Metairie, June 23, 2020 – When schools closed on March 13, students lost a total of 260 hours of instruction. When added to the 2 months, on average, of reading skills lost through “summer learning loss,” Louisiana’s students will be further behind their peers.

Only 25% of Louisiana students currently demonstrate reading proficiency in 4th grade. The National Institutes of Health has shown that this disproportionately harms students of color. Reading proficiency by third grade is also the most important predictor of high school graduation. One in six children who are not reading proficiently in third grade do not graduate from high school on time, a rate four times greater than that for proficient readers (The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 2012).

The summer months will be a critical time for parents to work with their children to ensure they are prepared to enter the next grade with the foundational skills needed to be successful. To do that, parents need high-quality instructional support that they can digest and implement.

Through this program, CDL will provide parents and guardians across Louisiana with interactive training, resources, and support to ensure their K-3 children are not left behind during this public health crisis.

Our summer program will include:

- A free literacy assessment with guidance from our Literacy Specialist to create your personal plan of action.
- Grade-specific checklists to guide you in the skills your children should master before next school year.
- Videos, lesson plans and activities to make the instruction easy and fun.
- Virtual Q&A sessions on a monthly basis to answer questions, discuss trends or challenges we are seeing, and provide more support as you work through your
action plan. End-of-summer workshop for parents and students to provide in-person training with grade specific break out sessions (pending public health guidelines).

Click here for more information and to sign up.

**About the Center for Development and Learning:**
Founded in 1992, the Center for Development and Learning’s mission is to improve the life chances of all children by increasing school success. CDL’s work is focused on closing the achievement gap by increasing teacher effectiveness. Visit CDL’s website [www.cdl.org](http://www.cdl.org) for more information.