

# Fast ForWord participants in Lamar County SD reach reading proficiency

## Implementation Objectives

The Lamar County School District in Purvis, MS, was interested in evaluating the effects of the Fast ForWord products on the reading skills of their students. They used a case study involving the assessment of student reading achievement before and after participation on the Fast ForWord products. Study participants were third through eighth grade students.

## Methodology

School personnel tested the students' reading skills at the beginning and end of the study using the Mississippi Curriculum Test (MCT). School personnel administered the assessment.

Educators were trained in:

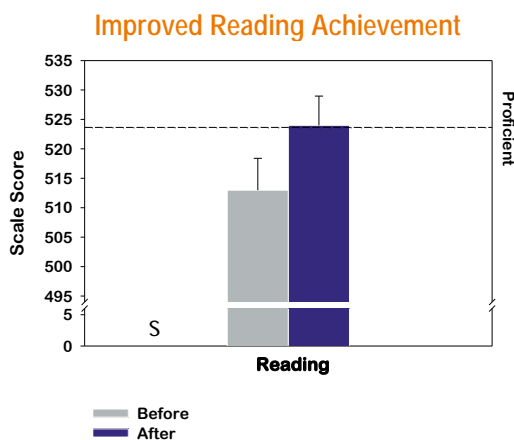
- Current findings on the neuroscience of how phonemic awareness and the acoustic properties of speech impact rapid development of language and reading skills
- Methods for assessing candidates for use of Fast ForWord
- Appropriate measures for testing and evaluation
- Effective implementation techniques
- 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

Students participated on each product for 48 or 50 minutes per day, five days per week, for eight to twelve weeks. On average, students used Fast ForWord products for 65 days over four months.

## Assessment Results

The Mississippi Curriculum Test measures a student's proficiency in the state standards for reading, language and mathematics. The Reading portion of the test measures semantic and syntactic knowledge, along with phonetic structure, vocabulary, and comprehension. The Language component focuses on editing, spelling, sentence structure and semantics.



After Fast ForWord participation, students, on average, achieved significant improvements in reading achievement. Overall, students gained 11 points on the Reading portion of the MCT and reached state standards for reading proficiency following 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

**School year:**  
2005 – 2006

**Number of Students:**  
65 students

**Grade Level:**  
Third through eighth grades

**Products Used:**  
Fast ForWord Middle & High School  
Fast ForWord Language to Reading  
Fast ForWord to Reading 4

**Assessment tool used:**  
Mississippi Curriculum Test (MCT)

**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)

**Contact us for more information:**  
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