#### **Boston Basics Multi-City Convening**

December 2, 2016 at the Boston Children's Museum



None of us can do alone what all of us can do together!



Fun, Simple, and Powerful!

#### Speakers from the Boston Basics Core Leadership Team

#### Ron Ferguson

Faculty Director of the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard University

#### Jeff Howard

President of the Efficacy Institute and Chair, Black Philanthropy Fund

#### Turahn Dorsey

Chief of Education for the City of Boston (in the Mayor's Cabinet, not the Superintendent of Schools)

#### Wendell Knox

Retired CEO of Abt Associates Inc. and Vice Chair, Black Philanthropy Fund

#### **Meeting Facilitators**

#### Sarah McLean

Harvard Resident, Education First

#### Liz O'Connor

Founder and Principal, StrategyMatters

#### Cities and Towns Represented

- Boston, MA
- Bridgeport, CN
- Butte County, CA
- Chattanooga, TN
- Chicago
- Greenville, SC
- Houston, TX
- Los Angeles, CA
- Ossining, NY
- Peekskill, NY
- Salt Lake City, UT
- Suffolk, VA







1 2 3 Count, group, and compare







We begin with the Basics Caregiver Promise and then watch the Boston Basics Overview Video.

# Three Compelling Facts

- 80% of brain growth happens in the first three years.
- Racial, ethnic, and socio-economic skill gaps are very clear in national data by the age of two.
- Science is clear about the types of lived experiences in the first three years that really make a difference!

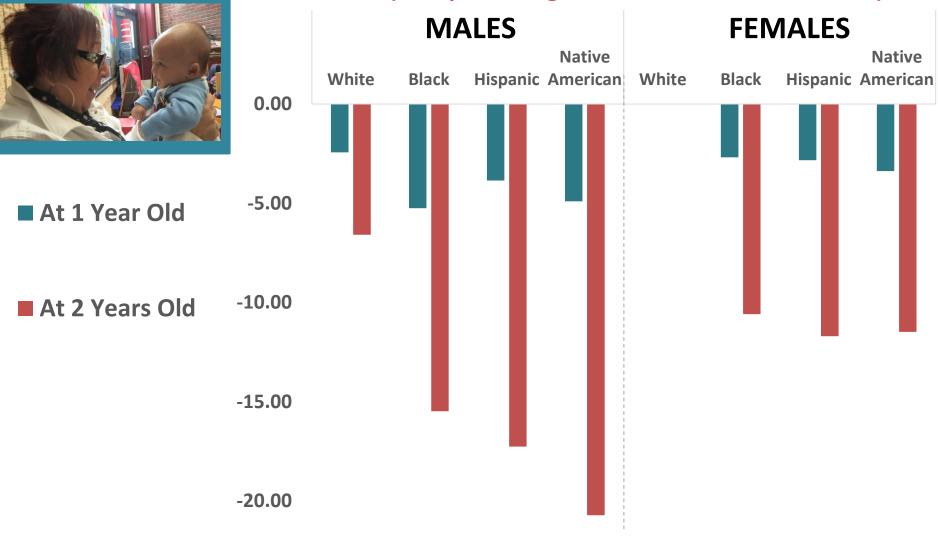


We face a moral imperative to act!



#### **Cognitive Gaps in Early Childhood**

(As a percentage of scores for white females)



Source: AGI Calculations using Bailey Test score data from the U.S. national Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort.

#### Why do gaps open so early?

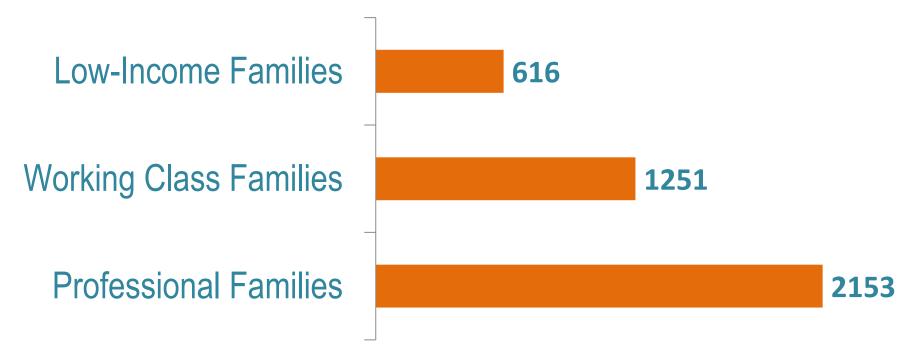


In one landmark study,\* advantaged children in the U.S. heard as many as 30 million more words by the age of 3 compared to children whose families were receiving public assistance.



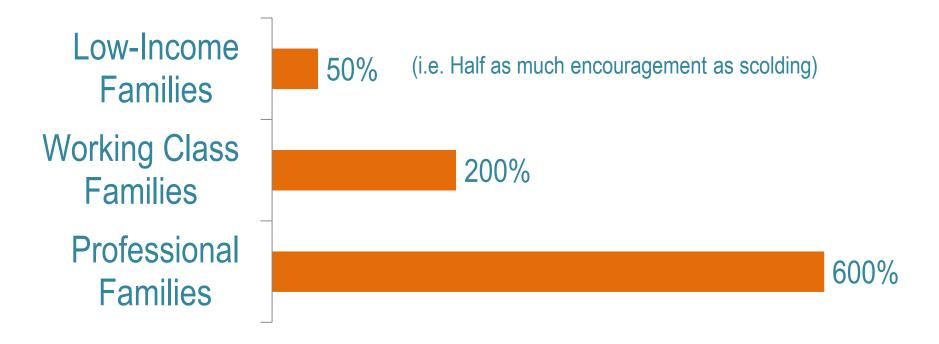
<sup>\*</sup>Betty Hart and Todd R. Risley (1995). *Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Experiences of Young American Children*. Baltimore: Brookes. Also, Betty Hart and Todd R. Risley (2003, Spring). 'The Early Catastrophe: The 30 Million Word Gap by Age 3" (2003, Spring). American Educator, pp.4-9.

#### Words the child heard spoken per hour:



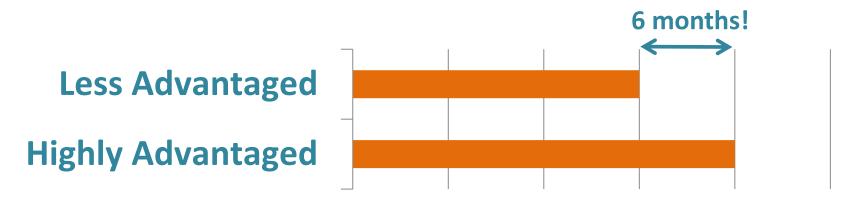
<sup>\*</sup>Betty Hart and Todd R. Risley (2003, Spring). "The Early Catastrophe: The 30 Million Word Gap by Age 3" (2003, spring). American Educator, pp.4-9.

