

# Imagine Language & Literacy: Increased growth on the NWEA MAP assessment

## Texas School District Case Report

### Background

Research indicates that computer-assisted instruction can positively impact students' performance in language and literacy development (Cassady & Smith, 2004; 2005; Cheung & Slavin, 2011; Macaruso & Rodman, 2011). Imagine Language & Literacy is instructional software designed to build language and literacy skills among students in pre-K through sixth grade, and for English Language Learner (ELL) students in pre-K through eighth grade. 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.

During the 2017–2018 school year, a large Texas school district implemented Imagine Language & Literacy as a supplemental instructional tool for students in grades K to 5. To determine the impact of the program on student growth, we utilized NWEA MAP scores from the beginning and end of the school year for 6,283 program users and 2,488 non-users. On average, students in the large Texas school district used the program for eleven hours during the school year.

### Results

The graphic below presents the average MAP RIT score growth by grade for students who used Imagine Language & Literacy during the 2017–2018 school year. These results demonstrate that users of the Imagine Language & Literacy program from all grades enjoyed greater RIT scores than non-users. Therefore, it appears that use of the Imagine Language & Literacy program favorably impacted the average RIT score growth for the students who used it during the 2017–2018 school year.

**Conclusions**

The results of this study support the role of Imagine Language & Literacy as a supplementary tool for the development of language and literacy achievement. Students who used the program in the large Texas school district for the 2017–2018 school year experienced consistent improvements in language and literacy proficiency as demonstrated by performance on the NWEA’s MAP assessment. Given these findings, we would expect similar results for other students who use the Imagine Language & Literacy program with fidelity.

