

# FUNDING

## YOUNG LEARNER LITERACY

YOUR GUIDE FOR FUNDING EARLY LITERACY

Literacy Foundations for Pre-K–5





# we are **LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS®**

## **SUPPORTING PREVENTION—ACCELERATING INTERVENTION**

Strong literacy skills start with good instruction. Learning Without Tears supports early learning success by building strong literacy and readiness skills with multisensory techniques that engage young minds. Our research-based programs build foundational skills essential to student literacy success in Pre-K–5 and beyond.

Each of our curricula use engaging, developmentally appropriate instruction that connects with every learner. We believe that Pre-K students learn best when their lessons are joyful. That’s why our unique approach to Pre-K learning incorporates purposeful play, hands-on manipulatives, and fun digital tools. Our research-proven approach to handwriting instruction allows students to master handwriting fluency and early phonemic skills. Our early literacy programs follow the Science of Reading and help children build alphabet knowledge, master letter sounds, and learn targeted, high-utility phonics skills.



## **30 MILLION+**

Students reached by Learning Without Tears®

## **500 THOUSAND+**

Educators who have attended our professional learning





Learning Without Tears offers programs for all learners, including students with special needs, and is available in Spanish and English. Teachers and administrators receive support through built-in diagnostic and formative assessments, and embedded, explicit professional learning. Families will find strong school-to-home connections that reinforce learning and build family engagement.

## EMPOWERING STUDENT OUTCOMES

### READING AND LITERACY

- Phonemic awareness
- Phonics
- Word study
- Word recognition
- Spelling
- Fluency
- Morphology
- Vocabulary
- Decodable text reading
- Reading comprehension

### EMERGENT LITERACY

- Alphabet knowledge
- Letter recognition
- Concepts about print
- Concept of word
- Oral language
- Narrative skills
- Shared reading
- Listening comprehension

### SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL

- Self-concept
- Self-regulation
- Empathy
- Social awareness
- Body awareness
- Relationship skills

### EMERGENT WRITING

- Fine motor skills
- Crayon and pencil grip
- Early writing
- Visual motor and visual perceptual skills

### HANDWRITING

- Proper grip
- Fine and gross motor skills
- Physical motor skills
- Capital and lowercase letter formation
- Number formation
- Handwriting fluency and automaticity

### EARLY SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES

- Discovery
- Simple experiments
- Observing and comparing
- Classifying
- Measuring
- Inferring and predicting
- Exploring human relationships

### MATH

- Counting
- Spatial awareness
- Patterning
- Problem solving
- Basic number sense
- Representation

### KEYBOARDING

- Physical approach
- Keyboarding technique, accuracy, and fluency
- Digital citizenship

# FUNDING YOUR STUDENTS' SUCCESS

Learning Without Tears programs are eligible for educational grants and funding. Our proven-effective, developmentally appropriate programs focus on foundational learning; including early learning, handwriting, keyboarding, alphabet knowledge, phonemic awareness, and high-utility phonics skills.

## Title I, Part A

Title I funds can be used to help students meet academic standards by supplementing the existing programs with additional teachers, intervention programs, supplemental materials, technology, professional development, and more.

## Title II

Title II is used to increase academic achievement of students by improving teachers and school leadership quality. These funds directly support evidence-backed professional development opportunities.

## Title III

Title III offers provisional funds to ensure that English Learners (ELs) have access to instructional programs and tools to become proficient speakers, listeners, readers, and writers of the English language.

## Title IV - SSAE

Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant; Title IV, Part A  
Provide all students with access to well-rounded education; improve school conditions for student learning and improve use of technology to support academic achievement.

## IDEA

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) provides funding for specially designed interventions or instructions for students with disabilities and the monitoring of their progress. Funds are distributed based on individualized education plans of students.

## 21st Century Community Learning Centers

21st Century Schools is a competitive grant program designed to create and support before- and after-school community learning centers that provide academic enrichment to students in low-income communities and low-performing schools.

## ESSER III

ESSER III: American Rescue Plan



**Get Set for School®**  
Pre-K Complete Program



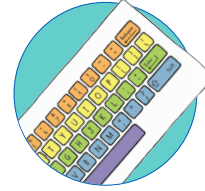
**A-Z for Mat Man® and Me**  
Pre-K-1



**Phonics, Reading, and Me™**  
K-3



**Handwriting Without Tears®**  
©2025  
Pre-K-5



**Keyboarding Without Tears®**  
K-5



**Professional Learning**



# LWT and ESSA

ESSA prioritizes funding for evidence-based programs that demonstrate statistically significant, positive effects on student outcomes.

There are four categories of evidence ESSA identifies: **strong** evidence, **moderate** evidence, **promising** evidence, and evidence that **demonstrates rationale**. These four categories define the study criteria found in products and programs and do not directly correlate with the strength of student outcomes.

	Moderate (Tier 2)	Promising (Tier 3)	Demonstrates Rationale (Tier 4)
 <b>Get Set for School®</b> Complete Pre-K Curriculum			✓
 <b>Emergent Writing</b> for Pre-K			✓
 <b>Handwriting Without Tears®</b> Pre-K-5	✓		
 <b>Keyboarding Without Tears®</b> K-5			
 <b>A-Z for Mat Man® and Me</b> Pre-K-1			✓
 <b>Phonics, Reading, and Me™</b> K-3		✓	

# LWT and ESSER

There's still time to spend ESSER funds\* on programs that can help students mitigate learning loss and accelerate their reading and writing skills. With print and digital tools that support readiness, early literacy, handwriting, cursive, keyboarding, and reading, Learning Without Tears' programs can supplement your Pre-K curriculum and your K–3 English language arts block.

\*ESSER funds must be obligated by September 2024.

## ESSER III

### USE OF FUNDS

### LEARNING WITHOUT TEARS® PRODUCTS

#### SUMMER LEARNING & ENRICHMENT

Pre-K–2 summer pacing guides for 4–6 week handwriting instruction  
 Reading & Writing Packs  
 Individual Student Manipulative Pack  
 Keyboarding Without Tears®  
 Phonics, Reading, and Me™

#### EXTENDED DAY & EXTENDED YEAR

Pre-K–2 summer pacing guides for 4–6 week handwriting instruction  
 Reading & Writing Packs  
 Individual Student Manipulative Pack  
 Keyboarding Without Tears®  
 Phonics, Reading and Me™

#### ACCELERATED ACADEMIC LEARNING FOR EARLY LEARNERS AND SEL

Pre-K–2 summer pacing guides for 4–6 week handwriting instruction  
 Reading & Writing Packs  
 Emergent Writing for Pre-K  
 Handwriting Without Tears®  
 A–Z for Mat Man® and Me  
 Phonics, Reading, and Me™

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum implementation  
 Deeper curriculum dive and focused skill building  
 Topics ranging from emergent writing to special education  
 Customizable school-based workshops

# THE MISSION

of Learning Without Tears

Our mission is to make learning and teaching easy and fun by providing superior educational products, professional development, and materials to educators and families.

## LEARN MORE

[LWTears.com](http://LWTears.com)

## CONTACT

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