# The ratio of praise or encouragement to reprimands, warnings, or scolding:\*

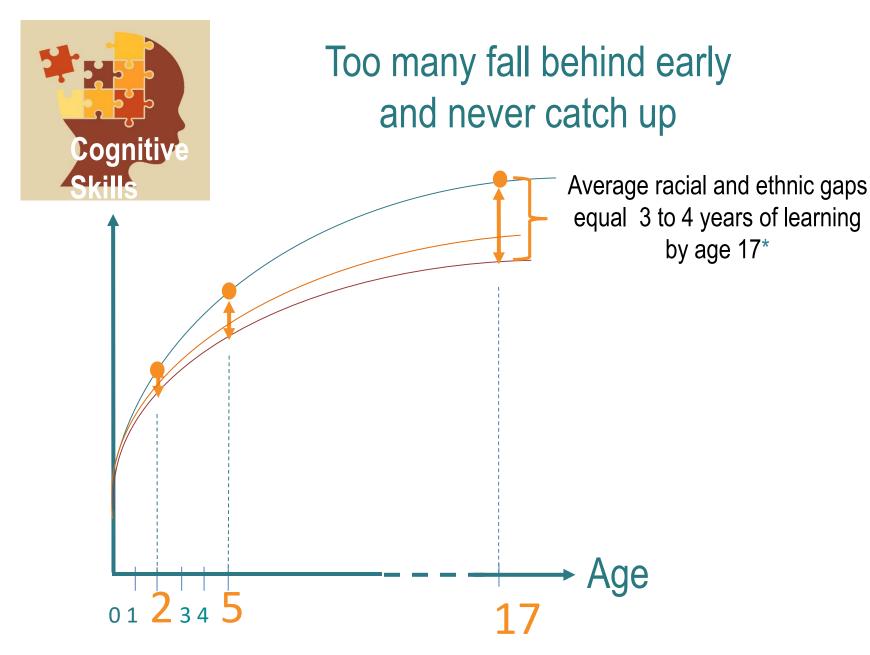


<sup>\*</sup>Betty Hart and Todd R. Risley (2003, Spring). "The Early Catastrophe: The 30 Million Word Gap by Age 3" (2003, spring). American Educator, pp.4-9.

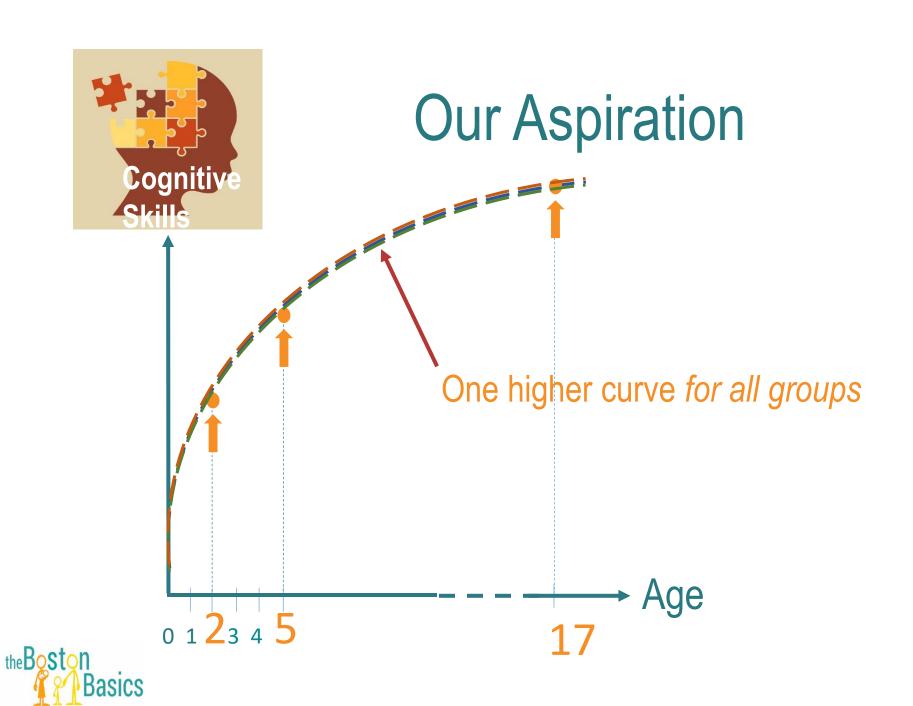
In another major study,\* less advantaged children were six months behind the highly advantaged in language processing skills by the age of two!



Anne Fernald, Virginia Marchman, and Adriana Weisleder (2013). "SES Differences in Language Processing Skill and Vocabulary are Evident at 18 Months." *Developmental Science* Volume 16, Number 2, pages 234-248.



<sup>\*</sup>This refers to the gap between blacks, Latinos, and Native Americans, compared to whites, on the National Assessment of Educational Progress.



#### So what can we do?

There will never be enough capacity in high quality programs to serve all of the families and children that could benefit.



So, let's saturate the community with *the Basics*.

Make life the program!

Help families experience positive reinforcements from every direction for doing the Basics



# the Black Philanthropy Fund and the Boston Basics Campaign

Jeff Howard, Chair, Black Philanthropy Fund



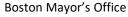
# Convening Organizations of the Boston Basics Campaign





a learning and leadership community











Currently with 72 active partner organizations.

#### Origins of the Boston Basics Campaign

- Began with the conceptual work of Ron Ferguson of the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard, working with a national advisory committee and support from the Kellogg Foundation
- After he presented to us, we of the Black Philanthropy Fund (BPF)
  committed to anchoring a partnership to build a Boston Basics
  Campaign to reach out to all parents in our community
- We were joined by Rahn Dorsey, the Mayor's Education Chief (and a former trustee of the BPF)
- The BPF reached out, in December of 2014, to a dozen early childhood and parenting agencies, to assess interest in such a campaign. They strongly affirmed the idea, and encouraged the BPF to play a lead organizing role.



## Campaign Objectives

- Have measurable positive impact on actual parenting practices in Boston
- Show measurable increases in Kindergarten Readiness, as a foundation for school success, and ultimately, College and Career Readiness



#### An Installable Package

- We have developed a package of tools, all built around the Basics, we offer to agencies who share our interest in children and early parenting
- We operate open source, providing access to the entire package to anyone, anywhere who wants to use it (as is) at no charge
- We offer limited customization, e.g., "The Houston Basics" for other communities interested in building a Campaign
- We are <u>not</u> establishing a new agency; we exist to serve children through support of existing institutions and early childhood providers



## Funding the Campaign

theBoston

- The initial investments in a Boston Campaign were made by the Black Philanthropy Fund:
  - Financed the English and Spanish Language videos (produced at WGBH) with supplemental support from the Latino Legacy Fund to help with the Spanish videos
  - Considerable "sweat equity" (along with AGI and Chief of Education) in developing strategy, raising additional funds, and building agency partnerships to deliver the BB
- We want the BBC to contribute to a sense of vitality in Boston's early childhood community, to stimulate a bigger commitment and more funding across the board
- We have so far enlisted funds from individuals, organizations and institutions that reflect the diversity our community; this is a true *citywide* campaign and a public-private partnership

