

# # FIRST THINGS FIRST



**NEARLY 70% OF POLICE CHIEFS**, sheriffs and prosecutors say that providing more educational programs for young children is the most effective strategy to reduce youth violence and crime.

## QUALITY CHILD CARE HELPS KIDS THRIVE

90% of a child's brain develops before age 5. The positive, nurturing relationships young kids have with adults — from parents to child care and early learning professionals — shape their learning now and throughout their lives.

No matter the setting, quality matters for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Quality early learning settings help children develop skills — like motivation, self-control, focus and self-esteem — that are crucial to their future success.

**First Things First partners with parents and communities to help all kids start school healthy and ready to succeed. To find out more about what First Things First does in your community, visit: [www.FirstThingsFirst.org](http://www.FirstThingsFirst.org).**

**READY FOR SCHOOL. SET FOR LIFE.**