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Oklahoma Senate Education Committee

October 17, 2019

# A Nation At Risk:

THE  
IMPERATIVE  
FOR EDUCATIONAL  
REFORM



The National Commission on Excellence  
in Education

**“If an unfriendly foreign power had attempted to impose on America the mediocre educational performance that exists today, we might well have viewed it as an act of war.”**

**A Nation At Risk (-83)**

PURGAMENTUM INIT, EXIT PURGAMENTUM

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- 2/3 of those who do graduate have not achieved proficiency in basic literacy and math (NAEP)
- Among OECD Countries & Regions, PISA 2017 the U.S. ranks Below the Median in All Subjects:  
Math 39<sup>th</sup>, Reading 24<sup>th</sup>, Science 25<sup>th</sup>, Overall 31<sup>st</sup>

# Reagan Institute Summit on Education

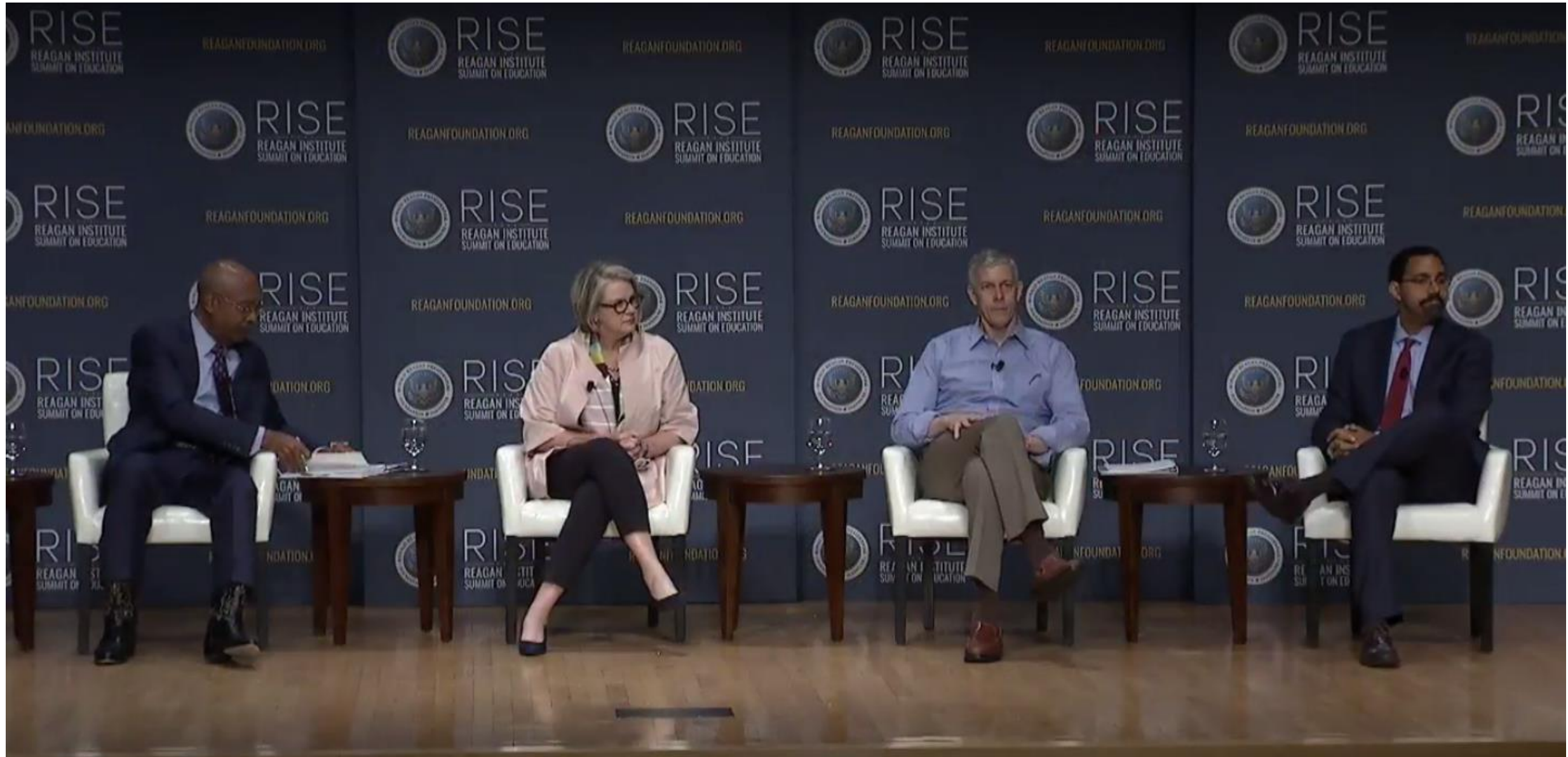


Table 1: Statistically significant changes in national results from 2013–17

NAEP:  
In the U.S.  
Only 1/3 of  
Students Are  
Proficient

	Reading		Math	
	Grade 4	Grade 8	Grade 4	Grade 8
National			-2	-2
White Students			-2	-1
Black Students				-3
Hispanic Students				-3
90th Percentile				2
10th Percentile	-3	-4	-5	-4

We know how to access the marketplace of schooling,  
but how do we access the marketplace of learning?

- There is only one marketplace of learning.
- The Agency of each learner is the *only* marketplace of learning
- Our Challenge is to access student agency moment to moment
- Technology makes it possible to reach every student where they are and empower them to grow to mastery

