

Prescriptive Instruction Efficacy Study: Title I/LEP



Overview: The Boys & Girls Clubs of Palm Beach County hosted an after-school program for students in four of their school-based Palm Beach County elementary school locations. The program, funded by a 21st Century Community Learning Center grant, was designed to increase educational levels of economically disadvantaged students (many classified as LEP) in Belle Glade, Florida, an agricultural community with more than 21% of its households earning less than \$10,000/year.

Demographics: 98% Free & Reduced Lunch
67% African American
30% Hispanic
14% LEP

Methods/Background: (*Prescription Instruction's*) Effective Learning™ Reading Program was tested for its effectiveness in building Sight Words, Phonics/Phonemic Awareness, Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension skills during a 12-week after-school program. Ninety-nine students, ages 6-11, were divided into an experimental group of 66 and a control group of 33.

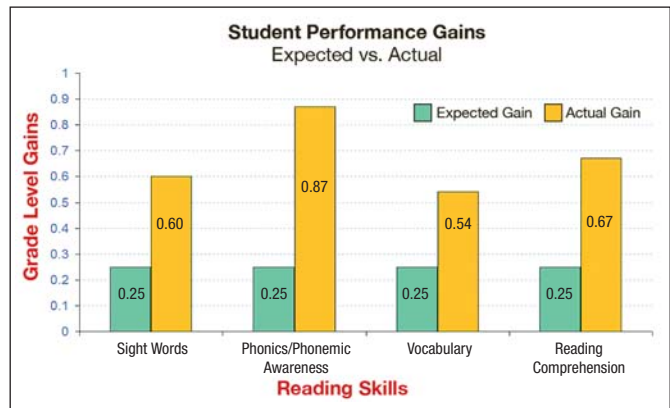
All students began the program with an assessment of their individual reading skills using (*Prescriptive Instruction's*) online diagnostic assessment, which has shown a high correlation to national paper and pencil tests such as the Slosson Reading Test and the Woodcock Word Identification and Word Attack test. The students in the experimental group received between 2.5 hours to 5 hours of reading instruction with an average of 3.3 hours being completed. After 12 weeks, all students ended the program with a post-assessment to determine changes in their critical reading skills.

Results: The experimental group showed significant grade level gains overall, when compared to an expected grade level gain of .25. The gain comparisons between the reading experimental group vs. the control group are as follows:

Reading Skill	Experimental Group	Control Group
Sight Words	.60	.40
Phonics/Phonemic Awareness	.87	.62
Vocabulary	.54	.36
Reading Comprehension	.67	.45

"(Prescriptive Instruction) has proven to be an excellent teaching tool for our students. It covers all of the critical reading skills in an interactive, inviting way for the students. The students like using the (Prescriptive Instruction) program because it gives them self-confidence to learn at their own pace without outside influence (sometimes criticism) from the others in their environment. I know my students' reading skills improved over the 12 weeks. I have seen it with my own eyes! I would recommend this program to any teacher and any school."

Camella Slydell, Elementary Teacher
K.E. Cunningham/Canal Point Elementary School
Palm Beach County Public Schools



For more information, please call **888-665-8307** or go to **www.sunburst.com/prescriptiveinstruction**