

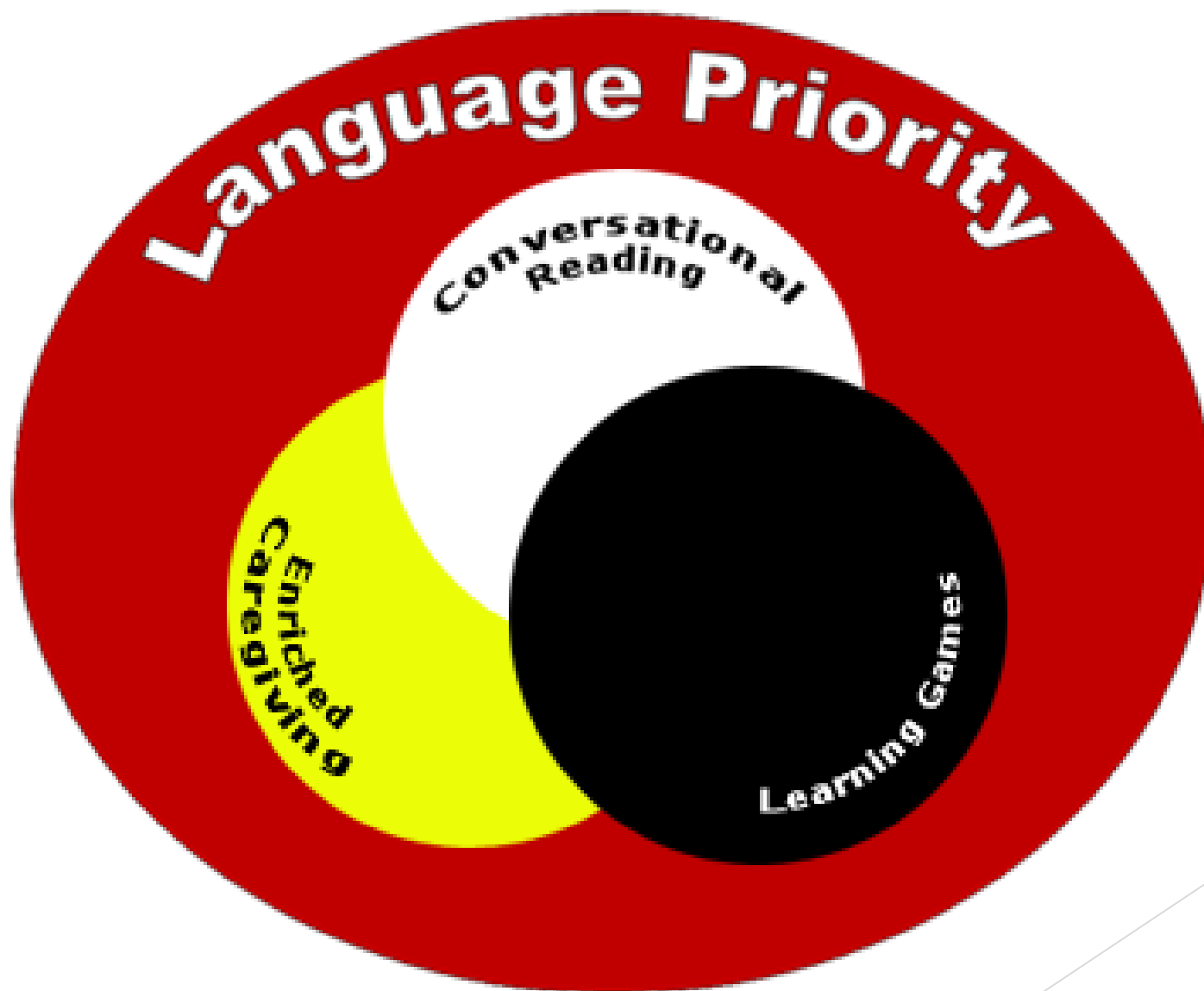
The Abecedarian Approach



What is the Abecedarian Approach?