# Serve and Return: Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University

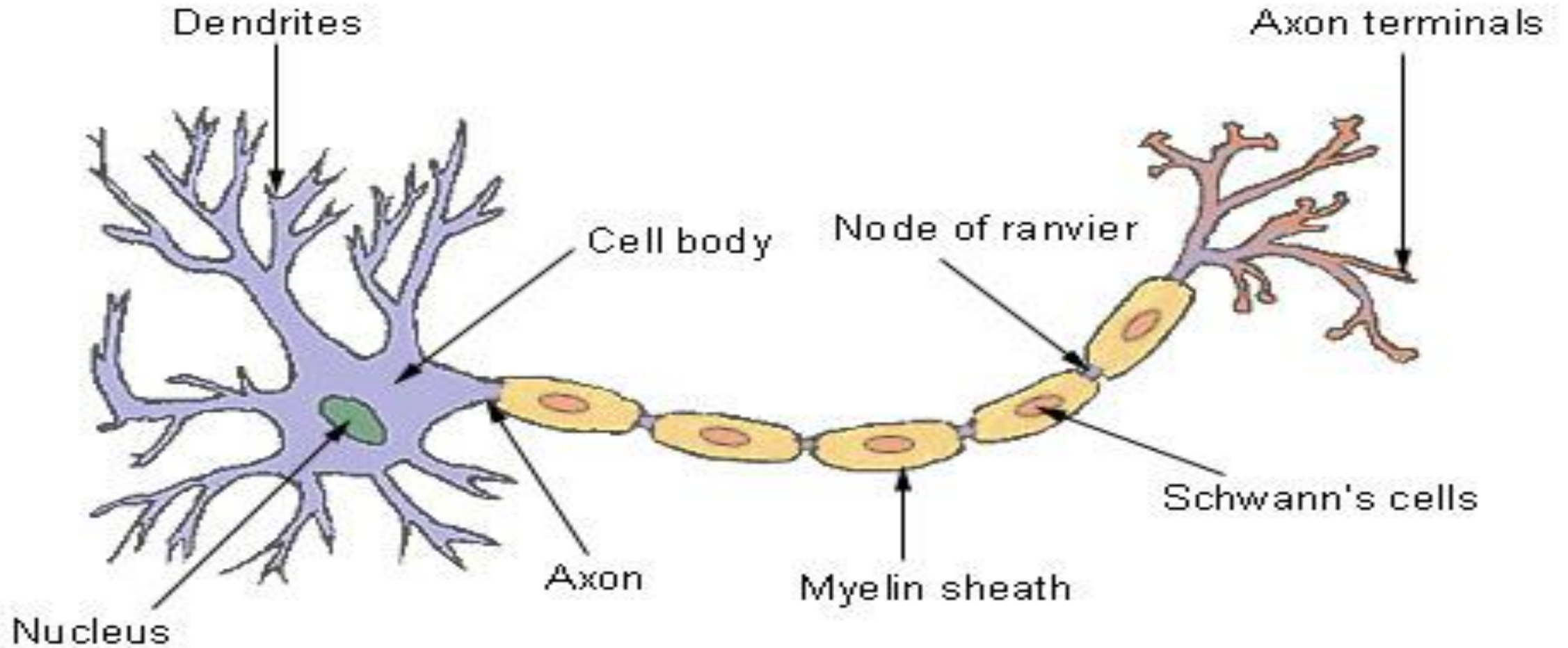




# How Brains Are Built

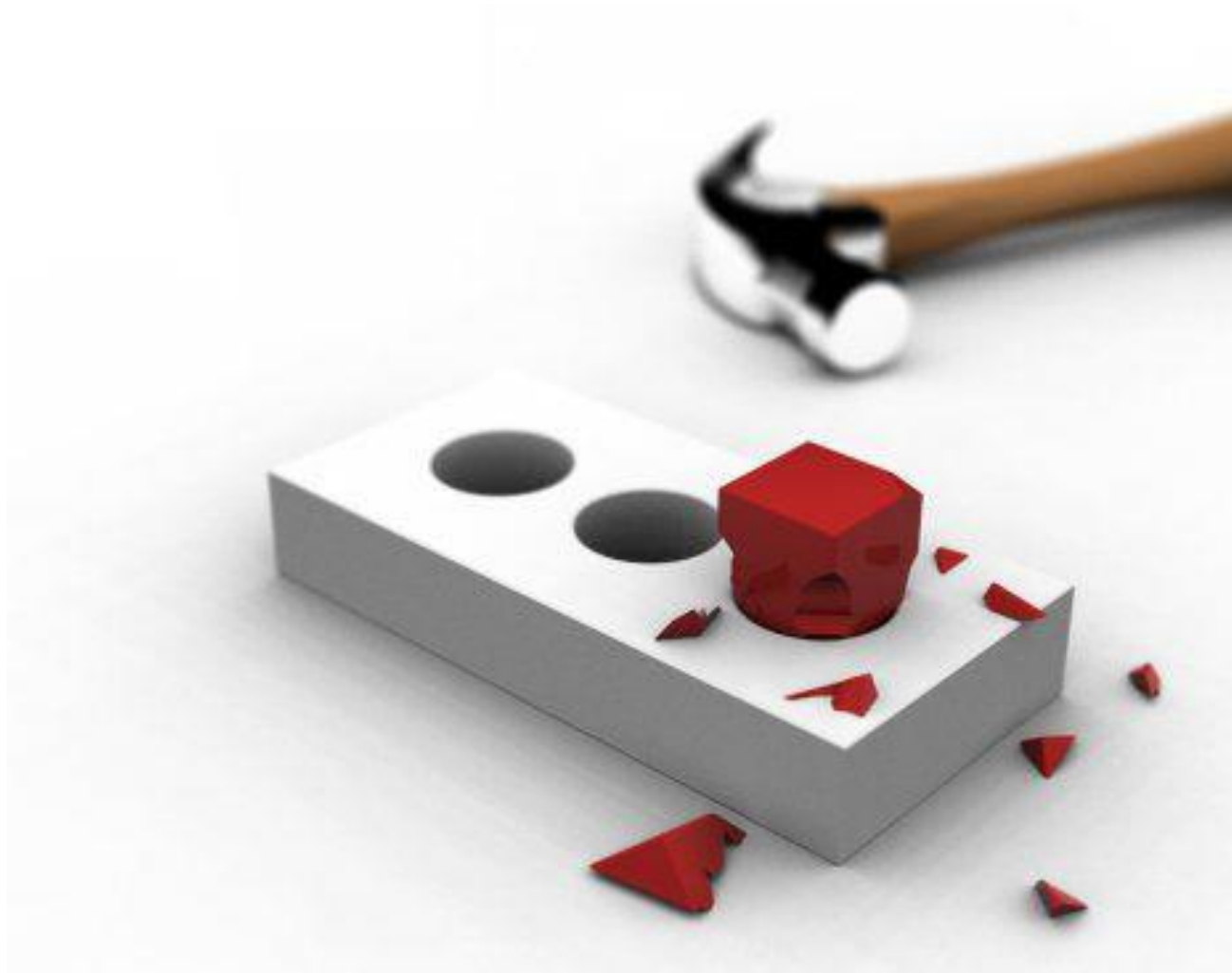


## Structure of a Typical Neuron



Human brain has 100 billion cells connected 10 trillion ways

Authentic Learning is NEVER Painful



Does your math homework provide immediate feedback?  
Or is it painful and produce negative self-labeling?





