

Students Make Significant Reading Gains After Using Fast ForWord to Reading Products

Implementation Objectives

Three schools across the U.S. were interested in evaluating the effectiveness of the Fast ForWord to Reading products. Students' reading skills were assessed before and after participation on one or two of the Fast ForWord to Reading products. None of the study participants had previously used any of the Fast ForWord Language products. At two of the three participating schools, students were assigned to either use a Fast ForWord to Reading product or be part of a comparison group.

Methodology

School personnel tested the students' reading skills at the beginning and end of the study. Four different assessments were used in these studies, depending on the age of the students and the Fast ForWord product that was used: Woodcock Johnson Tests of Achievement, Test Phonological Awareness (TOPA), Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests (GMRT), and Terra Nova Survey. School personnel administered all of the assessments. Students participated on different Fast ForWord to Reading products, depending on the study.

Assessment Results

Various assessments were used to evaluate the reading skills of the students in this study, both before and after the students participated on the Fast ForWord to Reading products.

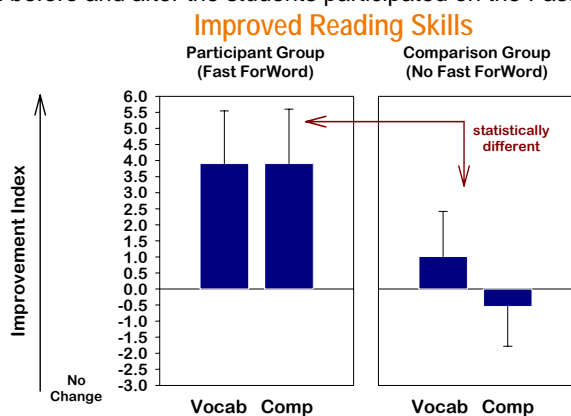


Figure 1.

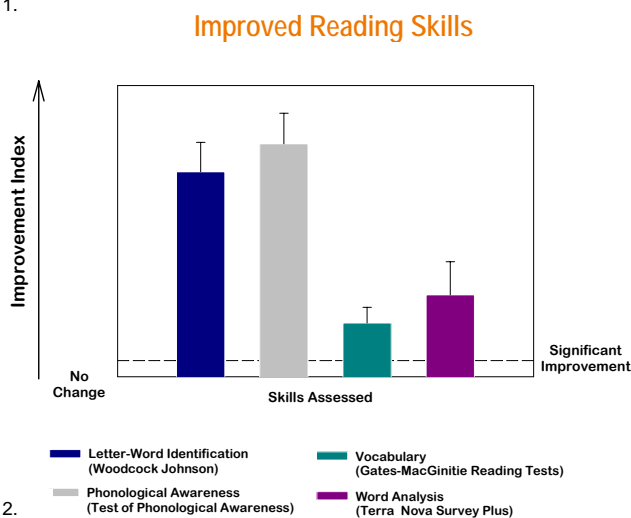


Figure 2.

At two schools with comparison groups, students who used the Fast ForWord to Reading products achieved significantly greater gains (post-test minus pre-test) than the comparison students, as shown in Figure 1.

As shown in Figure 2, average gains on standardized assessments for students who used the Fast ForWord to Reading products were recorded for all of the skill areas tested, including letter-word identification, phonological awareness, vocabulary, and word analysis.

Results are shown using z-scores to create uniformity across the various assessments.

Educational Gains

The results found in this study support other studies demonstrating

that using the Fast ForWord to Reading products results in the strengthening of foundational reading skills, better positioning students to partake in the classroom curriculum and become lifelong readers.



Program Study Statistics

School years:

Ranged from 2002 to 2007

Number of Students:

264 students

Grade Levels:

Ranged from kindergarten to eighth grade

Products Used:

- Fast ForWord to Reading Prep
- Fast ForWord to Reading 1
- Fast ForWord to Reading 2
- Fast ForWord to Reading 3
- Fast ForWord to Reading 4
- Fast ForWord to Reading 5

Assessment tools used:

- Woodcock Johnson Tests of Achievement
- Test of Phonological Awareness
- Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests
- TerraNova Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills Survey

School Structure:

Rural, suburban, and urban

For the completed reports on these studies and more information showing significant academic gains following use of the Fast ForWord family of products go to: www.scilearn.com/resultsreports

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