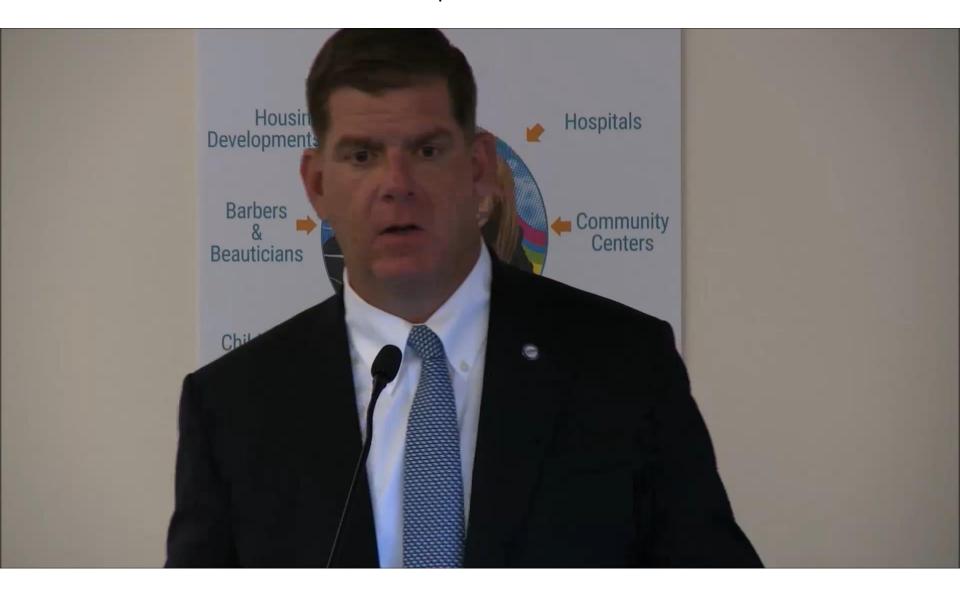
#### A Vision for the Future

- The norms and routines of early parenting will include the Basics.
- Far more children will arrive at school prepared to succeed, with far fewer falling off track before reaching kindergarten.
- Achievement will be higher among children from every background.
- Performance gaps by race, ethnicity, and background will greatly diminish.
- A growing share of young adults will become successful contributors, with a falling share struggling and requiring supplemental supports.

#### A Message from Rahn Dorsey, Chief of Education for the City of Boston and a Brief Video clip from Mayor Martin J. Walsh



Note: this brief video can be watched as part of the conference video. It is not in this file.

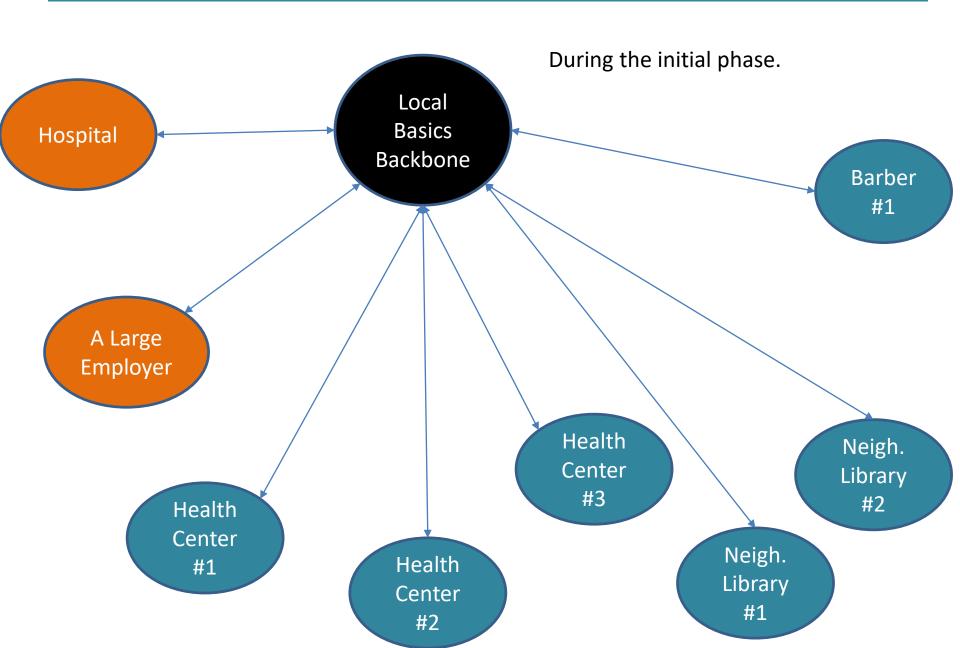


# Boston Basics Campaign: the Local System Model

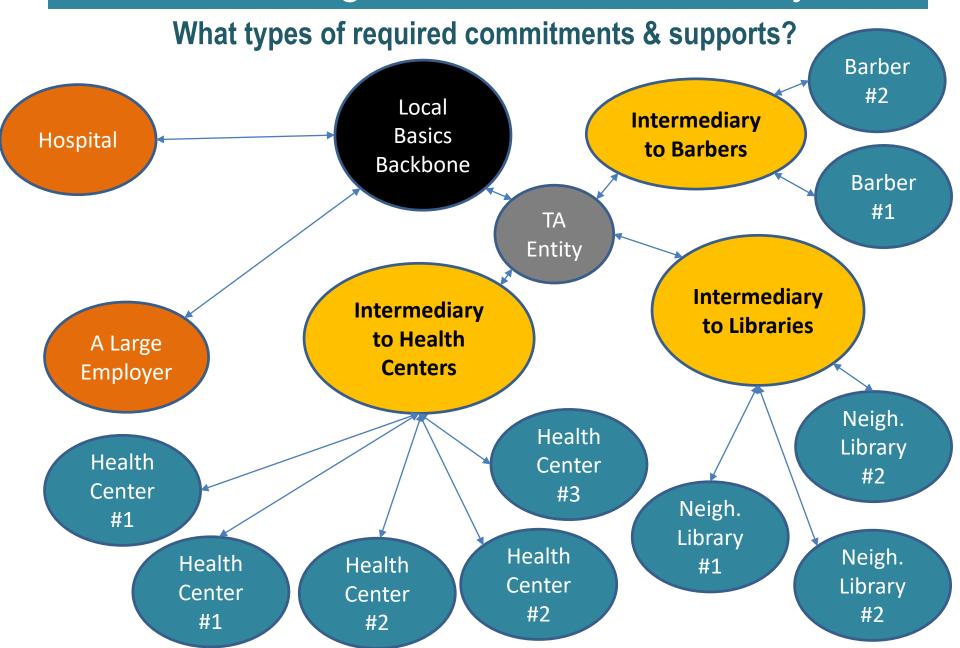
Ron Ferguson, Faculty Director, the Achievement Gap Initiative at Harvard and Wendell Knox, Vice-Chair, the Black Philanthropy Fund