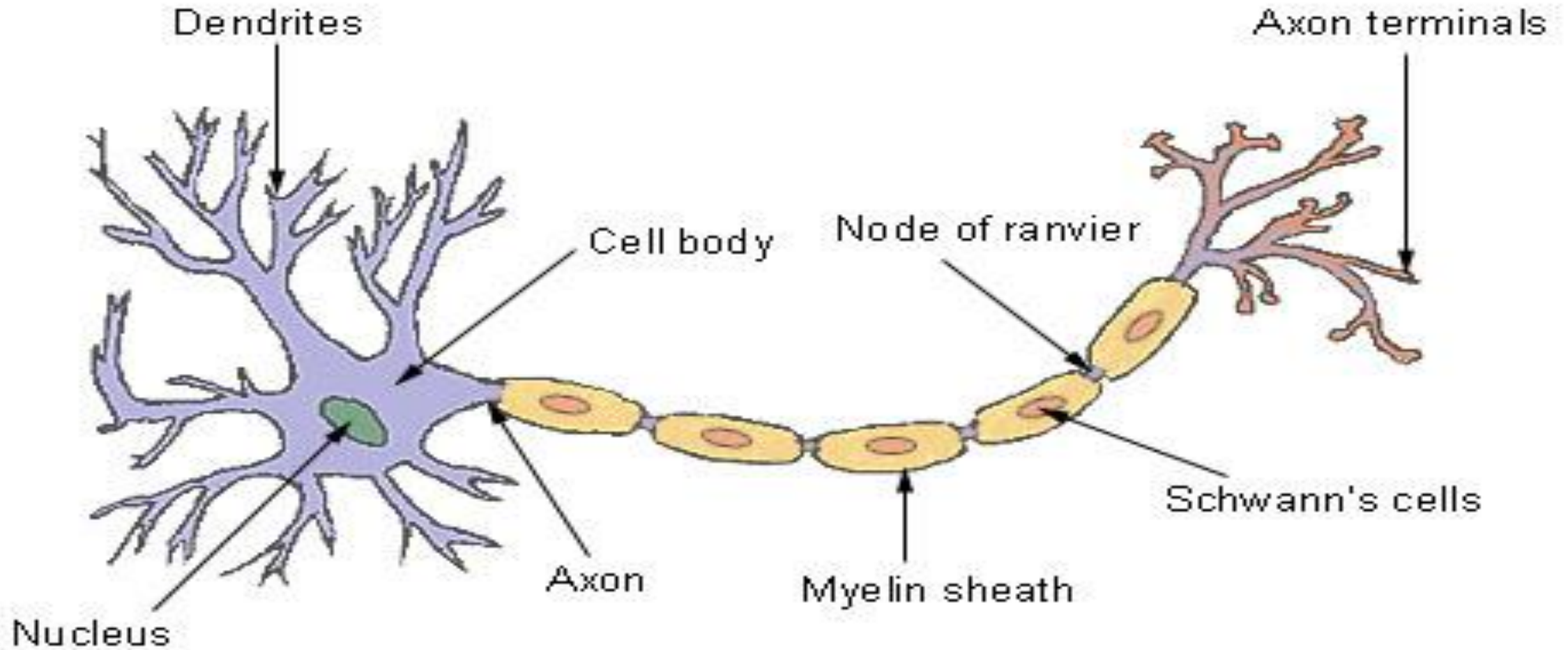
# Our Search for Happiness



# Our Search for Dopamine



## Structure of a Typical Neuron



Human brain has 100 billion cells connected 10 trillion ways

# Our Search for Success



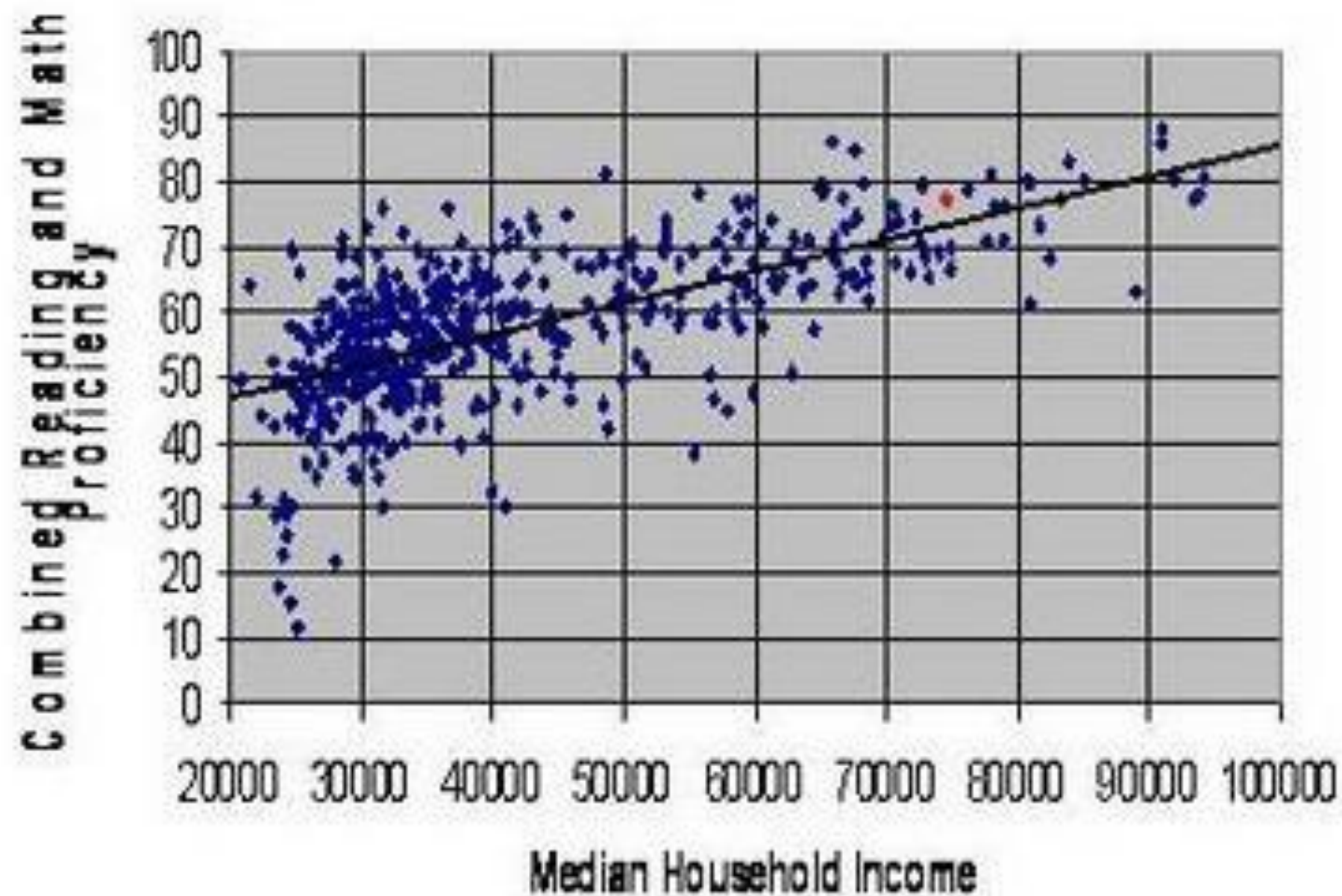
# Our Search for Serotonin



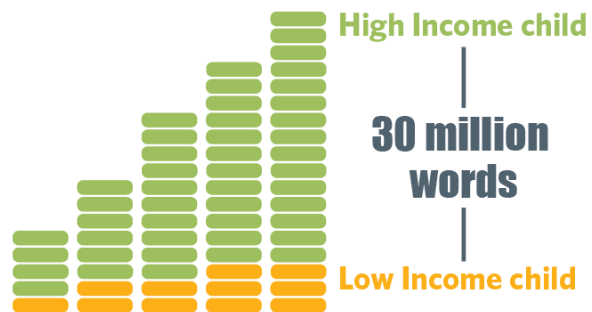
# Typical Excuses for Failing Students

- Low Income
- Minority
- Special Needs
- English Learners
- Toxic Stress

## S.E.S (Household Income) vs. Student Achievement



## Word Gap



## Positive vs. Negative Language

Professional Family



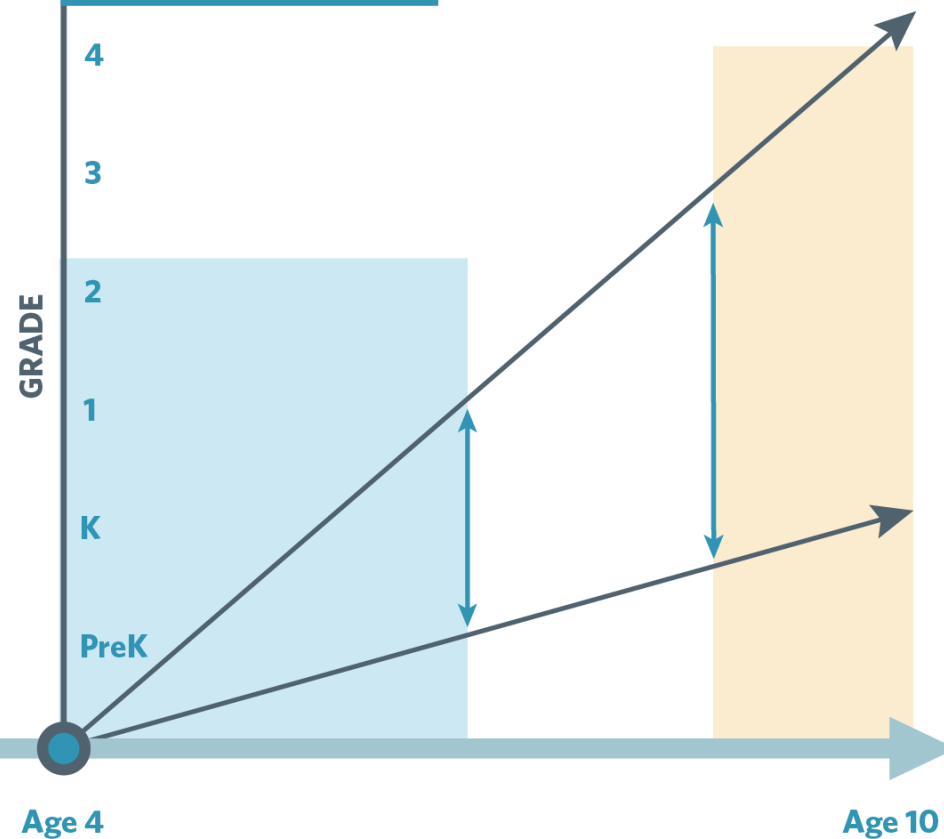
Middle Class Family



Economic Distress Family



## Achievement Gap



EVERYONE can  
achieve expertise  
through deliberate  
practice.

Immediate,  
Interactive, Adaptive  
Feedback

# PEAK

SECRETS FROM  
THE NEW SCIENCE  
OF EXPERTISE

Anders Ericsson  
*and* Robert Pool

"If you manage people or are a parent (which is a form of managing people), drop everything and read *Mindset*."  
—GUY KAWASAKI, author of *The Art of the Start*

# mindset

THE NEW PSYCHOLOGY OF SUCCESS

HOW WE CAN  
LEARN TO FULFILL  
OUR POTENTIAL

\*parenting  
\*business  
\*school  
\*relationships

"Will prove to be one of the most influential books ever about motivation."  
—Po BRONSON, author of *NurtureShock*

CAROL S. DWECK, Ph.D.

Carol Dweck's  
“growth mindset” — the idea that we can grow our brain's capacity to learn and to solve problems.

Are you not smart enough to solve it ... or have you just not solved it yet?



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SUCCESS FROM THE  
**START**

# Pew Charitable Trusts – Pre-K Conference

- Big Sky Montana June 2006
- 11 States without state funded Pre-K
- Each state team developed its own plan
- Utah took a family-centered approach
- 2008 Legislation for computer-based in-home services
- Legislation required child and parent efficacy training
- Waterford won the RFP Contract
- UEA Teachers Union Brought Suit against SB 2