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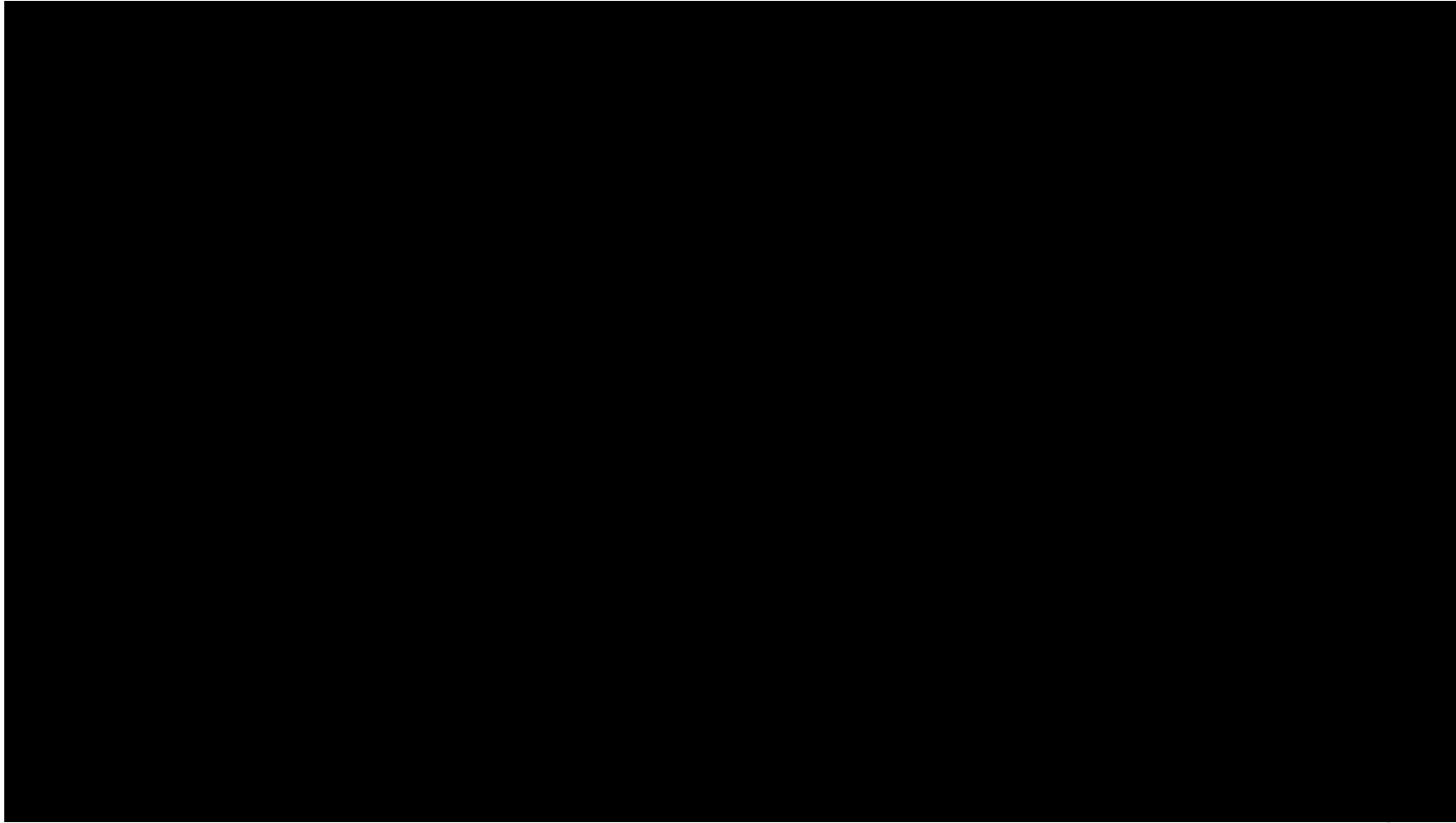
Family supports