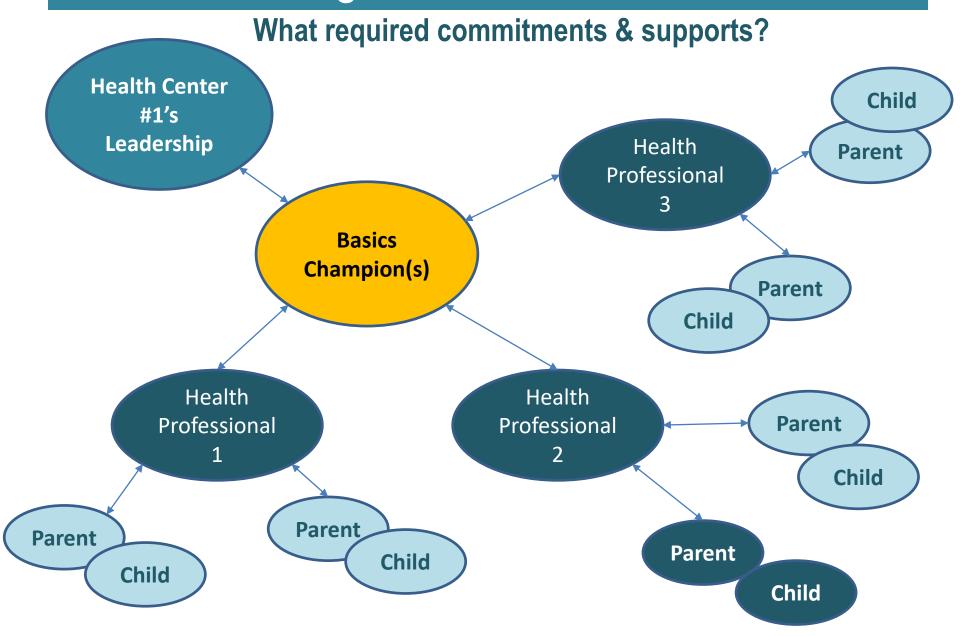
#### Roles & Linkages in a Local Basics System



#### Roles & Linkages in a Local Basics System



#### Roles & Linkages in a Basics Health Center



# **Ecological Saturation**

# **Health Centers**& Pediatricians



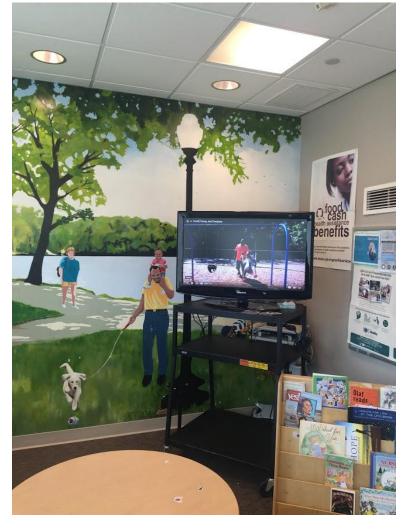


This could be the parent and child at the bottom right corner of the previous slide, with Health Professional #2.

#### Health Center

Southern Jamaica Plain Health Center





A Boston Basics Poster in Spanish on the Pediatrics board.

A Boston Basics video playing in the waiting room.

# **Ecological Saturation**





Hospitals

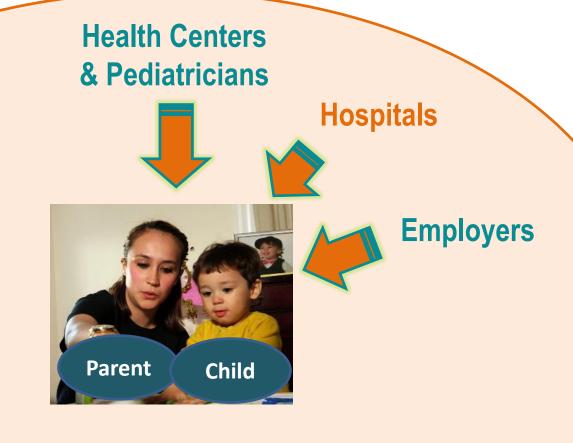


## Boston Basics core team member, Dr. Barry Zuckerman, Boston Medical Center





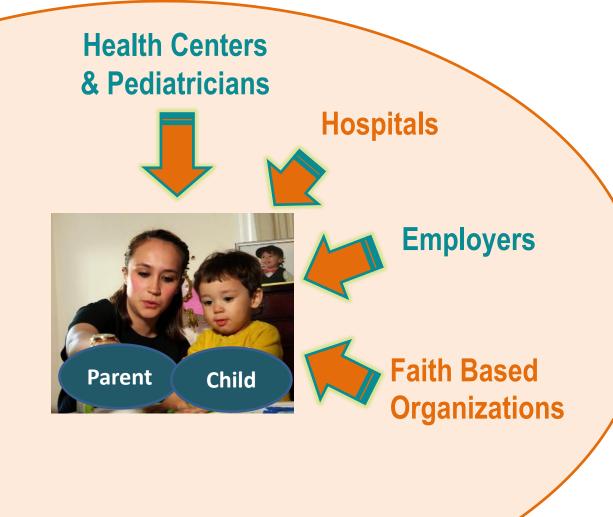
# **Ecological Saturation**



# Partners Healthcare, Inc. is launching a Boston Basics Campaign to involve and benefit employees.



# **Ecological Saturation**



### Faith-Based

Boston Basics on the screen at Congregation Lion of Judah Church Service



The Boston Basics Overview Video in Spanish is playing.

Video clip from a Church Service at Lion of Judah in Boston, MA, September 11, 2016
Note: this brief video can be watched as part of the conference video. It is not in this file.

