



The long-term effects of BoekStart (Bookstart): a longitudinal study

BoekStart logo: a stylized bear head with a book inside, above a purple heart, with the text 'BoekStart' below.

de Bibliotheek op school logo: a stylized orange book icon above the text 'de Bibliotheek op school'.

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BoekStart for babies

- Voucher via municipality and healthcare center
- Pick up Bookstart package at the library incl. baby membership
- Babybook collection available
- Library tour
- Parent- child activities



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BoekStart in childcare

Core

- BoekStart supports preschool/childcare in the field of reading promotion, by means of the collection and expertise of a library consultant
- Professionalizing the reading environment in childcare
- Reading promotion becomes part of the pedagogical policy and is included in the daycare programme

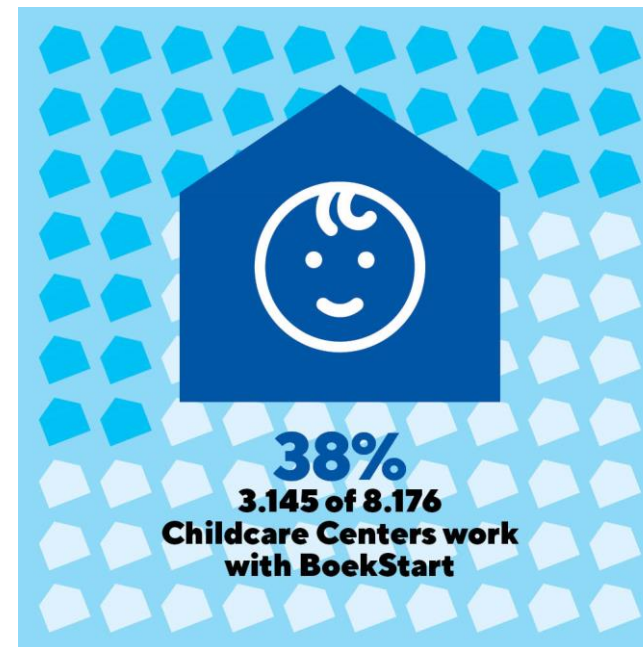
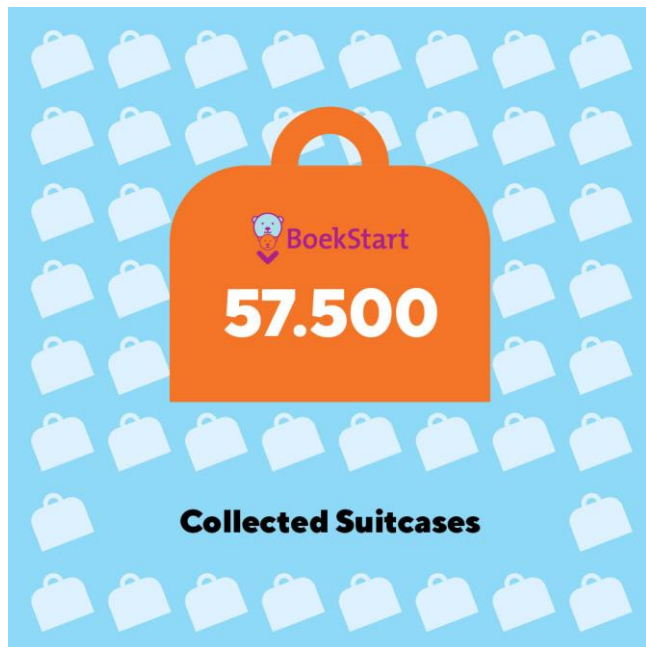


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BoekStart: Reach



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BoekStart: Scientific studies

- From BookStart to Booksmart (2015)
- The long-term effects of BookStart (2022)



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From BookStart tot Booksmart (Van den Berg, 2015)

- Does BoekStart influence shared reading at home?
- Does BoekStart have an effect on children's vocabulary development?
- Which children benefit most from BookStart?



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Results: shared reading & vocabulary

