

# Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant Literacy Lead Agency Project Overview

## Statewide Literacy Priority: Priority 1

Birth to age five projects that support early childhood education (ECE) programs that promote literacy-rich environments and experiences and support the quality of programs and their capacity to support early language and literacy skills, as well as to increase family support by increasing knowledge, skills, and confidence through family-centered curriculum and literacy activities with special attention to linguistic diversity and equity and access for all.

**Literacy Lead Agency:** San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (SBCSS)

**Consortium Members:** Orange County Department of Education (OCDE), Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS)

**Project Name:** The Early Learning Literacy Project (ELLP)

**Project Overview:** Key activities of the ELLP include:

1. Identification of an early literacy problem of practice
2. Attention to diversity and variability in early literacy and across early learning programs
3. Root cause analysis of the comprehensive early literacy system
4. Determination of measurable early literacy goals and outcomes
5. Engagement in inquiry-driven professional learning and coaching experiences
6. Sharing of best practices in a networked community of practice

The ELLP will engage in a Plan-Do-Study-Act coaching cycle model to enable schools and early learning agencies in systematically improving early literacy outcomes and to assist counties in scaling replicable program improvement efforts for early literacy to improve overall student outcomes in response to county-specific performance indicators. Early childhood educators will be trained in Developmentally Appropriate Practices, Universal Design for Learning, Culturally Responsive Teaching, and Family Engagement. During each year of the ELLP Continuous Improvement Coaching Cycles, participants will engage in data-driven inquiry to identify and implement high leverage evidence-based practices that will accelerate early literacy development. Attention will be given to evidence-based practices that can be pivoted to engage children birth through age five in early literacy experiences at school and at home to extend the continuity of learning within and beyond the school day. Educators will assess students' early literacy progress through comprehensive assessments to decide when to intervene and accelerate literacy progress, which literacy strategies are appropriate for the identified point of intervention, and at what level of intensity in order to impact the level of acceleration. SBCSS will work directly with two districts, Rialto Unified School District and Victor Elementary School District. FCSS will work directly with Fresno Unified School District. OCDE will work directly with Orange Unified School District.