Language Development



Video example... Cutting the Bug



700 new neural connections per second in the first few years of life

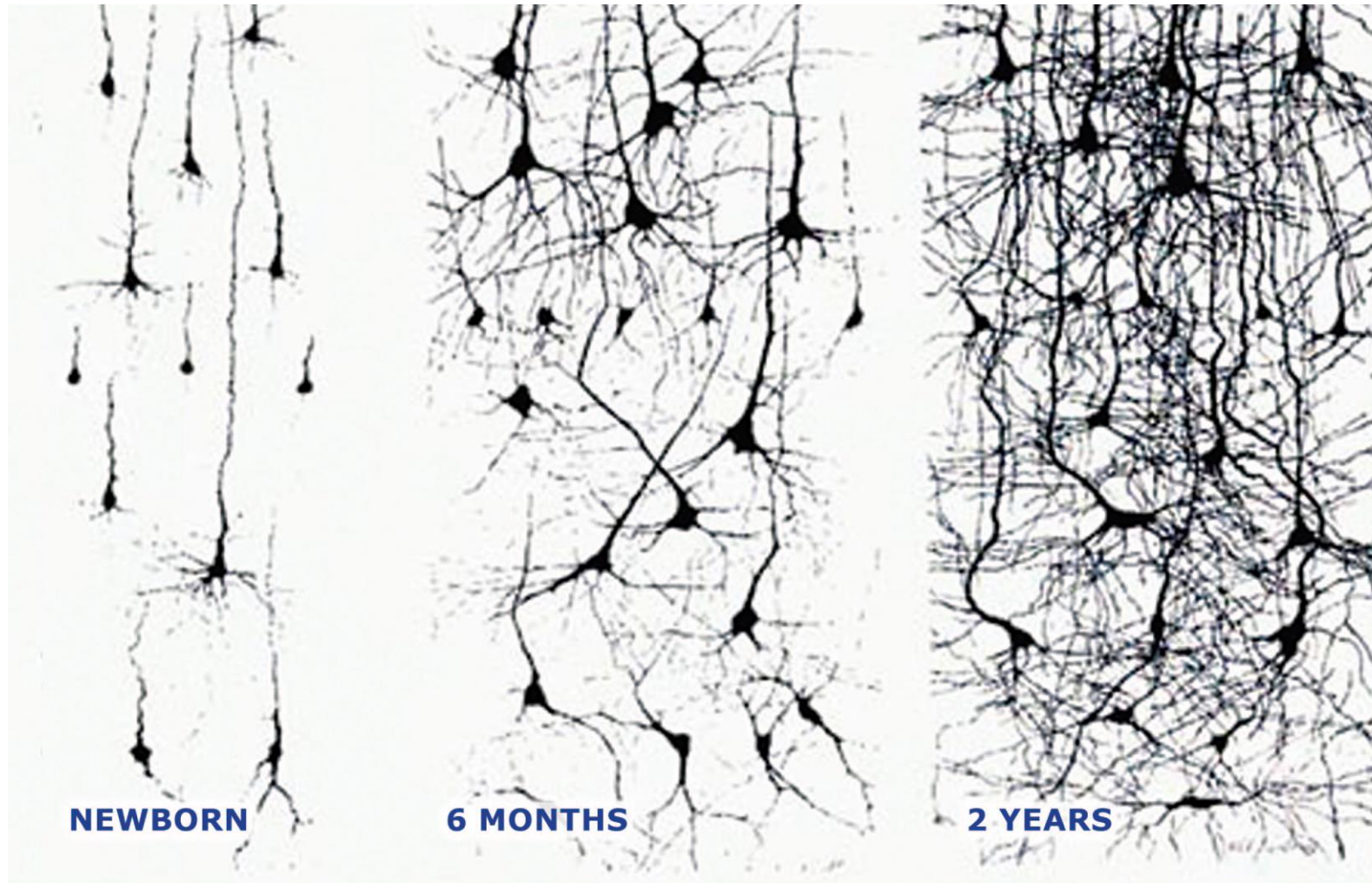
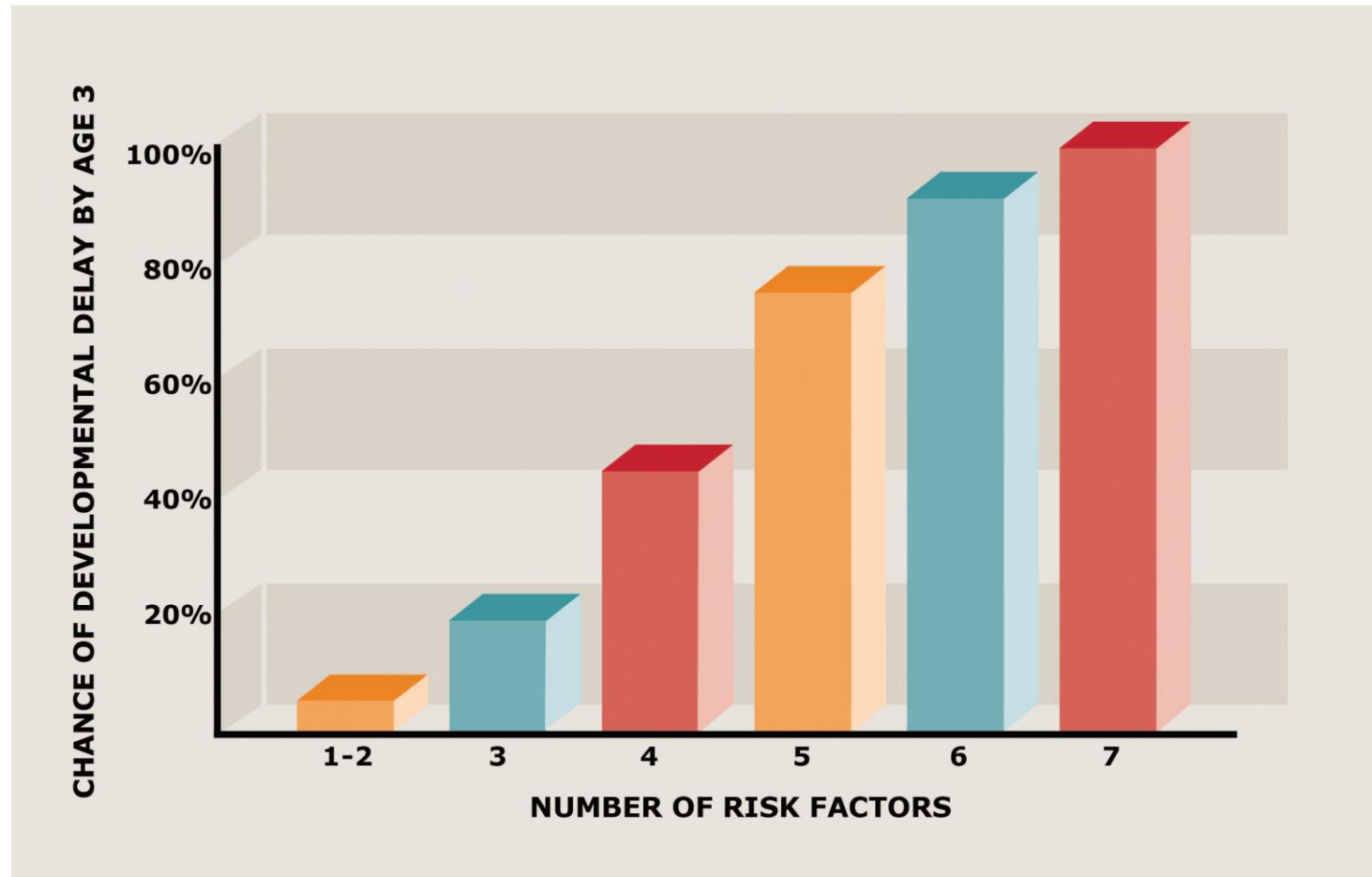


