The Abecedarian Approach
What is the Abecedarian Approach?
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Family supports
Video example... Cutting the Bug
700 new neural connections per second in the first few years of life

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

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

The graph shows the percentage of children in the Abecedarian Group and Control Group across different ages:

- **6 months**: 100% for both groups.
- **18 months**: 100% for both groups.
- **36 months**: 95% for both groups.
- **48 months**: 95% for both groups.

The graph indicates a decrease in the percentage of children in both groups as age increases. The Abecedarian Group consistently shows a higher percentage compared to the Control Group.
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.
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