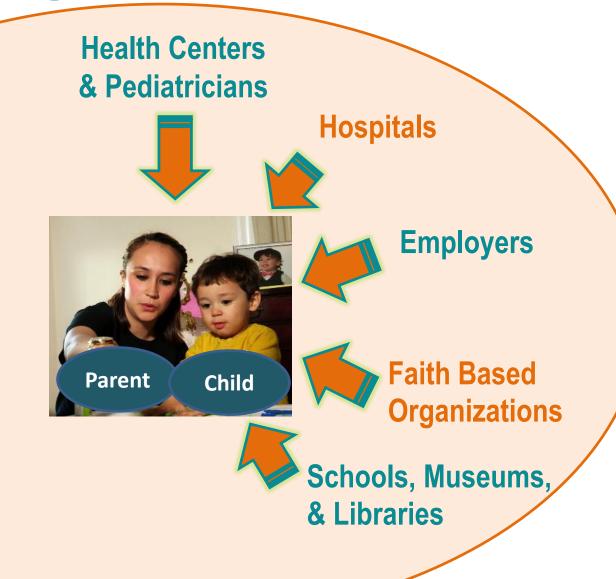
# Faith-Based

Congregation Lion of Judah Boston Basics Workshop for Parents and Caregivers





# **Ecological Saturation**



# Family & Early Childhood

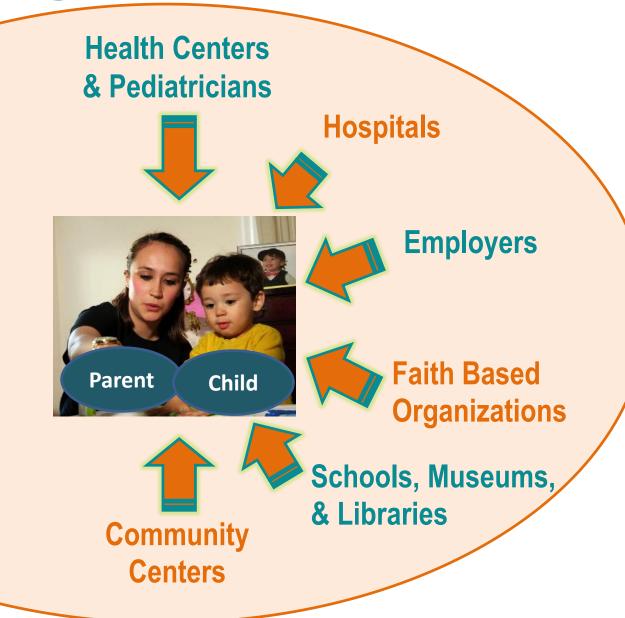
ReadBoston





Boston Basics workshop at a local library.

# **Ecological Saturation**

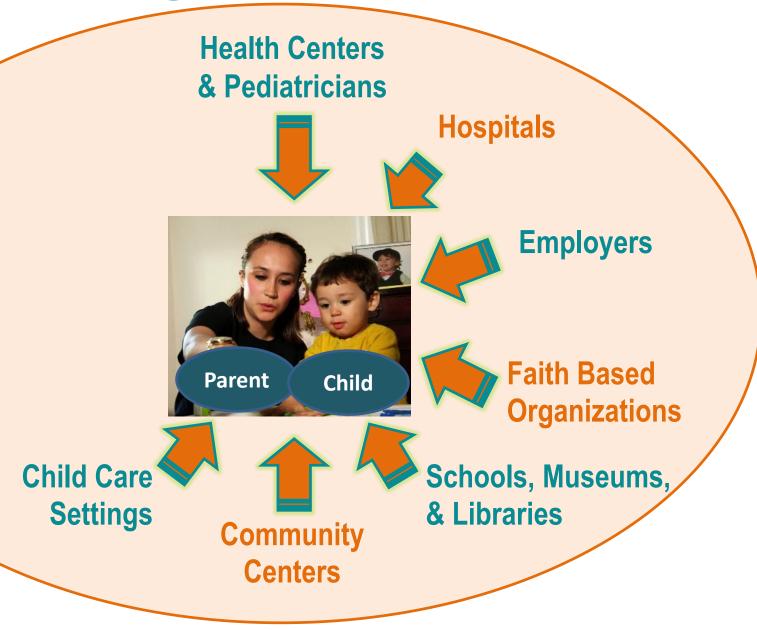


# Boston Centers for Youth and Families Boston Basics Training for Center Directors



Black Philanthropy Fund Chair Jeff Howard, standing at the back of the room, asking for a show of hands during an orientation for 35 community center directors.

# **Ecological Saturation**



# Family & Early Childhood

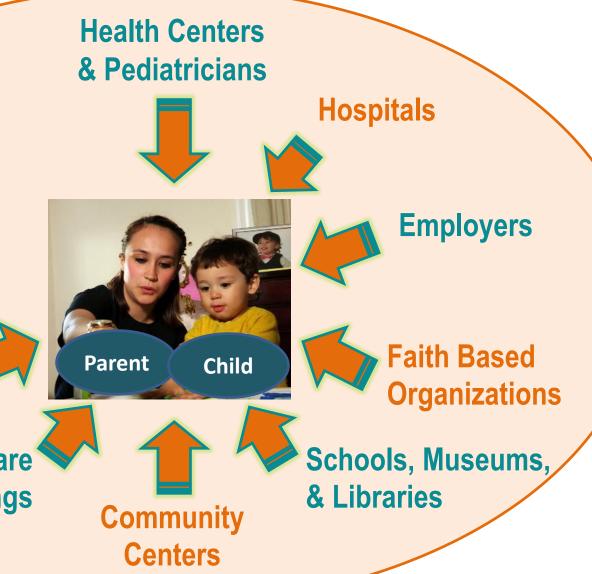
Family Nurturing Center





A participant receives a certificate following Boston Basics training at a childcare center.

# **Ecological Saturation**



Housing Developments

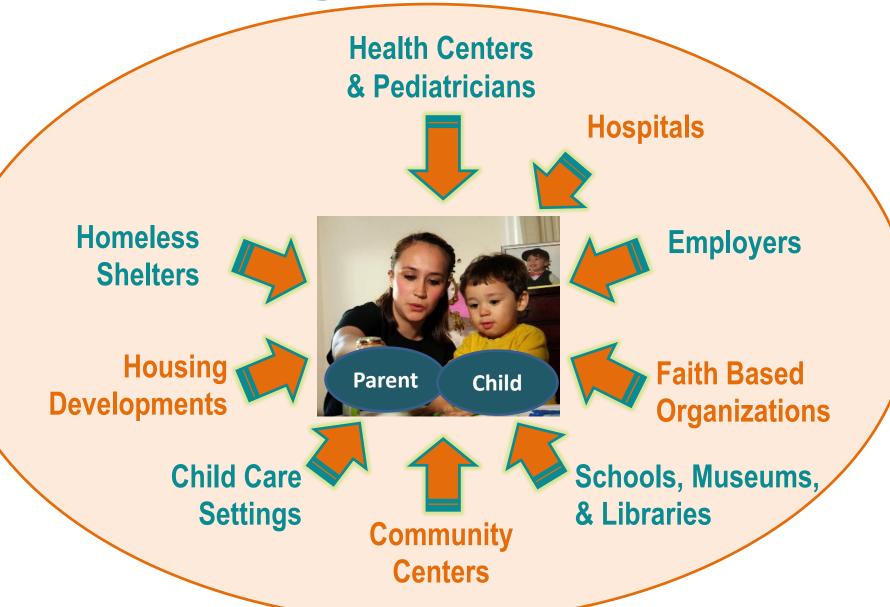
**Child Care Settings** 



Mass Housing, a State Agency, is helping connect the Boston Basics with non-profit housing developments.

The goal is to have Boston Basics Care Circles and residents' clubs in housing developments.

# **Ecological Saturation**



# Horizons for Homeless Children is going to incorporate the Basics into its programming for young children.



# **Ecological Saturation**

Retail, Barbers, Beauticians

Health Centers & Pediatricians



**Hospitals** 

**Homeless Shelters** 



Parent Child



**Employers** 

Housing **Developments** 





Faith Based Organizations

Child Care Settings



Schools, Museums, & Libraries

The Boston Basics Campaign did an outreach presentation at this Boston barbershop in collaboration with Barbers for Health.



