“Why Reading Matters and What to Do about It”

Business Roundtable
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Nationwide by 2020, companies will struggle to fill 5 million jobs because of a lack of training and education.
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Acceleration of the Skills Gap

Of 7.2 million jobs lost, 5.6 million (77%) were workers with a high school diploma or less.
Of the 11.6 million jobs added over the past six years, 99% (11.5 million) were for those with education or training beyond high school.
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Are U.S Students Reading Proficiently?

• 66% of 8th graders not reading proficient
• 64% of 4th graders not reading proficient
Students not reading proficiently by end of 3rd grade: 4 times more likely to drop out of school.