

Adolescents with emotional or behavioral challenges achieve significant gains in language skills

Implementation Objectives

Buffalo Hearing and Speech Center (BHSC) was interested in evaluating the effectiveness of Fast ForWord products for improving the language skills of adolescents with emotional/behavioral difficulties. They worked with an alternative school for students with emotional/behavioral difficulties to conduct a case study, assessing student language skills before and after participation on the Fast ForWord products.

Methodology

A speech-language pathologist from BHSC tested the students' oral language skills at the beginning and end of the study using the Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals, Third Edition (CELF-3).

The clinician was trained in:

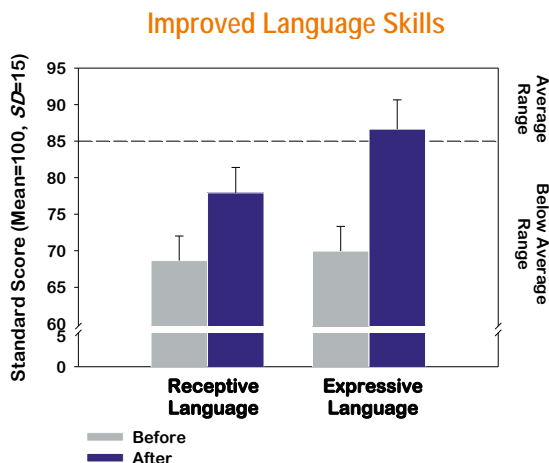
- Current findings on the neuroscience of how phonemic awareness and the acoustic properties of speech impact rapid development of language and reading skills
- Methods for assessing candidates for use of Fast ForWord
- Appropriate measures for testing and evaluation
- Effective implementation techniques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

Schedule of Use

Students participated 90 minutes per day, five days per week, for four to eight weeks. All participants used the Fast ForWord Middle & High School product (three students continued on to use the Fast ForWord Language to Reading product). On average, the students completed 51% of the Fast ForWord Middle & High School product in 30 days.

Assessment Results

The CELF-3 is a comprehensive language test widely used to measure a child's ability to understand words and sentences, follow directions, recall and formulate sentences, and understand relationships between words and categories.



in the strengthening of oral language skills, better positioning students to build reading and writing skills and to partake in the classroom curriculum.

Students achieved significant gains in

- Receptive Language
- Expressive Language.

After participating in the Fast ForWord products, students made significant gains in language skills. In the two month period from pre-test to post-test participants gained an average of 2 years, 7 months in language age (average at pre = 8 years, 9 months; average at post = 11 years, 4 months).

Educational Gains

The results found in this study support other studies demonstrating that using the Fast ForWord products results



Program Study Statistics

School year:
2001-2002

Number of Students:
26 students

Grade Level:
Middle and High School

Products Used:
Fast ForWord Middle & High School
Fast ForWord Language to Reading

Assessment tool used:
Clinical Evaluation of Language Fundamentals, Third Edition (CELF-3)

School Structure:
Urban

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

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