



ReadingHorizons
The Foundation for Reading English

Results

Scientificallly-based Research Underpinning the Rationales
of the *Discover Intensive Phonics* Reading System at
Huntington Elementary School

Reading Horizons

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Scope of Work:

Twenty-one first grade students were administered a qualitative reading inventory (district sponsored test) to quantify what (if any) reading gains were made after having used the Discover Intensive Phonics program

Tool:

State Core Reading Test (Utah) Qualitative Reading Inventory

Time Frame:

Conducted between January and April 2000 (four months)

Huntington Elementary School

Huntington, Utah

In the spring of 1998, a first grade instructor at Huntington Elementary School in Huntington, Utah, reported noticeable gains on the State Core Reading Test after having implemented the Discover Intensive Phonics program in the classroom. All 23 students scored above 90 percent (50 out of 60 points). It was reported that, among those 23 students, there existed a wide range of skill levels upon entering the first grade.

In the spring of 1999, again, first grade students were reported to have scored above 90% on the same state assessment tool.

| Student | Pre-Test | Post-Test | Increase by grade level |
|---------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Highest Instructional Level* | Highest Instructional Level* | |
| 1 | Pre-Primer | Grade 3 | 4 grade levels |
| 2 | Pre-Primer | Grade 2 | 3 grade levels |
| 3 | Grade 1 | Grade 4 | 4 grade levels |
| 4 | Pre-Primer | Grade 3 | 4 grade levels |
| 5 | Grade 2 | Grade 4 | 2 grade levels |
| 6 | Grade 1 | Grade 4 | 4 grade levels |
| 7 | Grade 2 | Grade 4 | 2 grade levels |
| 8 | Primer | Grade 3 | 3 grade levels |
| 9 | Primer | Grade 4 | 4 grade levels |
| 10 | Grade 1 | Grade 4 | 3 grade levels |
| 11 | Pre-Primer | Grade 1 | 2 grade levels |
| 12 | Pre-Primer | Grade 2 | 2 grade levels |
| 13 | Pre-Primer | Grade 3 | 4 grade levels |
| 14 | Primer | Grade 3 | 3 grade levels |
| 15 | Pre-Primer | Grade 1 | 2 grade levels |
| 16 | Pre-Primer | Grade 3 | 4 grade levels |
| 17 | Grade 1 | Grade 4 | 3 grade levels |
| 18 | Pre-Primer | Grade 3 | 4 grade levels |
| 19 | Primer | Grade 3 | 3 grade levels |
| 20 | Primer | Grade 4 | 4 grade levels |
| 21 | Primer | Grade 3 | 3 grade levels |
| | | Average | 3.19 grade levels |

Evaluator’s Observations: In the third year of program use, the above-mentioned first-grade instructor reported giving each of the 21 students a Qualitative Reading Inventory used by the local district. Scores were reported as ranging from the first- to the fourth-grade reading level. “I am so appreciative of Discover Intensive Phonics,” commented the instructor. “I plan to continue using it for the remaining years of my teaching career.”