Image source: Conel, JL. The postnatal development of the human cerebral cortex. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1959

Chance of developmental delay based on number of risk factors in a child's early years

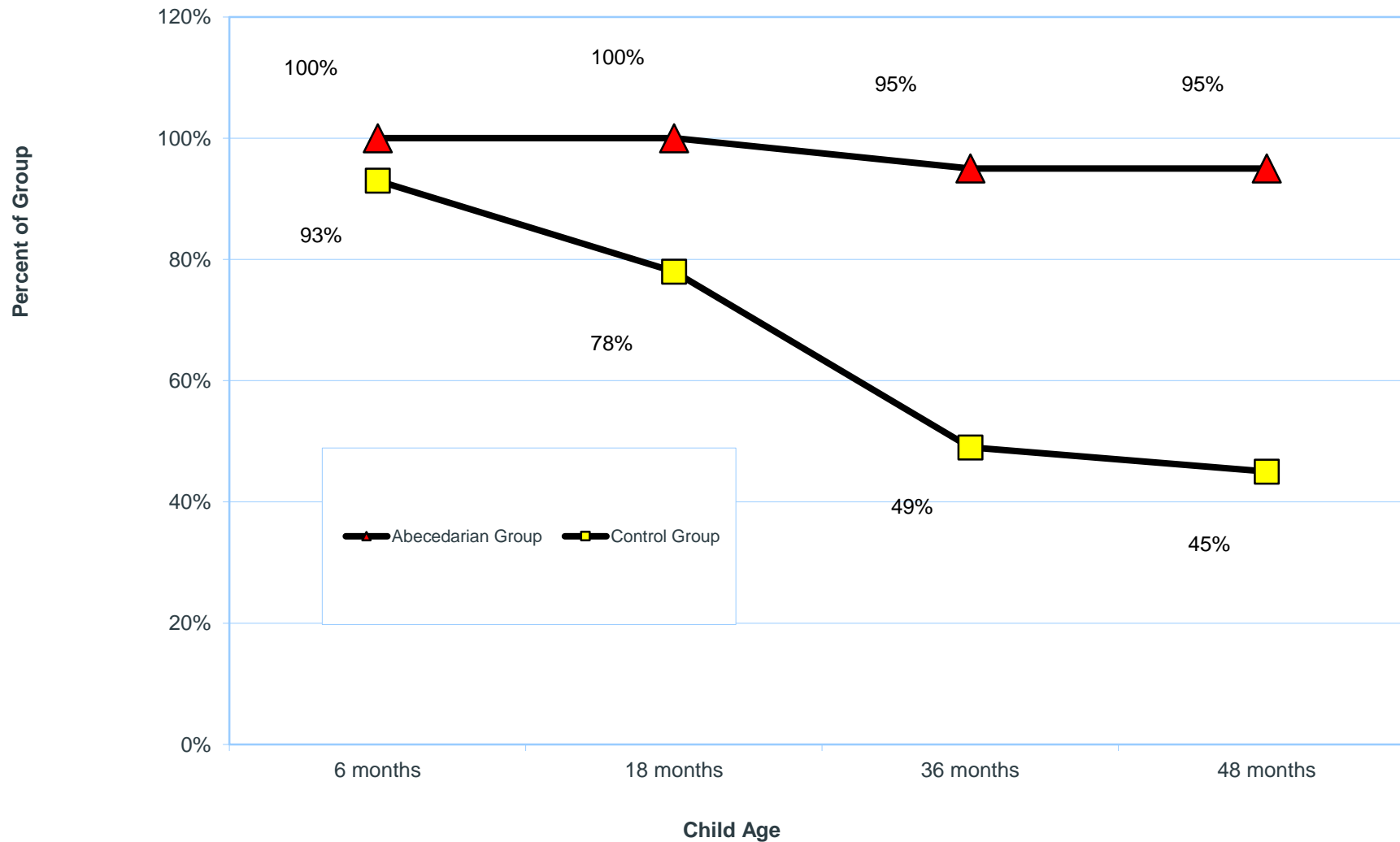


Source: Barth et al. (2008); Harvard University

Research



Abecedarian Research



School age results

- ▶ Improved reading and math scores.
- ▶ Fewer failed grades.
- ▶ Fewer children in special education.

At age 21...

- ▶ Greater number of people holding skilled jobs.
- ▶ More people enrolled in higher education.
- ▶ Reduced teen pregnancy.
- ▶ Fewer symptoms of depression.
- ▶ Lower usage of illegal substances

At age 30...

- ▶ More years of education.
- ▶ 4x number graduated from a 4-year university program.
- ▶ More consistent workforce participation.
- ▶ Less public assistance.