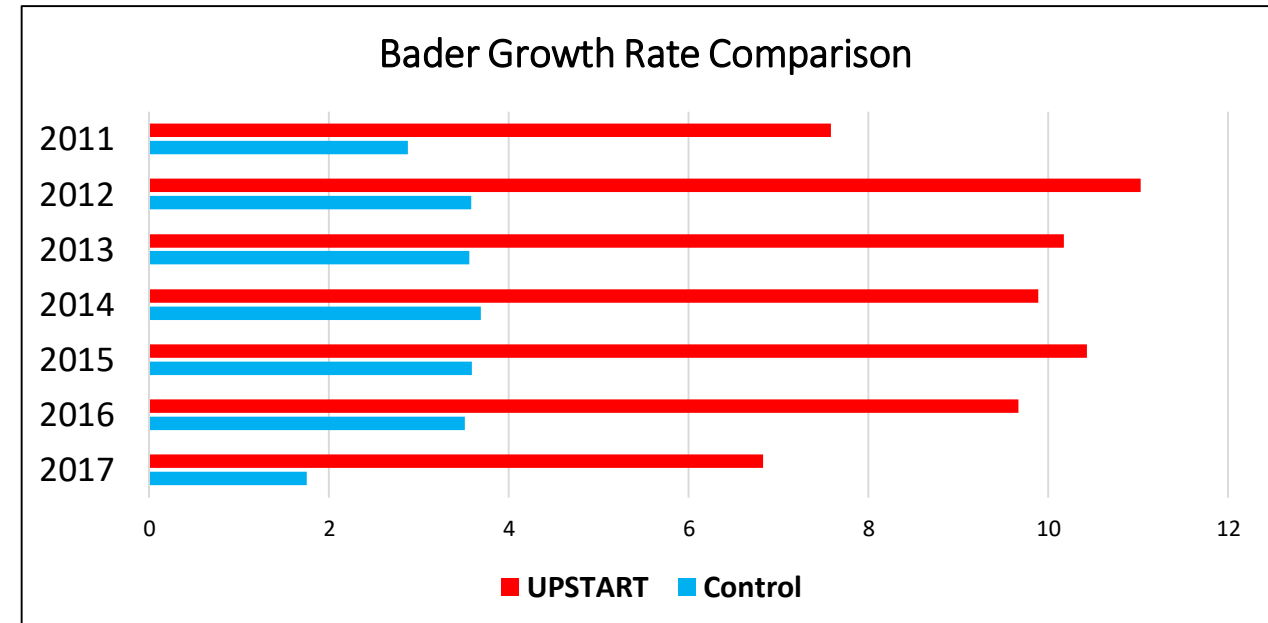
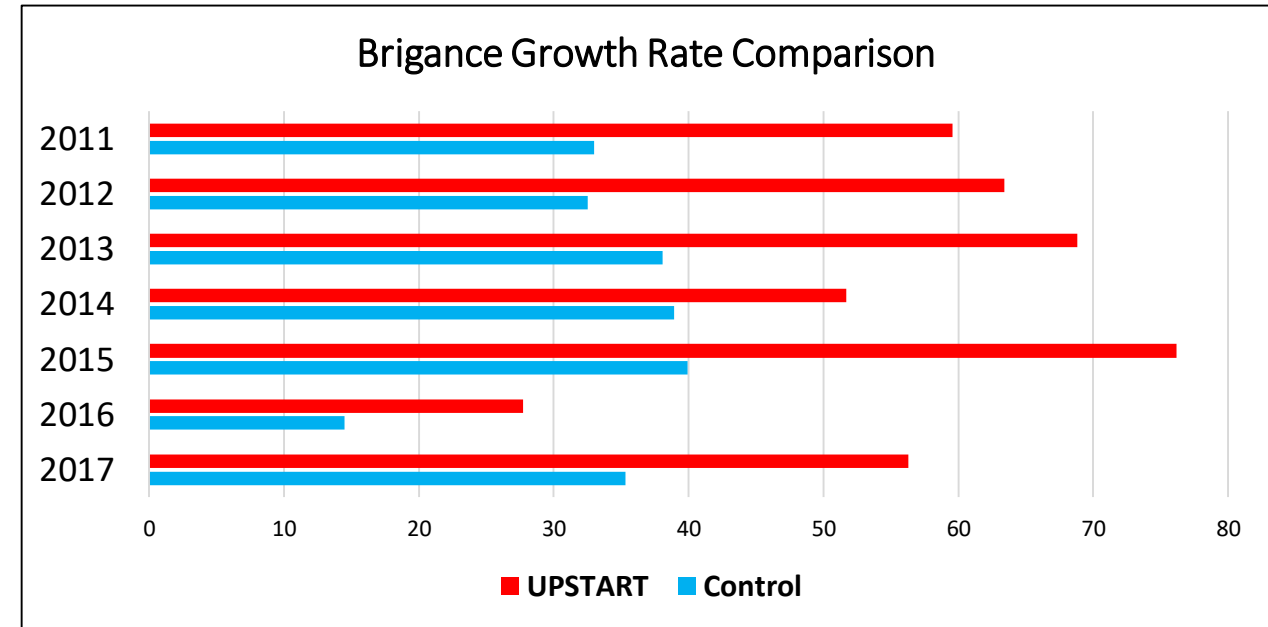
# UPSTART – External Evaluations



The Evaluation and Training Institute (ETI)

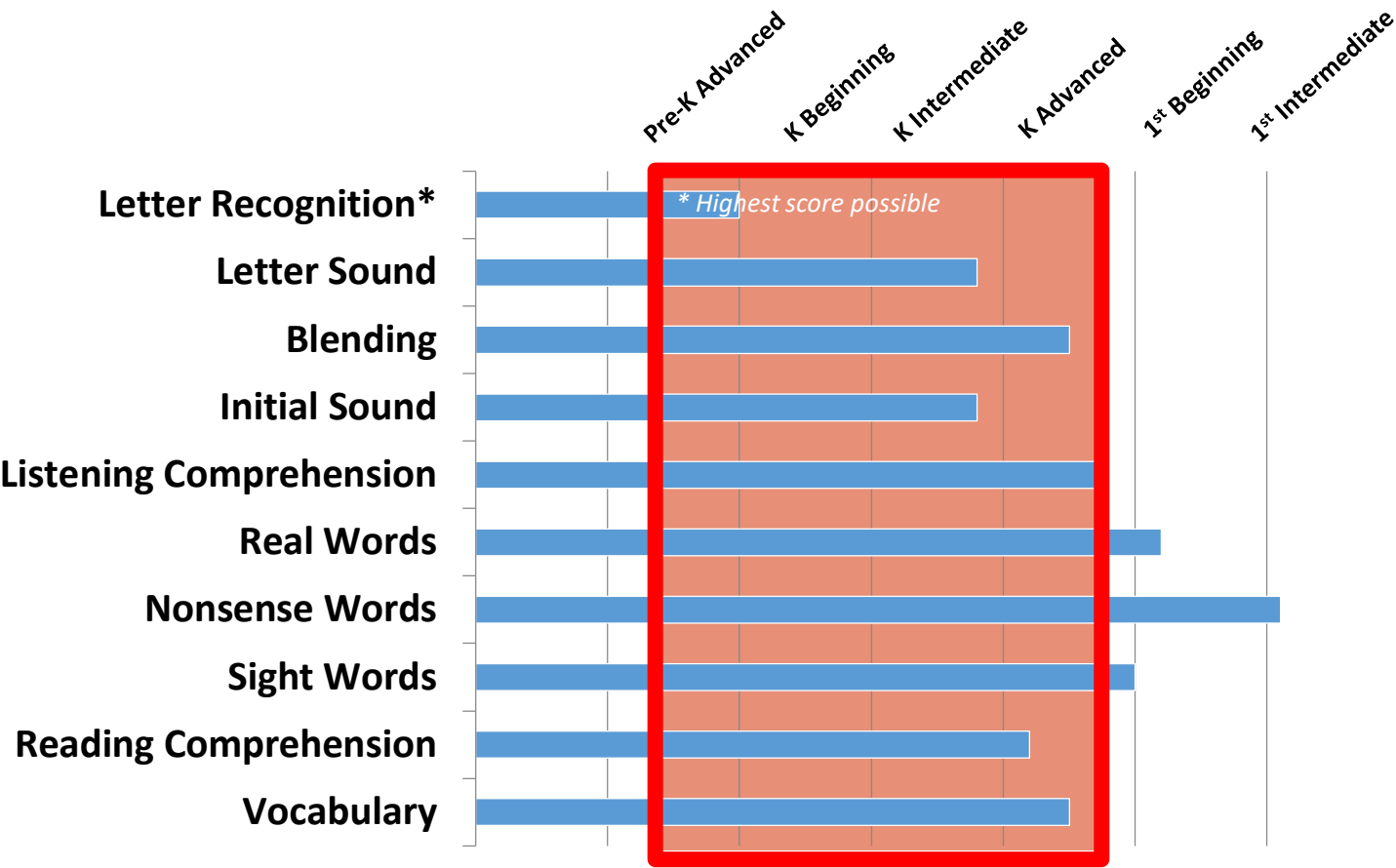
The state of Utah has used a 3rd party evaluation to study how children who use UPSTART perform compared to children who did not have the opportunity to participate in the program.