Mattapan's Finest Hair Salon

# **Ecological Saturation**

Retail, Barbers, Beauticians

Health Centers & Pediatricians



**Hospitals** 

**Homeless Shelters** 



Parent Child



**Employers** 

Housing **Developments** 





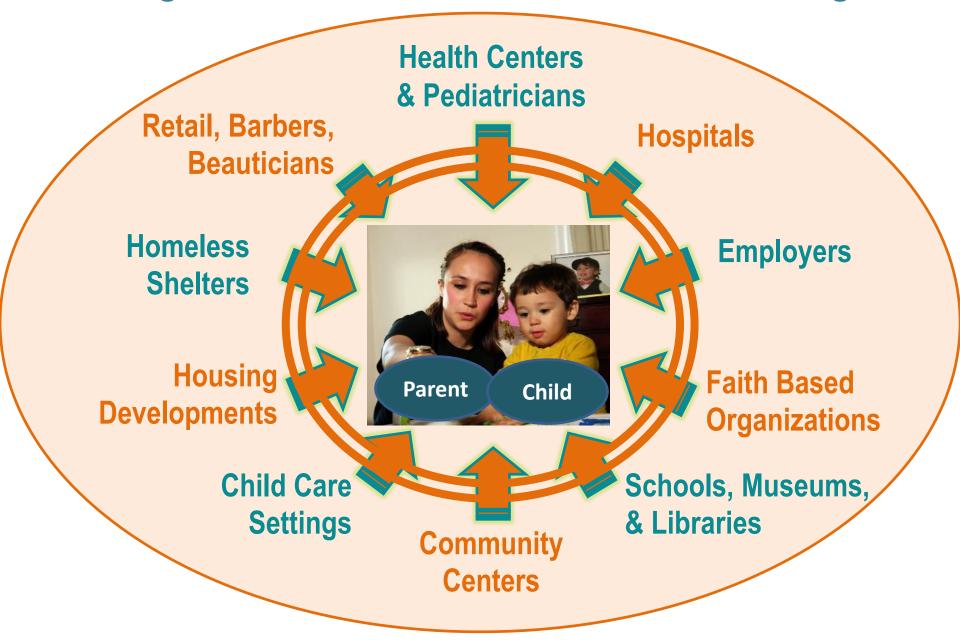
Faith Based Organizations

Child Care Settings



Schools, Museums, & Libraries

### **Ecological Saturation with Cross-Sector Linkages**



The idea is to work through existing institutions and social networks.

The Campaign offers new tools and relationships to support the work of existing organizations and programs, not a new front-line program.

However, outreach and support capacity is still necessary to advise and support implementation.

### A Vision for the Future

- The norms and routines of early parenting will include the Basics.
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- Achievement will be higher among children from every background.
- Performance gaps by race, ethnicity, and background will greatly diminish.
- A growing share of young adults will become successful contributors, with a falling share struggling and requiring supplemental supports.

### Q & A UNTIL THE 10:30 BREAK

Poem: A Basics Community Contract

# Continued Discussion of Boston and Current Tools 11:00-12:30



None of us can do alone what all of us can do together!



Fun, Simple, and Powerful!



### This Session:

- Some patterns in the baseline survey
- Description of the forthcoming Basics app
- A Workshop Series Activity with a video
- A Basics Visioning Activity

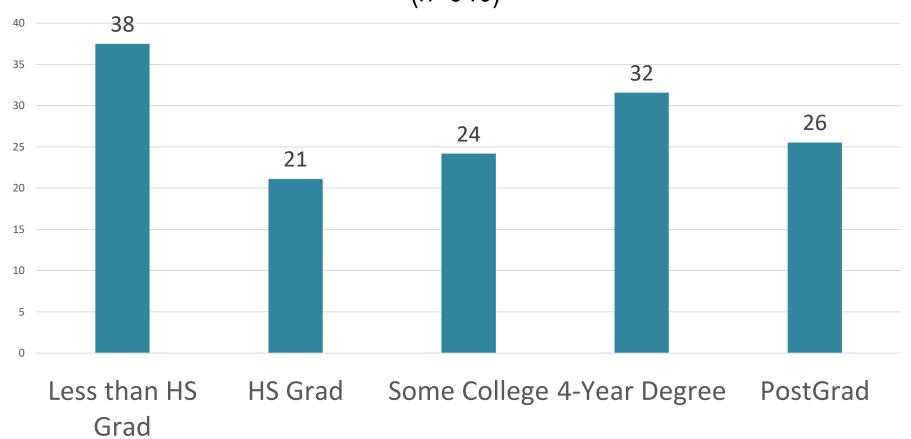
Note: tools can be rebranded to just "the Basics" or in some cases to "the [other place] Basics" where the other place is a specific place other than Boston, for example, Houston. If you are interested in this type of rebranding, contact Ron Ferguson.

### The Basics Toolkit

- Videos
- Posters
- Booklets
- Baseline Survey on Beliefs
- Train the Trainer Protocols
- Parent Workshops
- Facilitator Training for Parent Workshops
- Website: www.BostonBasics.org
- App with push notifications (forthcoming)

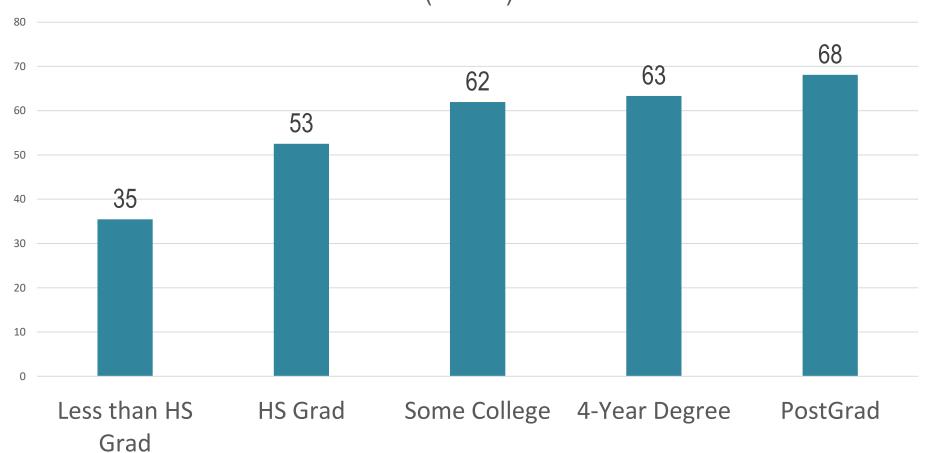
# Baseline Survey on Spoiling Babies

Percentages that mostly agree with the statement, "Parents should not worry about spoiling very young babies." (n=346)



