of print, knowledge of the alphabet, and the sounds that make up words, so that children may learn and later read to learn (National Early Literacy Panel, 2009). Adults who are aware of this, including trained educators, are eager to learn more techniques they can use to enhance children's literacy development. • Research has not only revealed the dynamic learning potential of children when they are in responsive, nurturing, stimulating environments, but also the detrimental effect to children when they are deprived of these opportunities (National Early Literacy Panel, 2009). • There is a powerful link between social and emotional development and academic learning. Such findings underscore the importance of attending to and celebrating the diversity of each child's culture and home language, family makeup, learning style, interests, temperament, and any special needs (Zero to Three, 2003). <p>Read and Rise workshop for facilitators</p> <p>Read and Rise professional development is delivered through a full-day workshop, which addresses topics such as the use of family culture and traditions to foster literacy development, effective strategies for strengthening home-to-school connections, and how to create literacy-rich environments in homes, schools, and communities.</p> <p>Read and Rise trains the facilitators on how to conduct the six Family or Child Care Provider Conversation workshops outlined for them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Session 1</u>: The Importance of Family and Community Partnerships • <u>Session 2</u>: Culture, Traditions, Everyday Experiences • <u>Session 3</u>: The Power of Storytelling • <u>Session 4</u>: Fun with the Sounds of Language • <u>Session 5</u>: Family and Community Strengths! • <u>Session 6</u>: Celebrate Success! <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>

Key Criteria for Head Start	 Read and Rise
<p>Provide high-quality professional development activities, Continued</p>	<p>Workshop participants receive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Facilitator’s Guides</u> for Family Conversations and for Child Care Provider Conversations, which contain the curriculum and step-by-step implementation strategies <i>(available in English or Spanish)</i> • <u>Journals</u> for Family Conversations and for Child Care Provider Conversations, which allow participants to reflect on the messages, themes, and knowledge shared in the workshop <i>(available in English or Spanish)</i> • <u>Family Guide</u>, with read-aloud stories, literacy tips, and book suggestions to support literacy from infancy through age eight <i>(available in English or Spanish)</i> • <u>Children’s book and Family Reading Fun Card</u> with activities to use with the book <i>(available in English or Spanish)</i> • <u>Putumayo Kids World Playground music CD</u>, which assists in building a diverse culturally enriched setting that ties music and reading activities for family and child <p>Sustainability</p> <p>Scholastic seeks to provide <i>Head Start</i> and <i>Early Head Start</i> programs with a sustainable parent-child literacy program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Read and Rise implementation model supports a workshop attendance of 15 participants at one time. Once facilitators are trained, they can train child care providers and families as needed on an ongoing basis. • Read and Rise provides easy-to-follow Guides and Journals that can be referenced after the training. These help ensure that the program is being implemented with fidelity and having the intended impact on children’s achievement. • Once facilitators are trained on one Read and Rise book and corresponding Family Reading Fun Card during the one-day workshop, they can use the same strategies on any of the other 19 Read and Rise book/card sets available for purchase, as well as books outside of the program. • Read and Rise-trained facilitators can purchase additional Guides and Journals, Music CDs, books, and Family Reading Fun Cards from Scholastic to use whenever they do trainings. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(continued)</i></p>

Read and Rise Alignment to Head Start

Key Criteria for Head Start	 Read and Rise
Provide high-quality professional development activities, Continued	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scholastic Professional Development Services team trains in a variety of venues, such as on-site coaching, webinars, and workshops. Topics can include strategies that can be used with children of diverse backgrounds, including limited English proficient children, students with disabilities, and migrant students, as well as assessment techniques. <i>(add-on cost)</i> • Scholastic publishes a wide variety of high-quality books suitable for children from birth and beyond that can increase their learning and love of reading, both in the classroom and at home. <i>(add-on cost)</i> • <i>Scholastic Literacy Partnerships</i> program provides steep discounts on take-home books that are given to children and their families to build a valuable school-to-home connection around literacy. <i>(Please ask your Scholastic representative for details.)</i>
5. Provide ongoing self-assessment of each <i>Head Start</i> and <i>Early Head Start</i> program for the purpose of measuring children's skills and improving classroom practices	If needed, Scholastic can work with <i>Head Start</i> or <i>Early Head Start</i> programs to help create an evaluation tool or collect effectiveness data for the district's Read and Rise program. <i>(Please ask your Scholastic representative for details and costs.)</i>