

## Some Amazing Literacy Statistics

“Children who have not developed some basic literacy skills by the time they enter school are 3 to 4 times more likely to drop out in later years.”

US Department of Education

“74% of children who are poor readers in 3rd grade are poor readers in 9th grade.”

Bob Chase, President, National Education Association

“So strong is the link between literacy and being a useful member of society that some states use 3rd grade-level reading statistics as a factor in projecting future prison construction.”

Bob Chase, President, National Education Association

Only 18.5% of state prison inmates are high school graduates.

Only 2.7% are college graduates.

National Institute for Literacy

Only 29.2% of children under age 6 living at poverty rate have a parent that was a high school graduate.

Only 2.8% have a parent with a college degree.

National Center for Children in Poverty

“To grow up reading is to grow up with power and freedom.”

Dr . Perri Klass, Director, Reach Out and Read

More information from the National Institute for Literacy:

[www.nifl.gov/nifl/facts/facts.html](http://www.nifl.gov/nifl/facts/facts.html)

“To Read or Not To Read: A Question of National Consequence” is available as a book or free 98 page document from the National Endowment for the Arts website: [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov) Publications, literature