

Imagine Language & Literacy in Florida: Increased FSA Proficiency Rates for Grades 3-5

What is Imagine Language & Literacy?

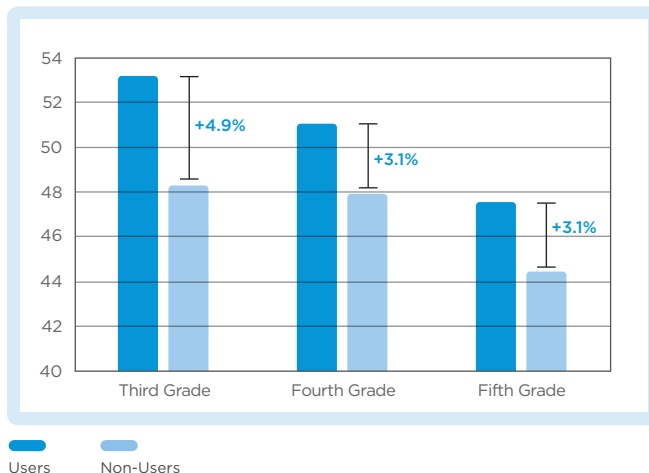
Imagine Language & Literacy is instructional software designed to build language and literacy skills among students in pre-kindergarten through grade 6. To improve language and literacy achievement, Imagine Language & Literacy features instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, grammar, and language development (both academic and conversational). The program aligns with educational standards and addresses skills students need to become proficient in reading.

The Study

The objective of this study was to determine the effectiveness of the Imagine Language & Literacy program in improving FSA ELA performance in Florida schools and thereby fulfill ESSA requirements for evidence of effectiveness.

- School-level FSA ELA assessment, race-ethnicity, ELL status, and free or reduced lunch rate data for the 2016–2017 school year were obtained from the Florida Department of Education online data portal.
- In total, data was obtained for 229 schools who used Imagine Language & Literacy and 2,041 schools who did not use the program.
- Each Imagine Language & Literacy user school was statistically matched with three highly similar, non-using schools using propensity score matching.
- The average effect of Imagine Language & Literacy use for grade 3–5 students was estimated by statistically comparing the percent of students who achieved level 3 proficiency or above on the FSA ELA assessment in schools that used the instructional program to the percent of students who achieved level 3 proficiency or above in schools that did not use Imagine Language & Literacy.

Percent of FSA Level 3 or Above Students



Results

Florida schools that used Imagine Language & Literacy during the 2016–2017 school year had a significantly higher percentage of students achieving an FSA proficiency level of 3 or greater than non-using schools. **These differences were statistically significant for grades 3 through 5.**

Conclusions

Use of the Imagine Language & Literacy program during the 2016–2017 school year was associated with significant increases in performance on the FSA ELA assessment for grades 3–5. It is likely that Florida schools that adopt the Imagine Language & Literacy program would experience similar gains.