



Texas  
Public  
Radio



## Family Literacy

[tpr.org/literacy](https://tpr.org/literacy)

### TPR's role

A **Solutions Journalism** series: April 2026 - March 2027

In this series, TPR explores **family literacy as a potential solution** to San Antonio's literacy challenges. Through the experiences of families, educators and local organizations, the reporting examines effective interventions, barriers to access and a closer look at programs showing promise for **improving literacy outcomes across generations**.

### The problem

San Antonio faces a significant illiteracy challenge that affects economic mobility, workforce readiness, and family well-being. **Some 90,000 adults lack basic literacy skills**, with the highest concentrations in historically underserved neighborhoods on the west, east, and south sides of the city. Our focus on **family literacy addresses the problem at its source**.

### **TPR Seeking Solutions**

#### How?

- 14 stories on family literacy **solutions**
- 2 video features
- 2 community events
- 1 audio documentary
- "Mirror Books" series of episodes in TPR's *Book Public* podcast

#### What?

Planned coverage to include:

- parent and child learning
- workforce development
- economic mobility
- overcoming barriers to access
- bilingual education
- library literacy support
- school programs
- nonprofit solutions



Support a high-leverage strategy that **raises awareness and accelerates the adoption of proven solutions** - strengthening the **workforce**, improving **family outcomes**, and building a more informed and equitable community.

- Tangible community impact
- Advancing scalable solutions, not just diagnosing the problem
- Strengthening an informed, engaged civic ecosystem
- Breaking intergenerational cycles of inequality
- Visibility and alignment with trusted public media
- Leveraging storytelling as a force multiplier

# TPR Takeaways

## ➔ *The problem is urgent*

- One in four adults in San Antonio reads at or below a fifth-grade level.
- That's 90,000 of our neighbors navigating job applications, medical forms and their children's homework with inadequate tools.

## ➔ *Solutions exist, and we want to amplify them*

- Programs that help are hard at work, but they're scattered, underfunded, and not reaching the employers, educators, and policymakers who could act on it — or many of the families who could benefit from it.

## ➔ *The difference your support will make*

- Your investment sends TPR into this literacy gap: **finding what works, explaining why and delivering it.**
- **Adult literacy and children's reading outcomes** are directly connected, so this isn't a single-generation investment.
- Every solution TPR amplifies has the potential to **change outcomes for families:**



## ➔ *TPR is particularly well-positioned to cover family literacy*

- Thirty years of **community relationships**
- A live call-in program that creates **real-time feedback from the public**
- Journalists with **direct ties to San Antonio's education community**
- Broadcast, podcast, and event infrastructure that **reaches where this crisis is most acute**
- A newsroom that prioritizes **solutions journalism**, working to highlight topics on literacy
- TPR's track record of being cited in public discussions and policy conversations is the proof that **this reporting doesn't stop at awareness. It moves people.**