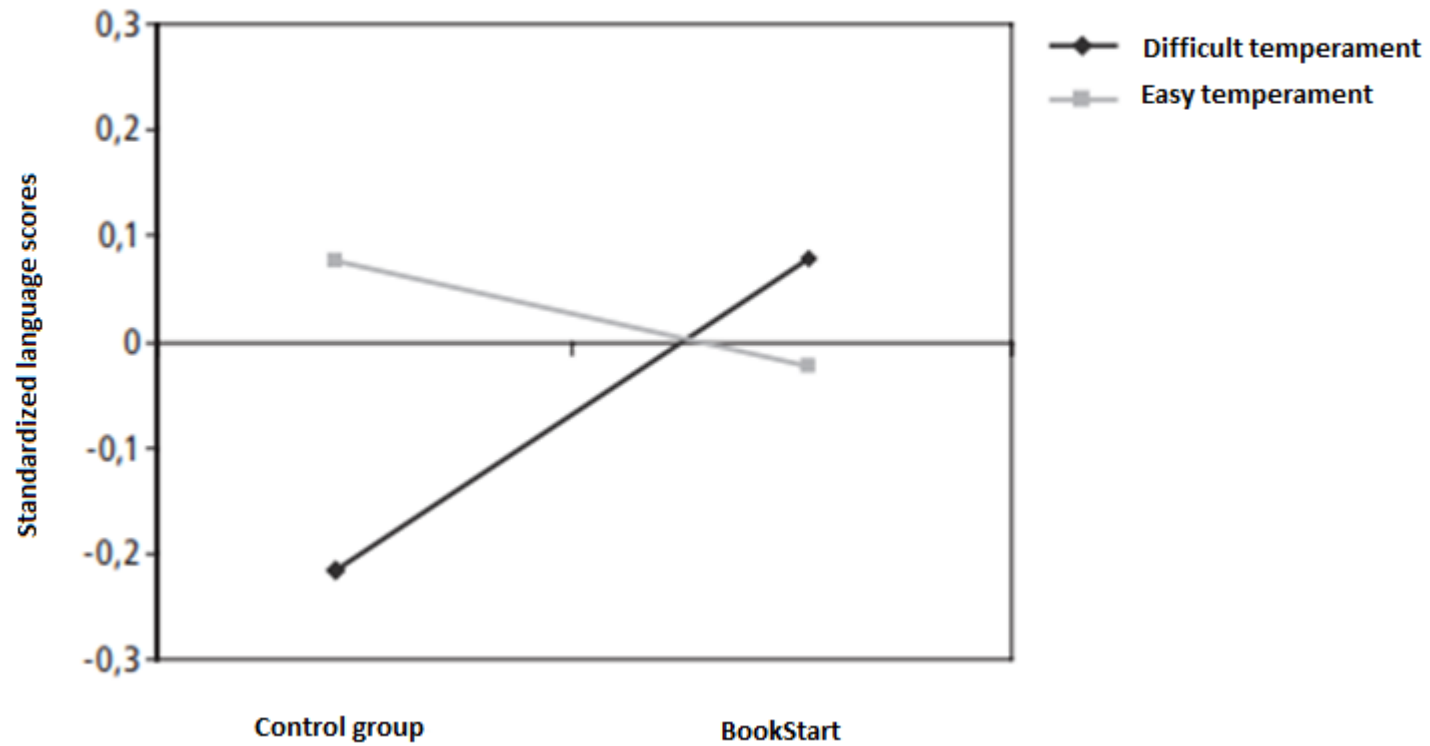
- BookStart-parents know more babybooks
- BoekStart – in general - doesn't effect vocabulary
- *If* shared reading increases as a result of BookStart, children's vocabulary is more extensive at 15 and 22 months of age
- The effect increases with time



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Results: temperament



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Long-term effects of BookStart (De Bondt & Bus 2022)

- Is shared reading still more frequent amongst BookStart-parents after infancy?
- Do BookStart-children score higher on language, reading and math at age 5 to 6?
- What can BoekStart learn from other bookgifting programmes?



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BookStart-parents vs. Non-BookStart-parents

- **Differences:**
 - Early start with reading
 - Library membership child
 - Duration of reading session
- **Similarities:**
 - Frequency of shared reading
 - Number of books at home
 - Library visits



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Longterm effects BoekStart

- BookStart-children with a difficult temperament still have higher language scores aged 5 to 6
- BoekStart doesn't affect math scores



BoekStart

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Bookgifting programmes: Overall effects & differences

- BoekStart / BookStart
- Reach out and read
doctor at child health clinic gives reading advise and books
- Imagination library
form 0 to 5 years of age, every month a book



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Boekgifting programmes: effects

- Enhanced reading environment at home
- Especially in low income families
 - no differences between the programmes
- Increased reading interest and reading skills
 - Reach out and read has the biggest effects



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BoekStart: recommendations

- Promote participation in BoekStart for all parents. It also makes a difference for children of highly educated parents.
- Promote the participation of low-educated parents in BoekStart
- Make the importance of reading a structural part of conversations with parents at child health clinics.



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BoekStart: recommendations in practice

- Expansion of the BookStartcoaches approach (home and healthcare)
- Pilot with two healthcare organizations with reach out and read elements (more time for supporting parents)



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BoekStart: recommendations in practice

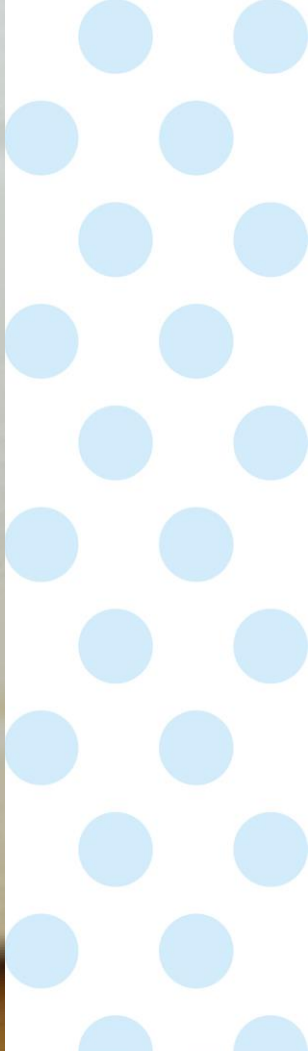
- Exploring the possibility of a second BookStart package for toddlers
- Multilingual reading material
- Increase the visibility of BoekStart through public campaigns such as Baby Book of the Year election and BoekStartdag



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