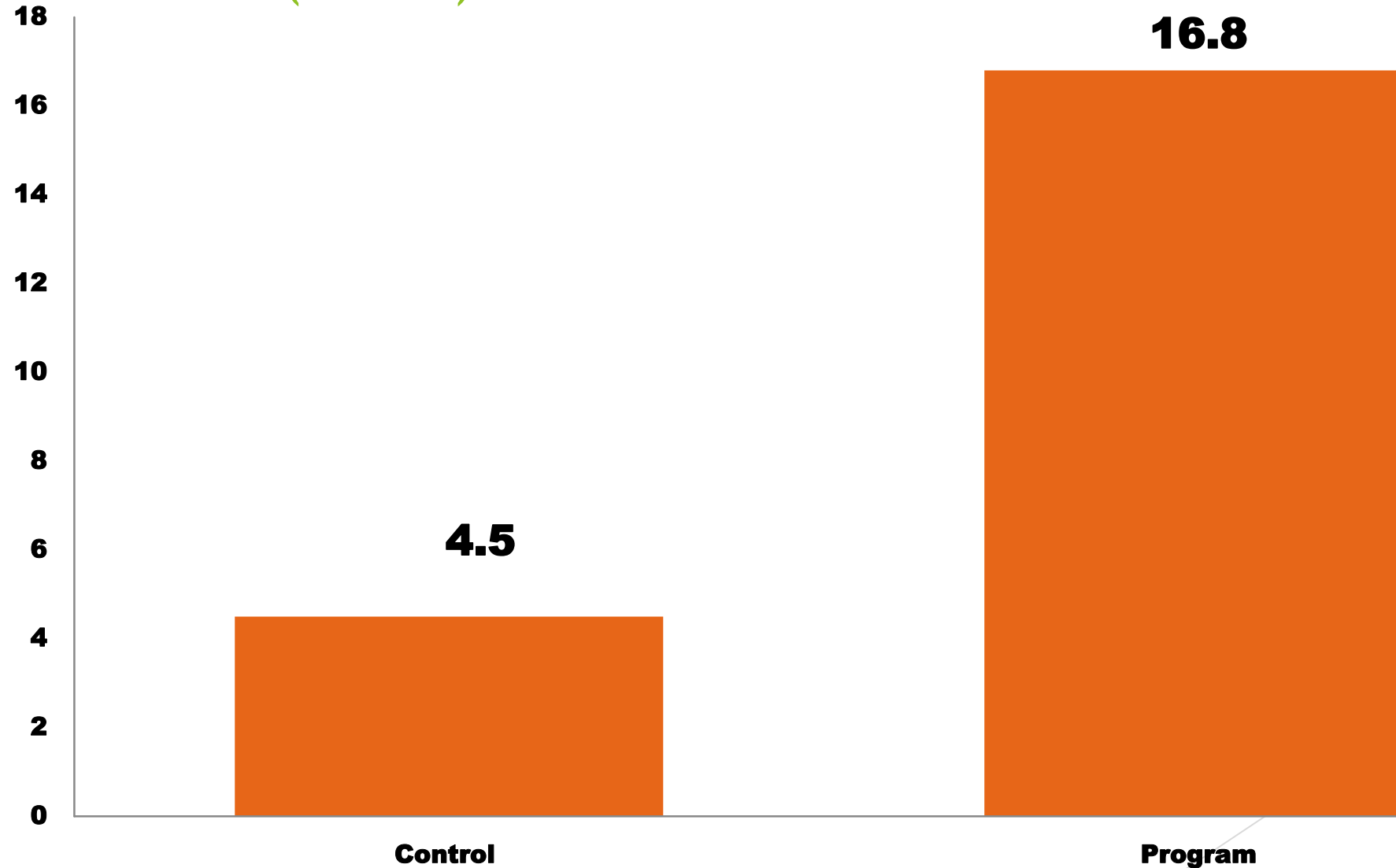
Manitoba Context



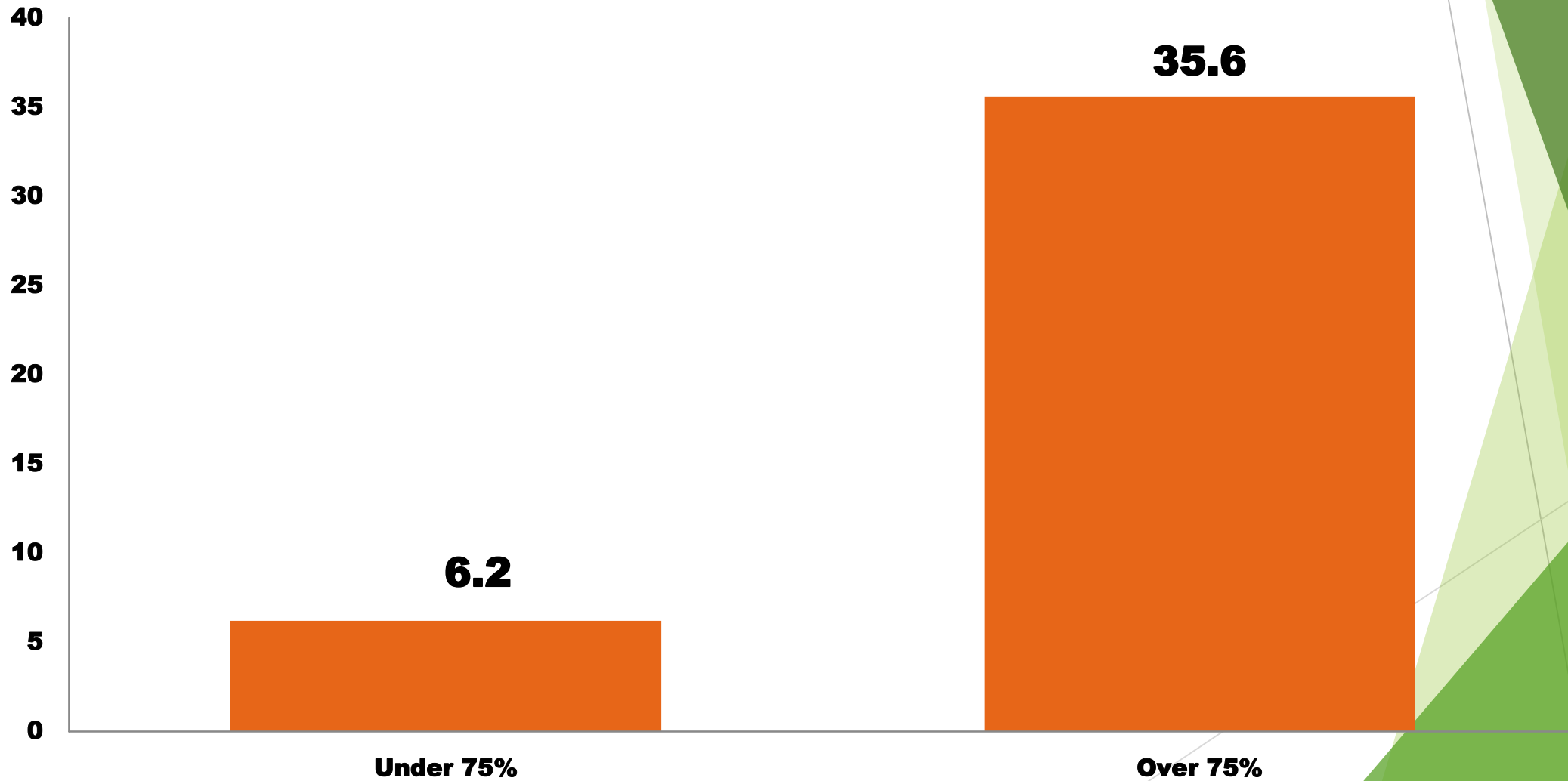
Overview of LSP community



