



**ReadingHorizons**

The Foundation for Reading English

# Results

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

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**Scope of Work:**

Using both a criterion-referenced assessment tool and a norm-reference tool, comparable percentages were constructed among the school, the school district, and a state to track the reading, writing and listening gains for K-2 students.

**Tool:**

Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL)

**Time Frame:**

Two-year study conducted 1996-1998. Seattle Hill Elementary School first implemented Discover Intensive Phonics as early as 1992. Convinced of the benefits of the program, the instructional staff made a commitment to add a stronger phonics instructional piece to the primary classes. All staff attended an in-service, district wide training to upgrade their program.

## Seattle Hill Elementary School

Everest, WA

| School                    | School Year | Reading |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------|
| Seattle Hill Elementary   | 96/97       | 74.5    |
|                           | 97/98       | 90.4    |
| Snohomish School District | 96/97       | 57.7    |
|                           | 97/98       | 72.3    |
| State of Washington       | 96/97       | 47.6    |
|                           | 97/98       | 55.6    |
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Evaluator’s Observations: It was reported on a user survey that, according to data collected from the CTBD and the WASL, the excellent reading scores are most likely the result of the Discover Intensive Phonics program. The program evaluator strongly feels there is a causal relationship between the program and the charted results, seen above. “If it were due simply to socio-economics, then other schools with our demographics would be scoring similarly. Our scores on the WASL are among the highest in the state.”