



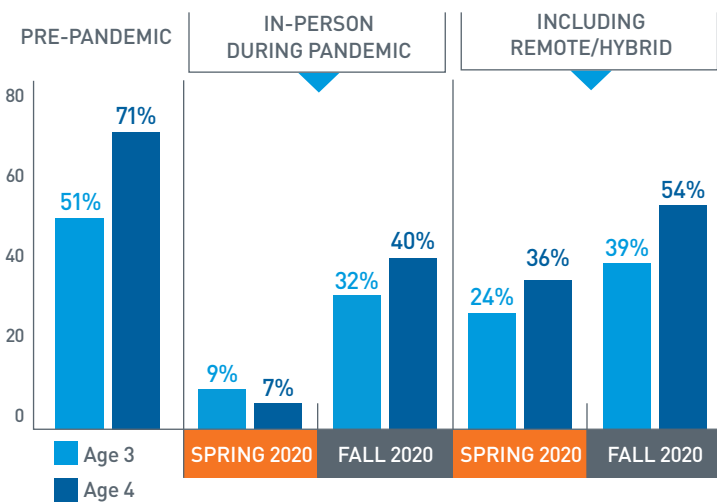
# PANDEMIC DISRUPTS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Even though children are shown to be the least vulnerable to COVID-19 health dangers, they've been hit hard by the disruption of preschool opportunities triggered by the pandemic.

## PRE-K PARTICIPATION HAS TUMBLLED

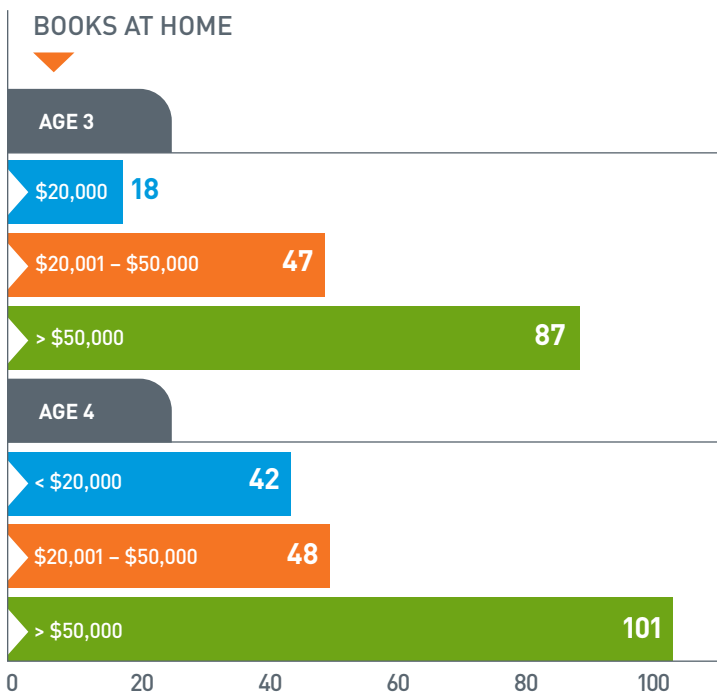
(Spring n=945, Fall n=942)

In-person and online learning aren't enough to restore pre-pandemic participation levels.



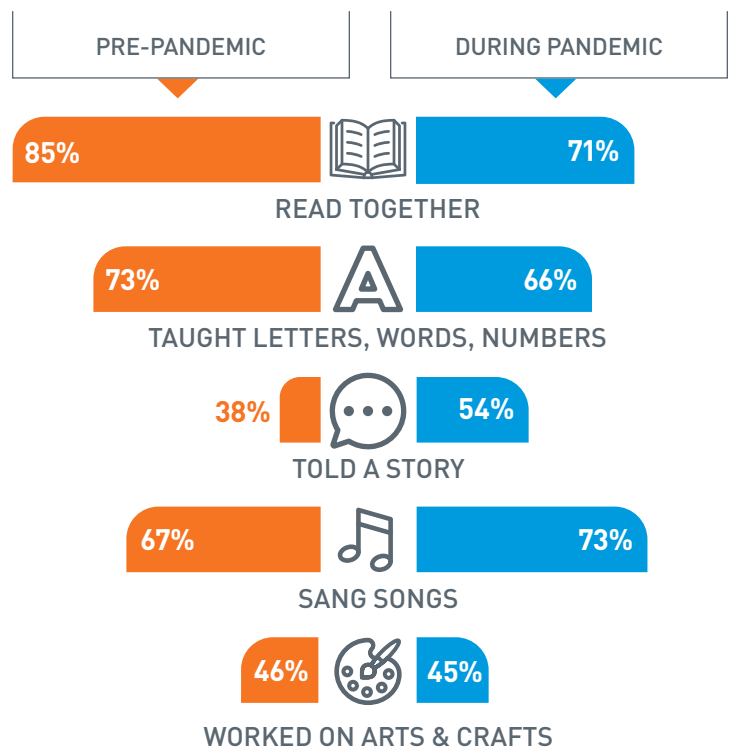
## THE BIG BOOK DIVIDE

Books are essential to early childhood learning. But today, young children in lower-income homes are at a distinct disadvantage in the number of books available to them compared to children in homes of greater means.



## PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS STRUGGLE TO FILL THE PRESCHOOL VOID\*

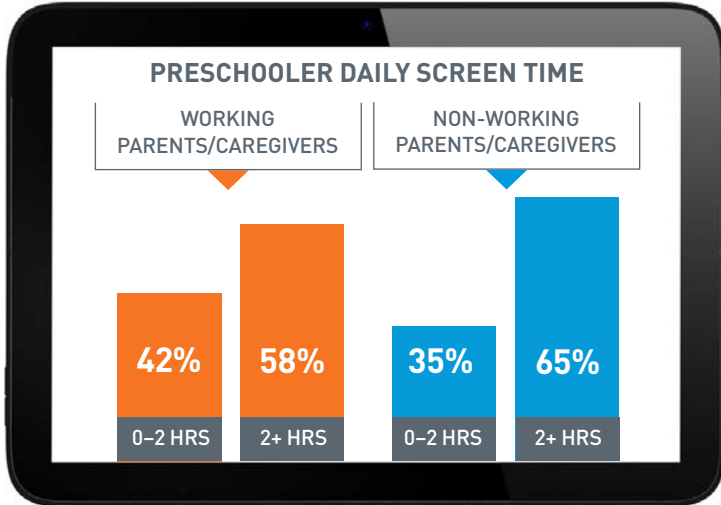
While many parents and caregivers have been forced to remain at home during the pandemic, the amount of time spent on key at-home learning activities has declined.



\*Percentage of parents and caregivers reporting an activity 3 or more times per week pre-pandemic (2019 NHES) and during pandemic (NIEER).

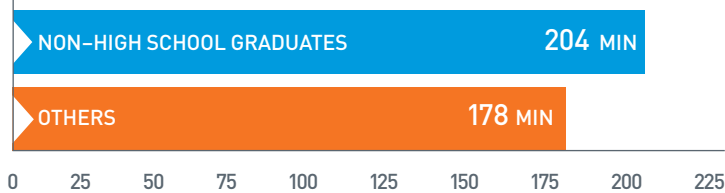
## PRESCHOOLERS ARE SPENDING MORE TIME IN FRONT OF A SCREEN

While experts recommend no more than 1 hour of screen time per day for children under age 5, the norm during the coronavirus pandemic has been double that or more in most U.S. households.



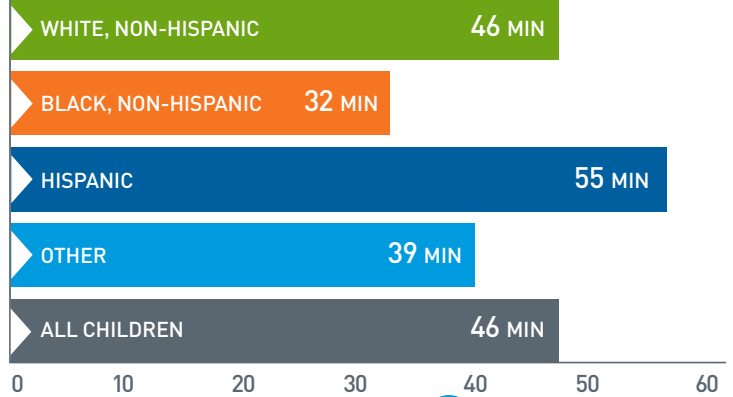
## PARENT EDUCATION IMPACTS SCREEN TIME

PRESCHOOLER DAILY SCREEN TIME BY PARENTS' EDUCATION | Minutes per day



## OUTDOOR PLAY IS IN SHORT SUPPLY

The outdoors offers countless learning opportunities for kids. But during COVID-19, fewer than half of 3- to-5-year-olds enjoy frequent outdoor play. Children from all backgrounds are not getting much time outdoors.



MINUTES OF DAILY OUTDOOR PLAY, CHILDREN AGES 3-5



## WE'RE HELPING A BRIGHT FUTURE START AT HOME

Whether you're trying to find more ways to create a fun at-home learning experience, or looking to grow your preschooler's collection of engaging, entertaining books, PNC Grow Up Great® is here to help. Since 2004, we've been helping to inspire a love of learning that lasts a lifetime. Now, with so many parents and caregivers spending more time at home, we're connecting you to the resources you need to make this an enriching time for you and your child.

- [pncgrowupgreat.com](https://pncgrowupgreat.com)
- [nieer.org](https://nieer.org)

