

All About Springboard

Springboard Collaborative closes the reading achievement gap by enabling parents and teachers to collaborate as they help children cultivate new reading habits. Springboard scholars work towards personalized reading goals, increasing their annual reading progress and coming closer to 4th grade reading proficiency.

Springboard focuses on out-of-school time because children spend 75% of their waking time outside of the traditional classroom setting. Springboard augments reading during that window of time by adding more instructional minutes at school and by equipping families to read with their children at home. Additional class time is crucial but it is also insufficient to close the reading achievement gap. Just as families need educators' help, educators need families' help. High quality reading time at school *and* home is what helps propel Springboard Scholars forward in their reading, dramatically changing their educational outcomes.

At home reading is a crucial game-changer. Without continuous access to learning at home and school, many elementary-aged students in low-income communities face significant reading losses over the summer, compounding my smaller reading losses over winter and spring breaks. Much of the reading achievement gap in high school is attributable to these seasonal reading losses during the elementary years.

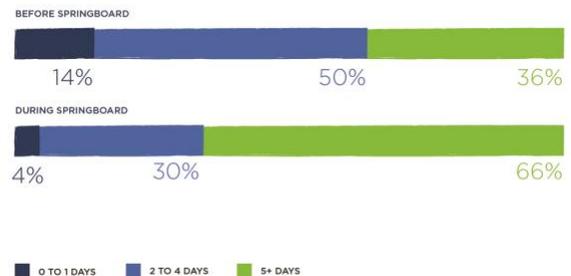
Springboard programs offer a different reality for young readers. Springboard Summer and Springboard Afterschool combine small group reading instruction, frequent family workshops training parents to teach reading at home, and an incentive structure that awards learning tools in proportion to family participation and student reading gains.

The program succeeds because key adults in the child's life – teachers and family members – work together to help each scholar grow towards reading independence. Teachers create an individualized *Student Action Plan* for every child so that the child knows what to be focusing on at home and at school. Springboard provides a leveled book pack for reading at home and leveled guided reading books for teachers to use in schools.

Springboard asks both teachers and family members to place an emphasis on personalized planning both at home and at school. Family members and children plan together and set family goals for how much time the scholar will spend reading independently each day and how much time the family member and child will spend reading together each day. Teachers focus their planning energy on differentiated student action plans and guided reading. This way, parents and teachers can make the most of very small adult to child ratios – generally 15:1 during Springboard and often 1:1 at home. The individualized planning and personalized support make all the difference for Springboard Scholars.

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

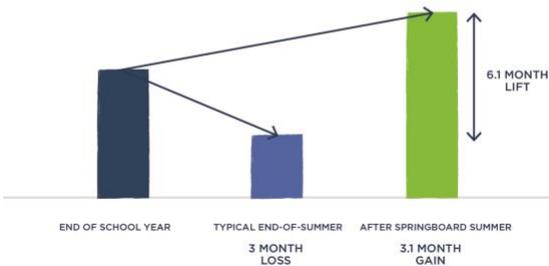
Springboard families spent more time reading with their children



For children who enter the program already reading, Springboard sets a reading goal for them to move up one reading level during the Springboard program. Having a clear, measurable reading goal gives children something to aim for by the end of their time with Springboard. To help families get the most out of this goal, Springboard teachers articulate in the *Student Action Plan* what the family can work on together at home. For instance, one child might need to focus on phrasing while reading aloud; another child may need to work on comprehension tasks like summarizing or retelling character development. These individualized *Student Action Plans* function like a “springboard” to help Springboard Scholars reach their formal goal of moving up one whole reading level.

READING GROWTH

Springboard scholars replaced a 3-month loss with a 3.1 month gain!



Every year Springboard Scholars rise to the occasion and do a tremendous job working with their *Student Action Plans* to reach their reading goals. Springboard Afterschool and Springboard Summer scholars consistently average more than three months’ growth during the Springboard programs. During the summer, this growth replaces what could have been a 3-month reading loss, lifting scholars’ reading trajectories by more than six months.

Springboard also supports scholars who aren’t yet reading conventionally. Reading instruction and family workshops for those children are aligned to Springboard’s pre-reading curriculum and student goals are based on Springboard’s *Reading Readiness Inventory*.

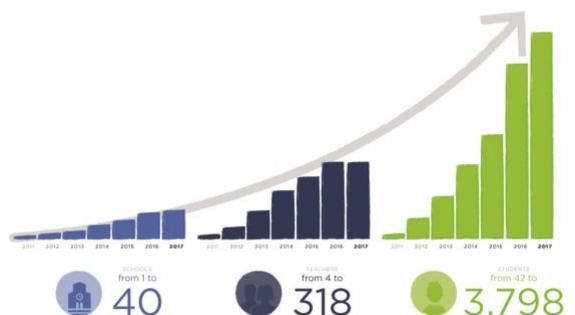
Springboard’s pre-readers consistently demonstrate tremendous growth; many develop from pre-emergent readers to emergent readers able to read books when supported by a teacher. By the end of the program many pre-readers progress to independent reading.

This growth is all made possible because teachers are willing to invest time and energy not only in out-of-school time instruction at school, but also in the real and valuable work of family collaboration. By the end of every Springboard program, families report that they have developed stronger home literacy habits, reading more often and for longer durations.

To support ongoing reading at home after the summer, the program ends with a Learning Bonus Celebration, during which children and families are recognized for their hard work and participation. Every scholar receives a certificate for completing the summer program. Families with perfect workshop attendance are eligible for learning bonuses, including books, backpacks with school supplies, and tablets, depending on student reading growth. These resources help families continue to cultivate new reading habits and take responsibility for reading growth after the summer program is finished.

NATIONAL EXPANSION

In 2017, Springboard launched in three new cities!



Since our launch in 2011, Springboard has grown from forty-two students to thousands. Springboard was founded in Philadelphia and continues to partner with district, Catholic, and charter schools there today. We’re honored to partner as well with schools and teachers across the country, including those in Oakland, New York City, San Francisco, San Jose, and Washington, DC.