UPSTART children have 2 to 3 times the growth on both the Bader and Brigance Assessments.



# UPSTART Students in Utah Enter Kindergarten AT or ABOVE Grade Level

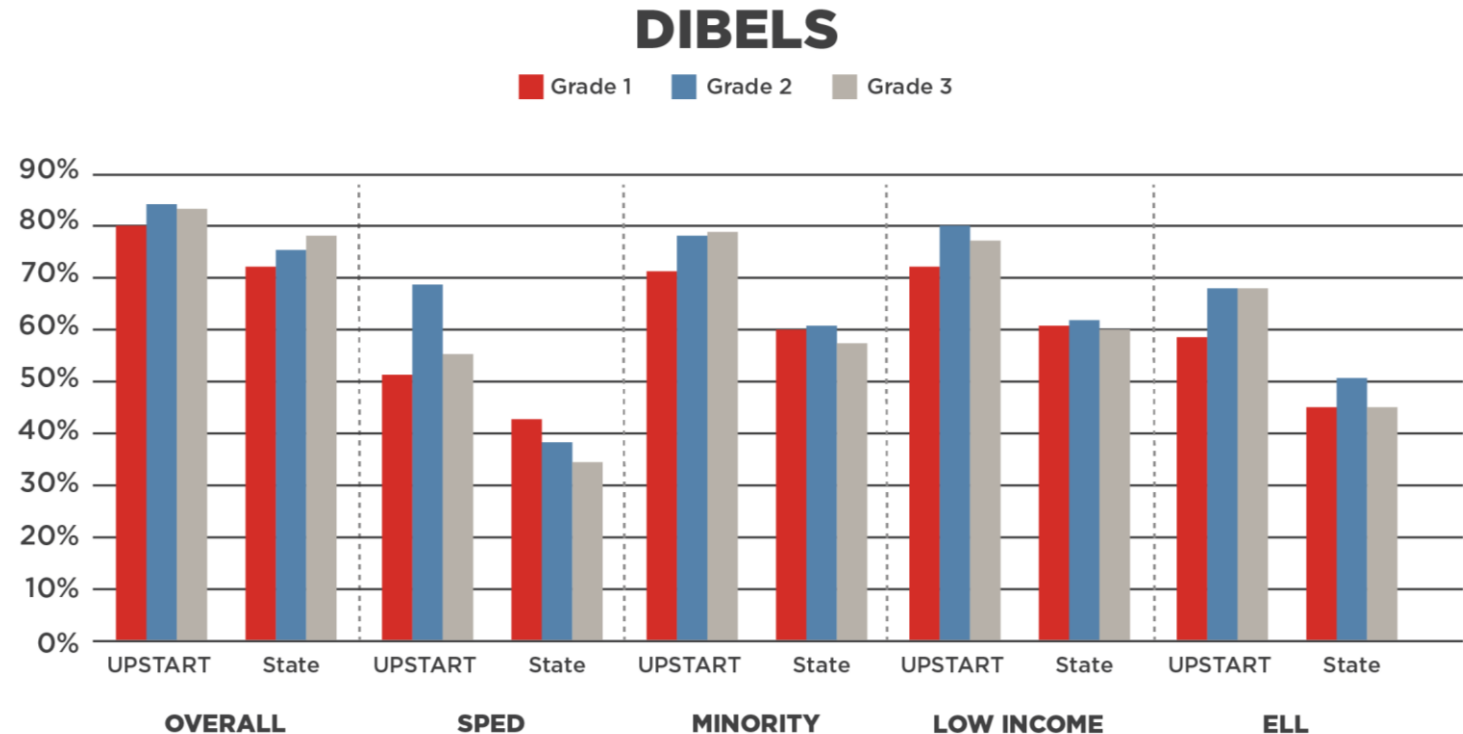
UPSTART students in Utah enter Kindergarten at a “Kindergarten Advanced” level. 2-3 times greater growth in critical literacy skills regardless of their background or demographics.



# UPSTART – Longitudinal Results

The Utah State Board of Education (USBE) conducted a longitudinal evaluation of UPSTART outcomes in Utah that found:

- UPSTART students continually outperform state averages compared to their non-UPSTART peers on state standardized tests in grades first through fourth (the highest grade UPSTART participants had achieved at the time of the study).
- Significantly, these gains were consistent across all subgroups, including special education, minority, low-income, and English learner populations.



