A student completes a Roots to Rise numeracy exercise using stick bundles to represent place value.

See the results from Roots to Rise 2019 on page 3.
Schools Overview

81 Building Tomorrow Schools

- 80 Open
- 1 Under Construction

408 schools supported by Fellows

- 56 Building Tomorrow Schools
- 352 non-BT Schools

Fellows-supported Building Tomorrow Schools.
Out-of-School Children Enrollment

792 Out-of-school children enrolled during Q3 2019

No OOSC were enrolled via newly opened BT Primary Schools since no new schools were opened in Q3.

792 via BT Fellows and Community Education Volunteers

54,165 Total out-of-school children enrolled since 2014

- via construction
- via Fellows & Community Education Volunteers

38,699

15,466

via construction
via Fellows & Community Education Volunteers
Roots to Rise 2019 Results

From July to September, Roots to Rise literacy and numeracy camps took place at 70 schools throughout Uganda, reaching over 10,000 students who previously struggled to read and do basic math.

With the help of more than 3,400 Community Education Volunteers, Roots to Rise enables children to learn more during the years they spend in school and gain more agency over their own learning.

By the end of the 5-week camps:

**51%** of students could read a paragraph, compared with a national average of just 6%.

**43%** of students could do basic math (+ - x ÷), compared with a national average of just 2%.

Roots to Rise is Building Tomorrow’s foundational learning initiative which involves grouping students according to their learning level and teaching basic literacy and numeracy skills. It deploys a unique model which unites school and community actors in pursuit of better learning outcomes.

*Where applicable, weekly totals adding to less than 100% is due to students who were absent during assessment.*
Carrying out our values

Our Values

Unshakable Passion  Relentless Determination  Creative Ingenuity  Collaborative Engagement

Strategic Anchors

Child-Centric  Impact Focused  Locally Led & Sustainable  System Level Outlook  Partnership-Minded

Ronald is 16 years old, but he still sits in the third grade at Bisozi Primary School in Western Uganda. And, up until a few weeks ago, he couldn’t even sound out the alphabet.

His situation, while probably surprising to many of us, is not uncommon in Uganda. In fact, it’s the norm. Ronald is one of millions of children in Uganda who sit in classrooms every day but aren’t learning. In fact, just a few months ago, the World Bank released new research showing that just 6% of students are able to even read a simple paragraph after finishing the fourth grade. It’s becoming more and more apparent that the country has a learning crisis on its hands. Being in school is simply not the same thing as learning.

Building Tomorrow knows this, and to help kids like Ronald, we launched our fun, interactive Roots to Rise initiative at his school this year. Along with more than 10,000 other children and 70 schools all across Uganda, Ronald got to experience the excitement of active learning and differentiated instruction that research has long shown improves learning outcomes. Now, just 5 weeks after starting our program, Ronald can read and comprehend full stories and has even discovered a new love for English!

“I don’t have a favorite book. But if it’s any book in English, I’ll read it!”

Ronald (shown below, middle)

One of the interactive Roots to Rise games that helped move Robert from falling through the cracks in the education system to being the shining star in his class was the alphabet Bingo game. In this beginner-level activity, students get cards and Bingo boards with alphabet letters on them while the teacher calls out sounds. The first person to completely cover his or her board wins, and the game helps students to practice both listening and visual identification of alphabet letters in a fun setting. “I think the Bingo game is what finally helped me to learn my letters,” says Ronald proudly.

Now that his reading abilities and grades are soaring, Ronald also has dreams of soaring—through the skies, as a pilot. He wants to see the world and help others like him to see it, too.
Recognition of our work

Throughout August, Building Tomorrow hosted renowned global humanitarian photojournalist Paddy Dowling for inclusion in two pieces documenting the most marginalized human beings in the world. Dowling, who works with aid agencies and NGOs worldwide to tell stories of refugees and internally displaced persons, visited Building Tomorrow primary schools and Fellows in Kamwenge and Kanungu districts of Western Uganda. A major portion of out-of-school students Building Tomorrow enrolls in Western Uganda are refugees from neighboring country Democratic Republic of Congo. As part of Dowling’s visit, students who came to Uganda as refugees and were enrolled by Building Tomorrow were interviewed and photographed for an article and photo gallery in the British newspaper The Independent, as well as included in the *Committing to Dreamers* video produced by Education Above All Foundation, parent organization of our partner Educate a Child.

**Uganda’s hardest mile: Racing to rescue an endangered generation**

*The Independent* | Paddy Dowling

Link to article and photo gallery:
[www.buildingtomorrow.org/independent](http://www.buildingtomorrow.org/independent)

**Committing to Dreamers**

*Education Above All Foundation* | Paddy Dowling

Link to video:
[www.buildingtomorrow.org/dreamers](http://www.buildingtomorrow.org/dreamers)

Photo Credit: Paddy Dowling/EAA/EAC/The Independent