Afterschool Improves Literacy in Georgia

6 out of 10 children (63%) completing third grade in Georgia were not prepared to meet the literacy challenges of the next grade level (2021)

This leads to a cycle of low literacy
- Struggle with learning and fall behind
- Discipline problems
- Perform poorly in 8th grade math
- Higher chances of becoming teen parents
- Higher chances of dropping out of high school
- More likely to spend time in prison
- Struggle with unemployment
- Poor health & shorter life expectancy

1 million Georgia adults have low literacy and earn 30% less than adults with a HS diploma

72% chance of being at lowest reading level for children with parents with low literacy levels

Costs the state $1.26 billion in social services and lost tax revenue annually

Afterschool and summer learning programs provide students with the additional supports they need to help build a strong foundation in literacy, including reading, writing and critical thinking skills.

21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) are federally funded afterschool and summer learning programs that offer opportunities to youth across Georgia.

7 out of 10 parents report that their children’s programs provide opportunities for reading or writing and homework assistance.

Afterschool provides opportunities for:
- Project based learning opportunities
- Strong literacy foundation
- Group activities
- Peer-to-peer learning
- Critical thinking skills
- Communications skills

Regular attendance lead to:
- Significant gains in reading skills
- Improved grades
- Improved attendance
- Improved attitude towards school
- Higher chances of graduation

For references, go to www.afterschoolga.org/afterschool-issues.