# UPSTART – Longitudinal Results

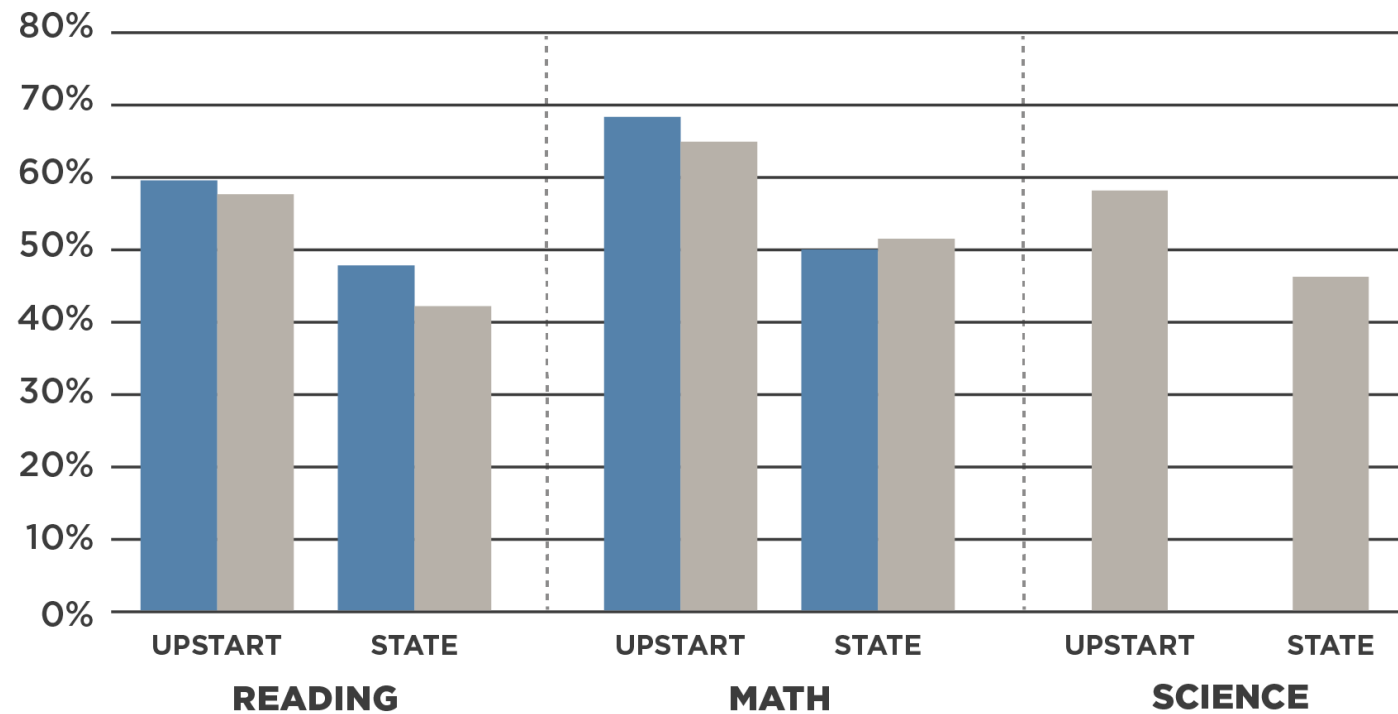
The USBE longitudinal evaluation of the program in Utah also found:

- “The UPSTART program shows continued success at helping preschool age children develop literacy skills and prepare for school.”
- “The strong program effects support wide-scale implementation across at-risk preschool populations.”



## SAGE - Overall

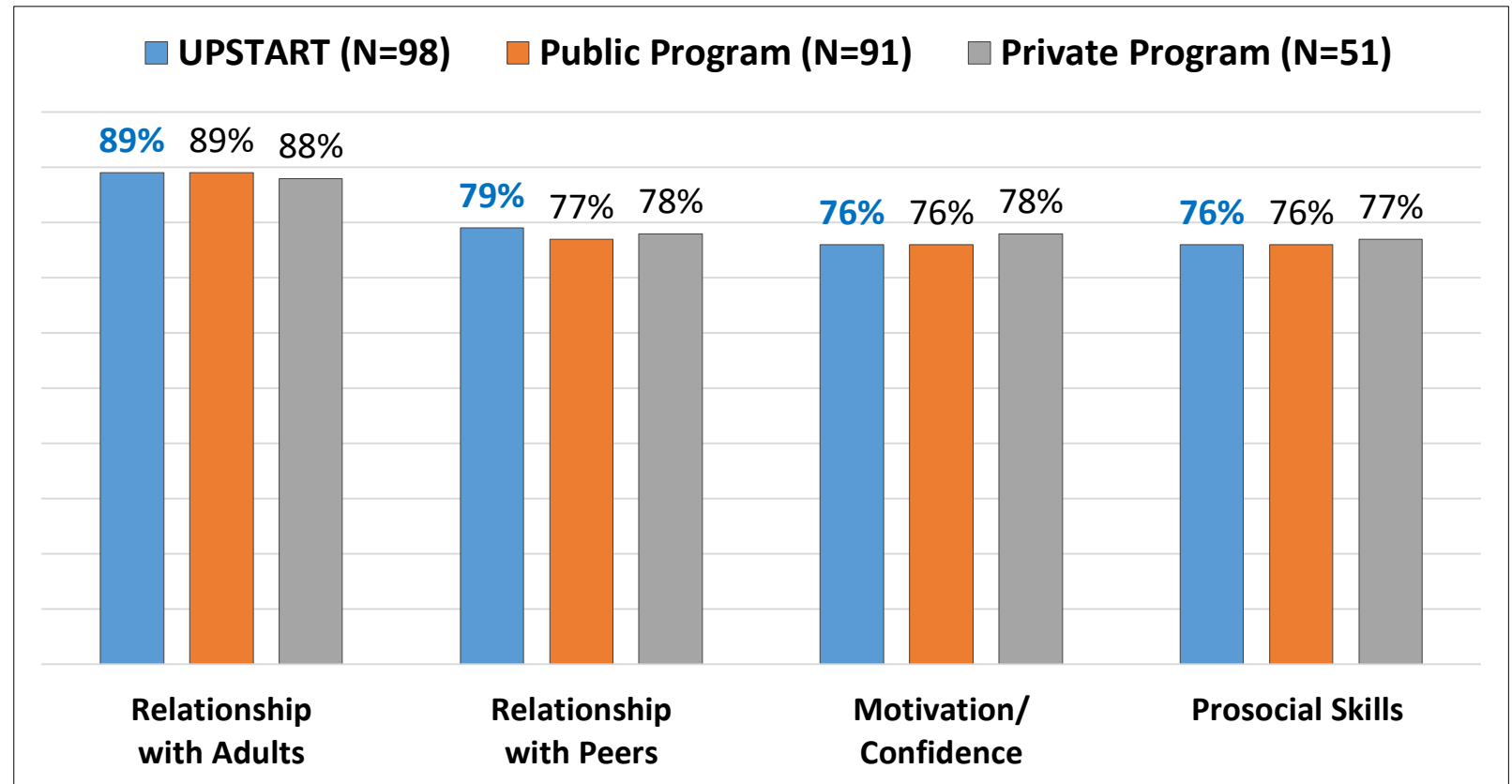
■ GRADE 3 ■ GRADE 4



# UPSTART – Social Emotional Learning



**Social-Emotional Development Skills by Program Group**





The National Conference  
of State Legislatures  
Identified UPSTART  
as one of three most  
effective Kindergarten  
Readiness Options