# Games and Brain Development

Percentages that mostly agree with the statement, "Fun games like peek-a-boo help a baby's brain develop." (n=359)



# The app

# The app Weekly Topics, Birth to Third Birthday

В١	V Year 1	ВW	Year 2	ΒV	V Year 3
1	1 Bond	1 53 Have Ro	itines	1	114 Discipline with Love
1	2 Respond to crying	1 59 Set Some	Limits	1	116 Honor their Decisions
1	4 Show affection	1 62 Be Speci	ic	1	121 Talk About Emotions
1	6 Take Time for Yourself	1 69 Praise G	od Behavior	1	127 Unplug
1	14 Notice Your Emotions	1 72 Involve 1	hem	1	132 Practice Managing Emotions
1	16 Review Routines	1 73 Offer Ch	ices	1	139 Socialize
1	18 Tune In		e of Yourself	1	145 Be A Role Model
1	20 Be Silly	1 77 Name Fe	•	1	147 Act Out Emotions
1	24 Connect with Adults	1 81 Have Cle		1	151 Practice Gratitude
1	33 Unplug		Difficult Moments	2	109 Ask Thinking Questions
1	35 Reassure Them	1 89 Encoura		2	117 Fill in the Blank
1	44 Other Caregivers		rt Transitions	2	119 Make up Songs
1	48 Help Just Enough	1 94 Practice		2	125 Ask "What If" questions
1	51 Let them Help	1 101 Stay Calr		2	144 Help them Answer their Own Questions
2	3 Teach communication	1 103 Pick You		2	155 Describe
2	8 Reply to sounds	2 54 Encoura		2	130 Answer Questions
2	9 Sing	2 56 Interpre		3	131 Collect and Sort
2	11 Describe What You Are Doing	2 61 Encoura		3	107 Sort Things
2	17 Go Back and Forth	2 68 Play "I Sp	•	3	111 Look for Shapes
2	23 Play Imitation Games	2 78 Add Wor 2 82 Talk abo		3	113 Find Twos
2	25 Point and Name 28 Talk Back	2 82 Talk abo 2 84 Ask Que		3 3	118 Count, Group, and Compare in the Kitchen 126 Bigger and Smaller
2	31 Stay Positive	2 84 ASK Que:		3	129 Arrange in Order
2	40 Build Vocabulary	2 96 Talk Duri		3	133 Add and Subtract
2	43 Be Responsive	2 98 Be A Goo		3	136 Guess How Many
2	47 Describe Actions		ng Bathtime	3	141 Talk About Time
3	26 Move to the Beat	3 55 Compare		3	149 Share
3	29 Count Things	3 67 Notice S		3	153 Make Patterns
3	38 Count the Beat	3 71 Solve Pu	•	4	105 Hold Back
3	41 Compare Size		Movement and Music	4	110 Use the Senses
3	46 Touch and Count	3 88 Pour Wa		4	112 Night Sky
3	49 Compare Amounts	3 95 Fast and		4	120 Design some Cards
3	39 Fill and Empty	4 58 Act it Ou		4	122 Animal Moves
4	5 Introduce hands, arms, and legs	4 66 Sink or F	oat?	4	124 Remember What's Missing
4	7 Explore objects	4 57 Switch "	ON" and "OFF"	4	134 Scavenger Hunt
4	10 Do Tummy Time	4 60 Get Rolli	ng	4	137 Dance
4	12 Practice Reaching	4 64 Expore Y	our Home	4	140 Support Pretend Play
4	13 Follow Their Interests	4 76 Provide	imple Toys	4	142 Imagine
4	19 Introduce New Objects	4 80 Draw		4	146 Freeze Games
4	21 Play "Peek-a-Boo"	4 83 Go Outsi	de	4	148 Build It
4	30 Get Moving	4 86 Find the	Way	5	154 Find Letters
4	32 Find New Playspaces	4 91 Build wit	n Blocks	5	106 Make a Cozy Reading Spot
4	34 Use Everyday Objects for Play		with Pretend	5	108 Help them Follow Along
4	37 Play Hiding Games	4 99 Shoot He		5	115 Warm Up
4	42 Make Safe Space	4 102 Mystery		5	123 Tell Baby Stories
4	50 Support Experimentation	5 100 Count th		5	128 Teach New Words
4	52 Go Outside		Words and Pictures	5	135 Be Wise About Screentime
5	15 Look at Books	5 70 Monitor		5	138 Be Creative with Letters
5	22 Make Book Time Fun	5 74 Ask Que		5	143 Act it Out
5	27 Hunt for Pictures		Books to Real Life	5	150 Pretend to Read
5	36 Read Daily	5 97 Switch R		5	152 Ask "Why" Questions
5	45 Read with Voices	5 104 Set a Gre	at Example	5	156 Share Family Stories











1) Weekly Focus

2) Mid Week Check in

3) Reflection

#### FocusTitle This Week's Focus Title

Text

Photo or Video



#### This week: Maximize Love, Manage Stress November 04, 2016 ✓



#### Week

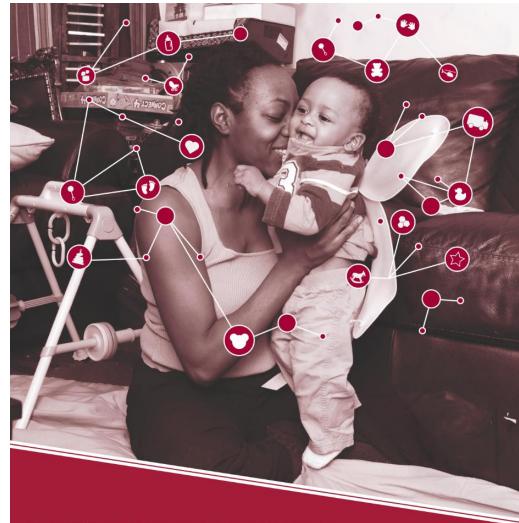
#### Complete

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Week-2

# Posters



### MAXIMIZE LOVE, MANAGE STRESS

To help grow confidence

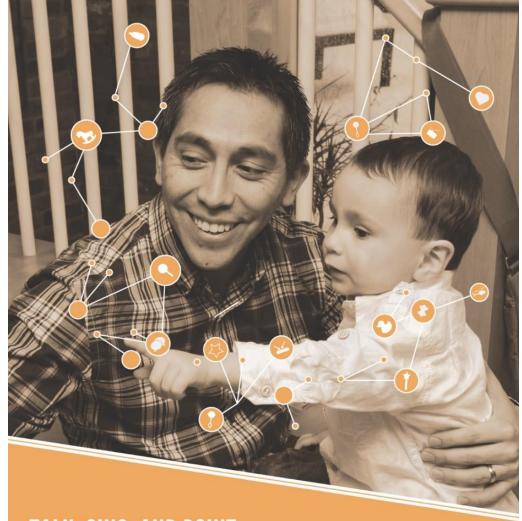
LEARN MORE AT BOSTONBASICS.ORG 

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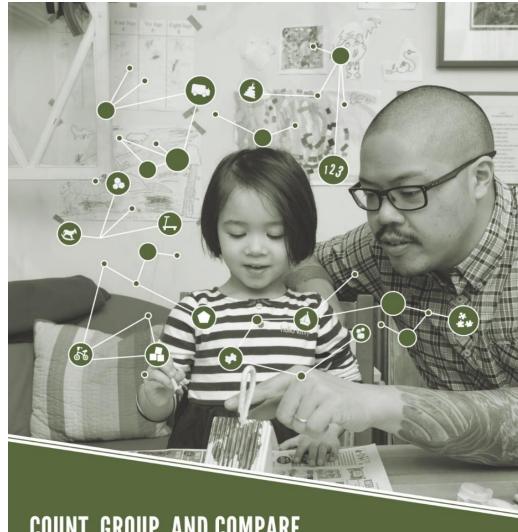
TALK, SING, AND POINT

