

Significantly Greater NWEA MAP Growth for Users of the Imagine Language & Literacy Program

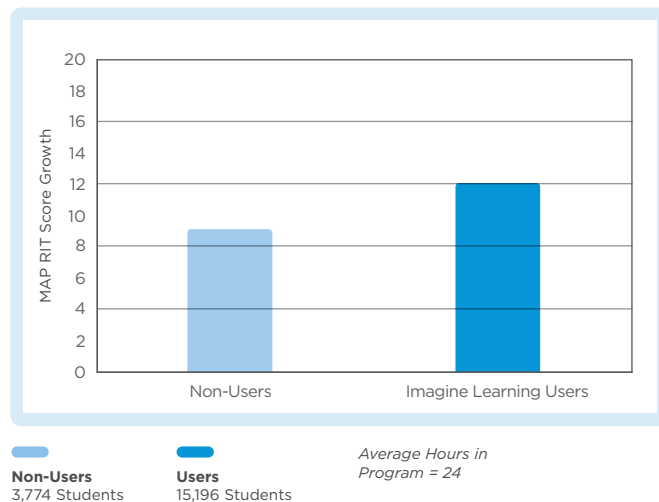
Background

During the 2017–2018 school year, forty elementary schools in a Northern California school district implemented Imagine Language & Literacy as a supplemental tool for students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade. To determine the impact of the program on student growth, NWEA MAP scores were compared from the beginning and end of the school year for approximately 15,200 users and 3,800 non-users of the Imagine Language & Literacy program. Students who used Imagine Language & Literacy logged an average of approximately twenty-four hours in the program across the school year.

Results

The chart below presents the average MAP RIT score growth for students who used Imagine Language & Literacy and those who did not during the 2017–2018 school year. Ultimately, these results demonstrate a statistically significant and positive impact for Imagine Language & Literacy users. In fact, the difference between users and non-users equated to an effect size of .28 which surpasses the expected effect sizes for similar education technology intervention tools (Cheung & Slavin, 2012).

Average NWEA MAP RIT Score Growth for Users and Non-Users of Imagine Language & Literacy



Conclusions

Research indicates that computer assisted instruction can positively impact students' performance in language and literacy development (Cassady, Smith, & Thomas, 2018; Cheung & Slavin, 2012; Macaruso & Walker, 2008). 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 this California school district for the 2017–2018 school year experienced significant 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.

About Imagine Language & Literacy

Imagine Language & Literacy is a supplemental educational program designed to build language and literacy skills for students in pre-K through sixth grade. 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.

References

Cassady, J. C., Smith, L. L., & Thomas, C. L. (2018). Supporting emergent literacy for English language learners with computer-assisted instruction. *Journal of Research in Reading, 41*(2), 350–369. doi:10.1111/1467-9817.12110

Cheung, A. C. K., & Slavin, R. E. (2012). *Effects of Educational Technology Applications on Reading Outcomes for Struggling Readers: A Best Evidence Synthesis*. Best Evidence Encyclopedia

Macaruso, P., & Walker, A. (2008). The efficacy of computer-assisted instruction for advancing literacy skills in kindergarten children. *Reading Psychology, 29*, 266–287. doi:10.1080/02702710801982019