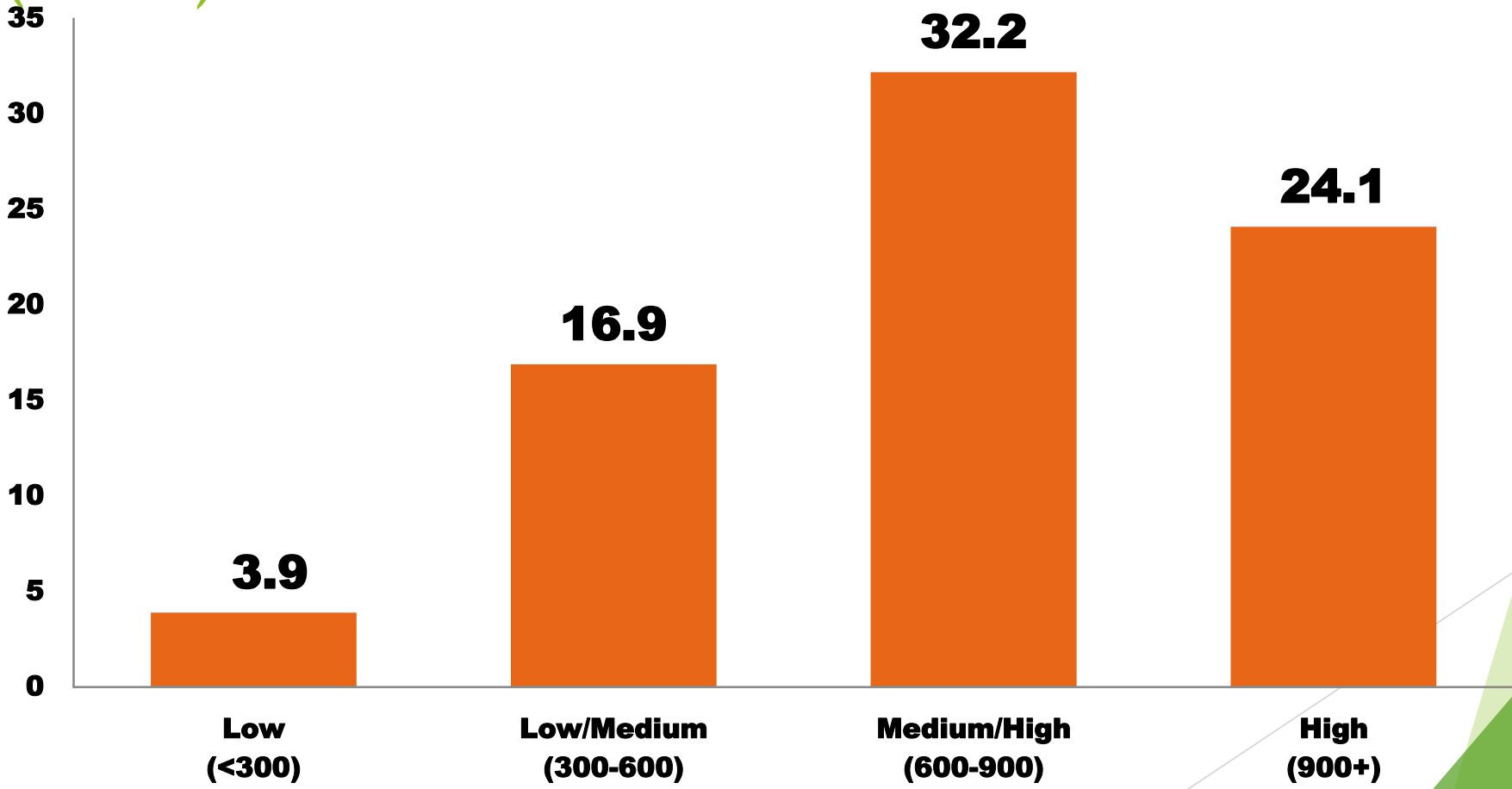
Average Percentage Point Change in Language Development Scores by Evaluation Group, Baseline to Year 1 (N=92)



