

Positive Association Between Use of Imagine Language & Literacy and WIDA ACCESS 2.0 Proficiency Level Growth

Background

Imagine Learning 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 Learning 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.

In 2020, an Oklahoma school district shared student demographic and WIDA ACCESS 2.0 assessment data for approximately 900 ELLs in grades 1 through 7 who had used the Imagine Language & Literacy program during the 2018-2019 school year. To determine the impact of program in helping students develop English language proficiency, we analyzed the association between the number of Imagine Language & Literacy lessons that students passed and the proficiency level growth that they achieved between the 2018 and 2019 administrations of the WIDA ACCESS 2.0 assessment. Overall, students who used Imagine Language & Literacy logged an average of approximately 24 hours in the program across the school year.

Results

Figure 1 demonstrates that as students passed more lessons within the Imagine Language & Literacy program, they subsequently achieved increased WIDA ACCESS 2.0 proficiency level growth. Ultimately, these results demonstrate a correlation between increased use of the Imagine Language & Literacy program and improved performance on an assessment of English language proficiency. While not presented graphically, this same positive association was also observed for the Literacy, Oral, Comprehension, Writing, Reading, and Listening subdomains of the WIDA ACCESS 2.0 assessment. Ultimately, the results of these analyses demonstrate the significant impact of the Imagine Language & Literacy program on the development of English language proficiency.

Figure 1. Association between Average WIDA ACCESS 2.0 Scaled Score Growth and the Number Imagine Language & Literacy Lessons Passed.