## A Fair Start: Ensuring all Students Are Ready to Learn

Education

NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES | JAN 2018



States should also consider children **living in rural areas**, as their pre-K access lags behind all urban and suburban student group. This highlights the need for cost effective school readiness models that are unhindered by challenges of geography and transportation. Page

One approach that states may consider is targeted school readiness programs using evidence-based virtual technologies to reach at-risk populations in remote areas, such as **Utah's UPSTART Program**. This strategy has been proven to support significant gains in school readiness with long-term effects. Page

# THE AUDACIOUS PROJECT

A new model to inspire change at scale



What if every child came to school on day one ready to learn?

## **UPSTART Project**

Kids without access to early education may start kindergarten already years behind their peers. Waterford's UPSTART project will break through existing barriers, by coaching parents and providing personalized learning tools for every child.

**TED**

# SAT to Add "Adversity Score," in Hopes of Narrowing the Achievement Gap

The College Board hopes to measure students' "resourcefulness to overcome challenges and achieve more with less."



by **CHLOE FOUSSIANES** MAY 17, 2019

# UPSTART - Parental Satisfaction in Utah

**13,000+**

Parents and caregivers voluntarily completed program evaluations

**99%**

Felt UPSTART helped prepare their child for kindergarten

**99%**

Said participating in UPSTART was beneficial

**99%**

Would recommend the program to family and friends

**98%**

Felt the content was appropriate for their child's age

**97%**

Felt that their child enjoyed the software

Silas, son of a single dad



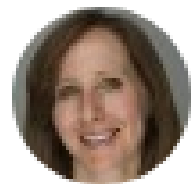
# Non-cognitive benefits of digital learning tools are as significant as cognitive benefits

- Self confidence
- Prevents Stigma of grouping students
- Sense of well-being
- Positive attitude toward school
- Fewer absences
- Social/emotional growth

*May 14, 2019*

# K-12 Districts Wasting Millions by Not Using Purchased Software, New Analysis Finds

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**Michelle R. Davis**

Senior Writer

# My Promise to You

At least 90% of your students will achieve grade level proficiency in Math and Reading a single academic year

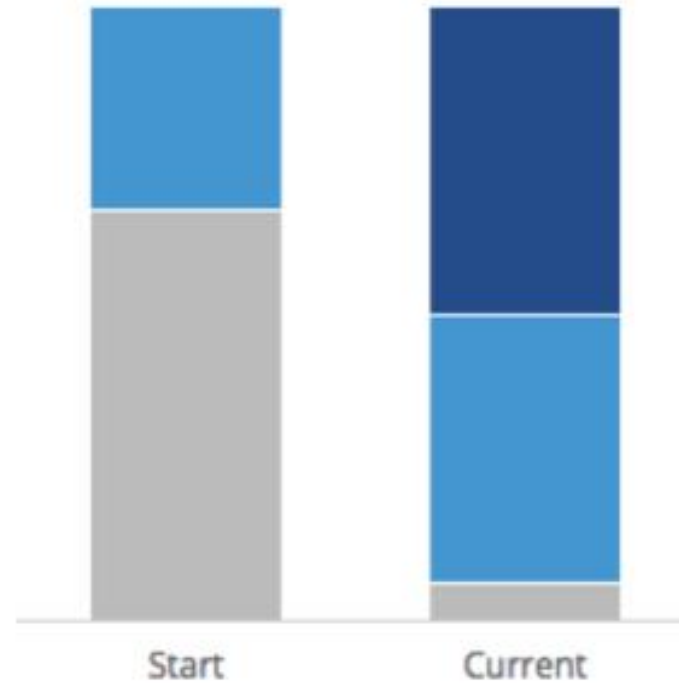
IF

You implement these tools with fidelity

Sonia Olsen's  
38 4<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Averaged 2.5  
Years Growth  
Using Reading  
Intervention  
Software with  
Fidelity

### Skill Progress

Students working Above, In or Below Grade Level of Material (GLM).



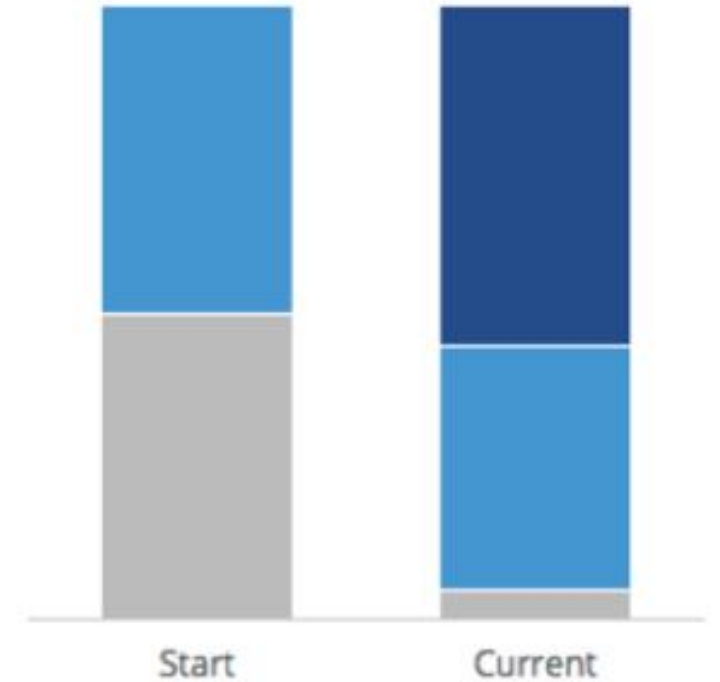
18 Students ?

Updated Daily

Class Chart Dual Immersion 1

### Skill Progress

Students working Above, In or Below Grade Level of Material (GLM).



20 Students ?

Updated Daily

Class Chart Dual Immersion 2







# Starfish allegory



Starfish allegory in education admits that millions will be left behind



Through Personalized Learning, we can re-immerse all students in an environment where they can thrive





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