

# Students at Hempfield School District gain one grade level in seven weeks

## Implementation Objectives

The Hempfield School District in Lancaster County, PA, was interested in evaluating the Fast ForWord products. The study was designed as a case study involving the assessment of reading achievement before and after participation on the Fast ForWord products. Students in the study were third graders attending Centerville Elementary School in the Hempfield School District. Almost all of the students were receiving special education services.

## Methodology

School personnel tested the students' reading achievement at the beginning and end of the study. Student performance was evaluated using the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Ninth Edition (SAT-9). School personnel administered the assessment.

At each school, participating educators were trained in:

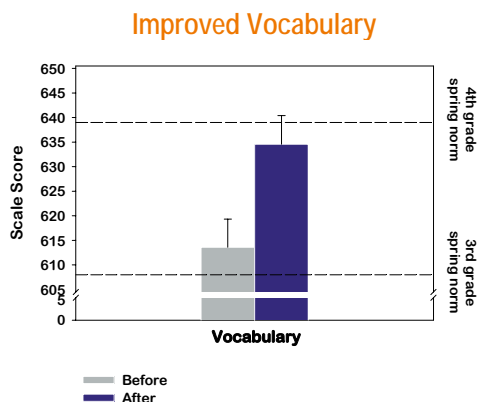
- Current findings on the neuroscience of how phonemic awareness and the acoustic properties of speech impact rapid development of language and reading skills
- Methods for assessing candidates for use of Fast ForWord
- Appropriate measures for testing and evaluation
- Effective implementation techniques
- Use of Progress Tracker reports to monitor student performance
- Techniques for measuring gains students achieve after they have finished using the product

## Schedule of Use

The school district devised an alternative protocol on Fast ForWord to Reading 3 which called for students to complete certain Fast ForWord exercises before beginning other exercises. On average, students used the Fast ForWord to Reading 3 product for 29 days over a period of about 49 calendar days, and completed 59% of the product content. They used the product for approximately 45 minutes each day.

## Assessment Results

The SAT-9 is a nationally standardized measure of academic achievement. The reading subtests of the SAT-9 include vocabulary, reading comprehension and total reading.



Significant gains were seen on both vocabulary and reading comprehension. Before Fast ForWord participation, students were performing at about the third-grade level on Vocabulary. Approximately seven weeks later, after Fast ForWord participation, performance improved to the fourth grade level. In reading comprehension, the students demonstrated performance even beyond the fourth grade level after Fast ForWord participation.

## Educational Gains

The results found in this study support other studies demonstrating that using the Fast ForWord products results in the strengthening of foundational reading skills, better positioning students to partake in the classroom curriculum.

Students achieved significant gains in reading.



## Program Study Statistics

**Number of Students:**  
25 students

**Grade Level:**  
Third grade

**Product Used:**  
Fast ForWord to Reading 3

**Assessment tool used:**  
Stanford Achievement Test Series, Ninth Edition (SAT-9)

**School Structure:**  
Suburban

For detailed analysis of this data or to request other reports showing significant academic gains following use of the Fast ForWord family of products go to: [www.scilearn.com/resultsreports](http://www.scilearn.com/resultsreports)

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