

# Being poor affects brain as early as kindergarten

By Natalie Kitroeff, BloombergBusiness

Differences in wealth could affect the lives of American kids from the very first moment they enter a classroom, a study has found.

People with prestigious, lucrative jobs produce children who do better on math, reading, and memory tests, according to an analysis released today by the liberal Economic Policy Institute, which looked at parent and teacher assessments of 18,000 children who started kindergarten in 2010. Being Poor Affects Your Brain as Early as Kindergarten

On most skills, from ease with calculations and sentences to attention levels, children did better with every step up the wealth ladder. Students in the middle of the socioeconomic status spectrum did worse than the ones at the top, but better than those slightly below them.

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