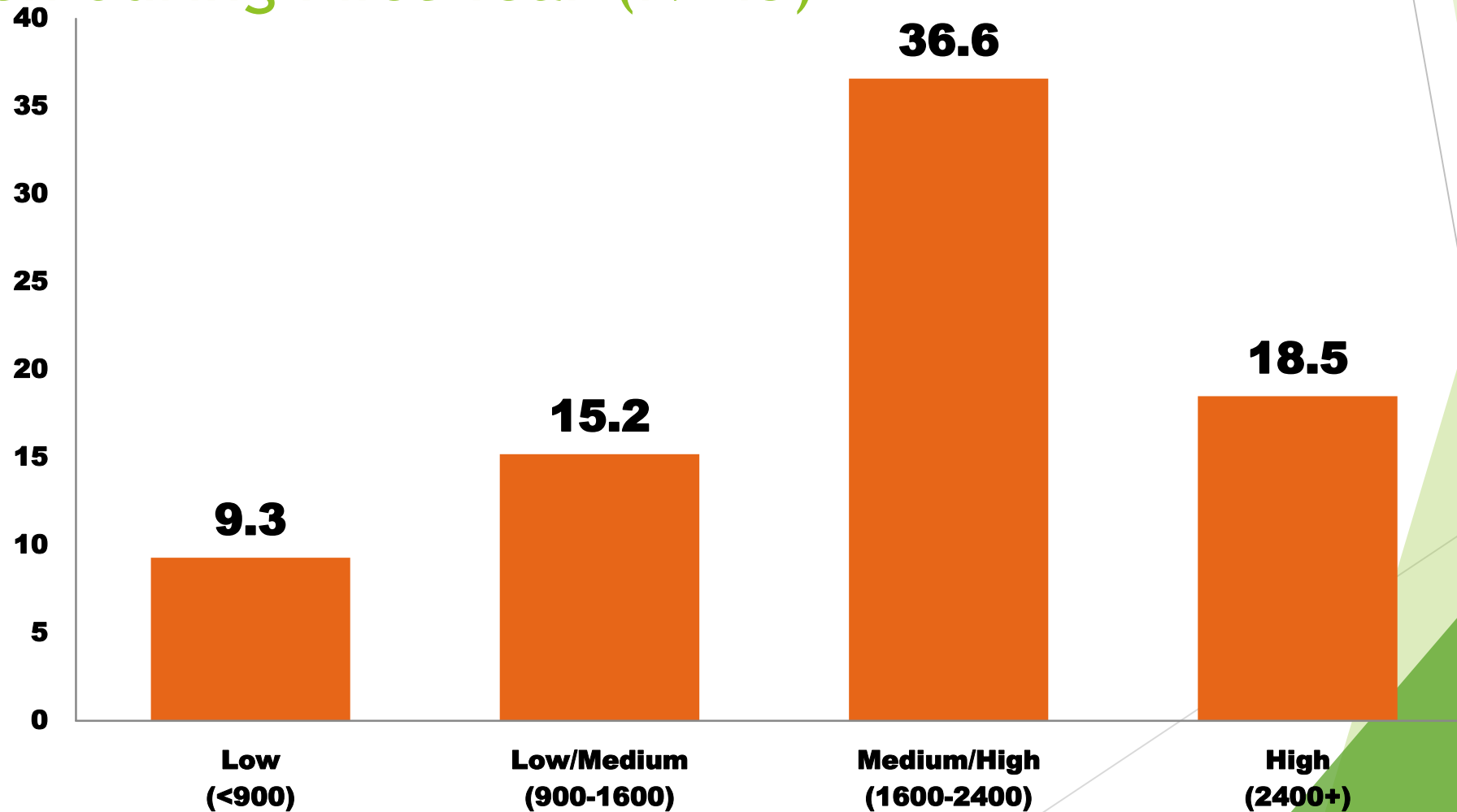
Average Percentage Point Change in Language Development Scores by Level of Attendance of Program Group Children During First Year (N=45)



Average Percentage Point Change in Language Development Scores by Total Number of Reading Sessions with Program Group Children During First Year (N=45)



Average Percentage Point Change in Language Development Scores by Total Number of LearningGames® Played with Program Group Children during First Year (N=45)



Stay Tuned...



What Manidoo staff are seeing....

- ▶ Advanced language development among participating children
- ▶ Less conflict among children requiring adult intervention
- ▶ Less attention-seeking behaviour (children know they will have a turn with their caregiver)
- ▶ Increased family stability
- ▶ Increased parent involvement with the centre
- ▶ Parents are motivated to enter education and employment



New research project funded by SSHRC...

- ▶ Examining the impact of the Abecedarian Approach on the parents/guardians and ECEs at Lord Selkirk Park
- ▶ Documenting their shared experiences
- ▶ Creating multimedia presentations to share the results

And there's more...

- ▶ Abecedarian-inspired practice
 - ▶ Research project involving 6 child care centres in Winnipeg
 - ▶ Abecedarian practice in child care centres that are not attached to a research study
 - ▶ Part time child minding programs
 - ▶ New projects blending Abecedarian and SECD

Questions? Comments?