

# Good start, grow smart: The Bush administration's early childhood initiative <sup>[1]</sup>

**Author:** Government of United States

**Source:** U.S. Department of Health and Social Services

**Format:** government document

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## AVAILABILITY

Various documents regarding initiative available.

**Background information** <sup>[2]</sup>

Excerpt from executive summary: In his State of the Union Address delivered January 2002, President Bush outlined the next step in education reform -- the need to prepare children to read and succeed in school with improved Head Start and early childhood development programs. The Bush administration's initiative addresses three major areas: - Strengthening Head Start: Through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Administration will develop a new accountability system for Head Start to ensure that every Head Start center assesses standards of learning in early literacy, language, and numeracy skills. HHS will also implement a national training program with the goal of training the nearly 50,000 Head Start teachers in early literacy teaching techniques. - Partnering with States to Improve Early Childhood Education: The Administration proposes a stronger Federal-State partnership in the delivery of quality early childhood programs. This new approach will ask States to develop quality criteria for early childhood education, including voluntary guidelines on pre-reading and language skills activities that align with State K-12 standards. To help States meet these criteria, States will have more flexibility with their Federal child care funds. - Providing Information to Teachers, Caregivers and Parents: In order to close the gap between the best research and current practices in early childhood education, the Department of Education will establish a range of partnerships as part of a broad public awareness campaign targeted toward parents, early childhood educators, child care providers, and other interested parties. To assist this effort, the Bush Administration supports an unprecedented \$45 million research collaborative between the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development and the Department of Education to identify effective pre-reading and language curricula and teaching strategies.

**Region:** United States <sup>[3]</sup>

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## Links

[1] <https://childcarecanada.org/documents/research-policy-practice/02/01/good-start-grow-smart-bush-administrations-early-childhood> <sup>[2]</sup>

<https://georgewbush-whitehouse.archives.gov/infocus/earlychildhood/earlychildhood.html> [3] <https://childcarecanada.org/taxonomy/term/7865>