

United Way is leveraging a data driven approach to identify gaps and opportunities to improve our community and families with a focus on children. The data, called the Child Well Being Index (CWBI), along with input from members of the community, have helped us focus on four keys initiatives as a starting point to address Educational, Health and Financial needs.



We come to you today with the focus on reading, the most fundamental skill children must learn to succeed in school and life. Reading skills develop well before children start school. Studies show that 80% of brain growth happens by the age of 3. Engaging in reading activities from birth gives our children the best opportunity to be proficient in reading by the end of third grade. Children who read proficiently by the end of third grade are four times more likely to graduate from high school,

paving the way to higher education or having better opportunities in the workforce.

United Way is building a layered approach to literacy starting with programs from birth to kindergarten through programs like "The Basics", kindergarten through 2^{nd} grade by providing literacy kits, and engaging in national programs like "Read United".

United Way currently produces literacy kits that are both educational and entertaining. They provide a vehicle for children and parents to interact in activities with an emphasis on reading.

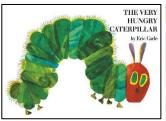


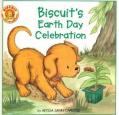
For the love of READING...Here's how you can help!

We are seeking sponsorship of the literacy kits so that we can provide every pre-school through 2^{nd} grade student with a kit to enjoy. The sponsorship will provide funds to procure materials for the literacy kits and to provide financial support for additional literacy-focused programs. We can also provide your company or group with a volunteer activity to assemble the kits. The following sponsorships are available:



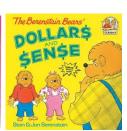
Current kits include:











"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more you learn, the more places you go." – Dr. Seuss, "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!"



Support young readers in our community! For more information, please contact United Way of Forsyth County at 770.781.4110.