To build language skills

LEARN MORE AT BOSTONBASICS.ORG



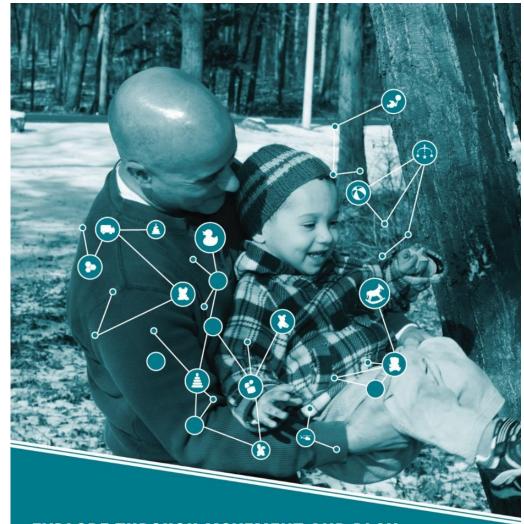




### COUNT, GROUP, AND COMPARE

To build a love of math



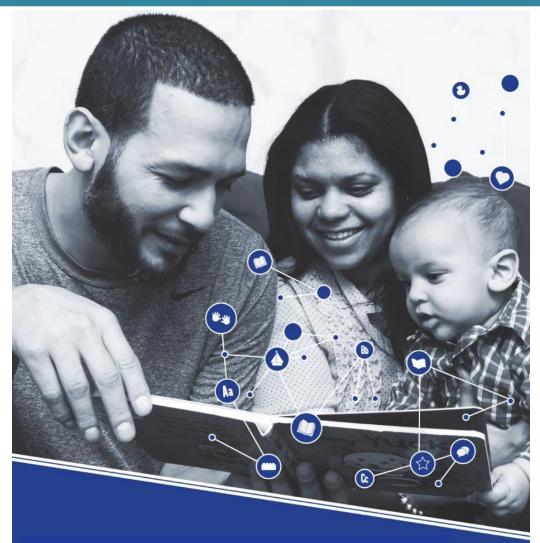


### **EXPLORE THROUGH MOVEMENT AND PLAY**

To keep them curious







### READ AND DISCUSS STORIES

To help them grow smart

LEARN MORE AT BOSTONBASICS.ORG 

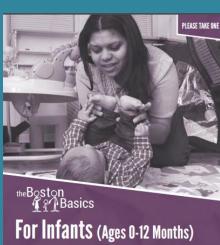
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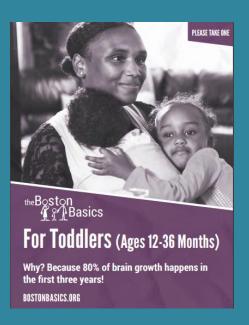
### **Boston Basics Booklets**



Why? Because 80% of brain growth happens in

**BOSTONBASICS.ORG** 

the first three years!





#### Para tu bebé (en sus primeros 12 meses de vida)

¿Por qué? ¡Porque el 80% del desarrollo del cerebro ocurre durante los primeros tres años de vida!

BOSTONBASICS.ORG



### The Six-Video Set

- English
- Spanish (Diverse Latino families)
- Haitian Kreyol (voice-over narration with subtitles)
- Others coming

### Let's Watch and Debrief a Video



We are going to re-watch the video twice.

The video contains important ideas and strategies.

Please take notes the second time through and see how many ideas and strategies you can catch!

### **Triad Discussion (5 min)**

- Share the lists you produced with 2 or 3 people around you.
- Pick a few ideas and strategies that you think might be the most important and discuss why.
- Which do you do already? Which could you or others do more or better?

### **Large Group Discussion (5 min)**

We all know that what parents *do* is critical to infant and toddler brain development.

- Of all the strategies you discussed, which might be the most important?
- Which are used fairly regularly?
- Which could you or others do more or better?

# A Visioning Exercise

"Write" the story of a family's life in a place where the Basics Campaign was successful. Imagine the many ways that a child and family would encounter the Basics across different settings during the period from zero to three years of age. Think about the importance of reinforcement across these settings and ways that different settings might be linked.

Individual think time.

Group discussion using the flip chart.

# Aspiration for Tool Kit Resources

Age	Max Love, Manage Stress	Talk, Sing, and Point	Count, Group, and Compare	Explore through Movement and Play	Read and Discuss Stories
0-3 months	X	Х	X	X	X
4-6 months	X	X	X	Х	X
7-9 months	Х	Х	Х	X	X
10-12 months	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
13-15 months	Х	Х	Х	X	X
16-18 months	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
19-21 months	X	Х	X	Х	X
22-24 months	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
25-27 months	Х	Х	X	Х	X
28-30 months	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
31-33 months	X	Х	Х	X	Х
34-36 months	Х	Х	X	Х	Х

# Cross-Cutting Themes

Age	Max Love, Manage Stress	Talk, Sing, and Point	Count, Group, and Compare	Explore through Movement and Play	Read and Discuss Stories
Serve and Return Communication					
Watch to Detect Child's Interests and Follow their Lead					
Growth Mindset Re: Child <i>and</i> Parent					
Cultivate a Circle of Supportive Family and Friends					

# Face-to-Face Dissemination & Supports

- ➤ Prenatal Training & Counseling, often in Groups
- Briefings when Leaving the Hospital with the Newborns
- ➤ Well-Baby Health Care Visits
- ➤ Adult Check-Ups
- ➤ Counseling Groups in Community Settings
- ➤ Home Visits by Professionals as well as Campaign Citizen Envoys
- >Trainings for Parents, Extended Family Members, Others
- ➤ Professional Development for Early-Childhood Caregivers
- Sermons and other Faith-Based Activities
- Celebrations in a Variety of Settings
- ➤ Parent Groups & Care Circles Across the Community
- ➤ Informal Conversations in All Types of Settings

### A Vision for the Future

- The norms and routines of early parenting will include the Basics.
- Far more children will arrive at school prepared to succeed, with far fewer falling off track before reaching kindergarten.
- Achievement will be higher among children from every background.
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