Engage Early Readers for Lifelong Learning

✔ By the age of 2, children who are read to regularly display greater language comprehension, **larger vocabularies, and higher cognitive skills than their peers.**[1]

✔ Children's early vocabulary skills are linked to their economic backgrounds. By 3 years of age, there is a **30 million word gap** between children from the wealthiest and poorest families.[2]

✔ **34 percent** of children entering Kindergarten **lack the basic language skills** needed to learn how to read.[2]

✔ Starting in Kindergarten, if a student reads **20 minutes a day, they will hear 1.8 million words per year.** They will have read for 851 hours by 6th grade and on standardized tests, they will likely score better than 90% of their peers.[3]

✔ Books contain many words that children are unlikely to encounter frequently in spoken language. **Children's books contain 50% more rare words** than primetime television or even college students' conversations.[4]
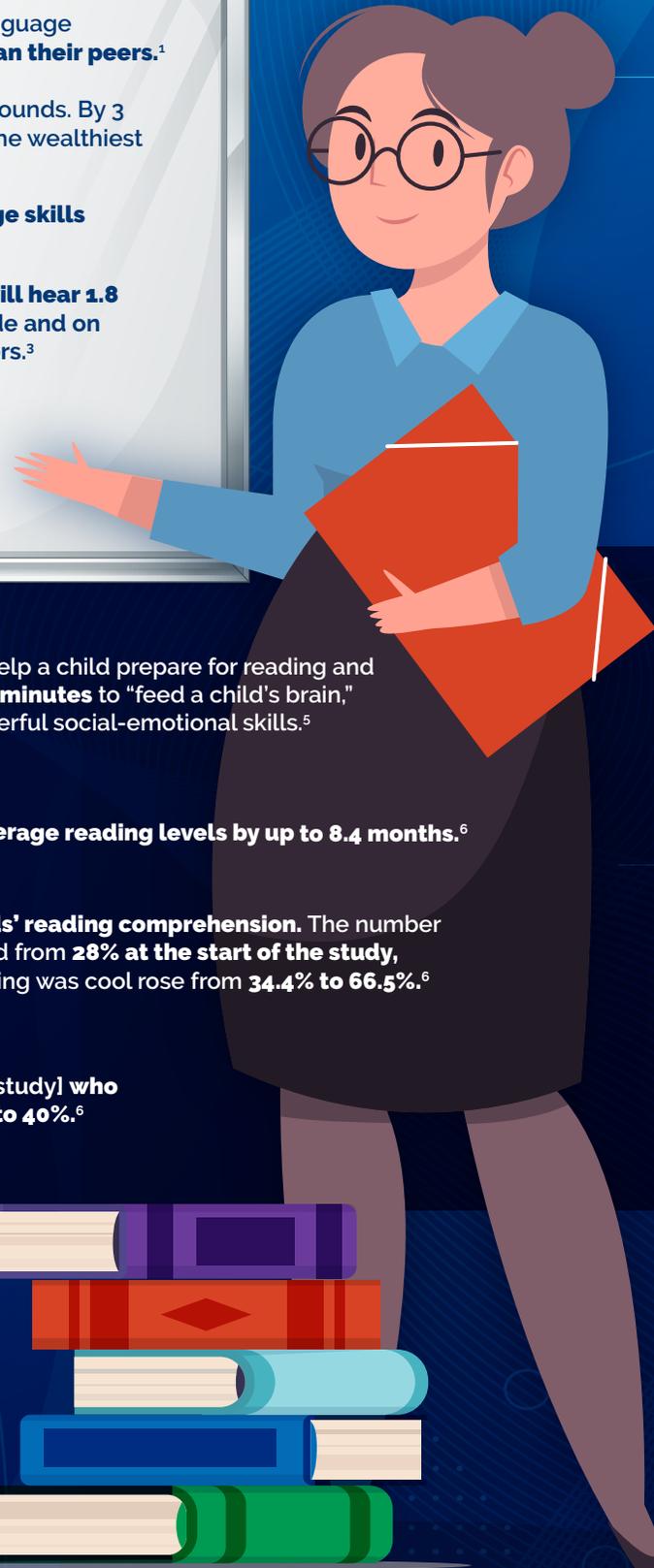
Reading aloud is the single most important thing to help a child prepare for reading and learning. In fact, reading aloud every day for **at least 15 minutes** to "feed a child's brain," builds vocabulary and other pre-literacy skills, and powerful social-emotional skills.[5]

Exposing kids to e-books could **increase average reading levels by up to 8.4 months.**[6]

Access to an e-book platform also improved kids' reading comprehension. The number of boys who thought reading was difficult dropped from **28% at the start of the study, to 15.9%** by its end. The percentage that felt reading was cool rose from **34.4% to 66.5%.**[6]

The **percentage of children** [involved in the e-book study] **who enjoyed reading books on paper jumped from 10% to 40%.**[6]

1.) https://www.bookspring.org/en/literacy-partners/literacy-statistics/
2.) https://www.rif.org/sites/default/files/documents/2021/08/17/Literacy-Stats-16Aug2021.pdf
3.) https://readdbq.org/2014/11/19/read-20-minutes-day/
4.) https://ferstreaders.org/resources/fifty-top-literacy-statistics
5.) https://readaloud.org/
6.) https://literacytrust.org.uk/research-services/research-reports/impact-ebooks-reading
-motivation-and-reading-skills-children-and-young-people/

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