



# La Joya Area School Readiness Efforts Pay Off for Children and Teachers

Texas School Ready (TSR) is an innovative program that aims to increase children’s school readiness through five evidence-driven components: research-based curriculum, technology-driven child progress monitoring, facilitated teacher professional development, ongoing teacher coaching, and sustainability. The model has been praised nationally by early education leaders such as Robert Pianta, Bruce Fuller, and Sara Mead to name a few.

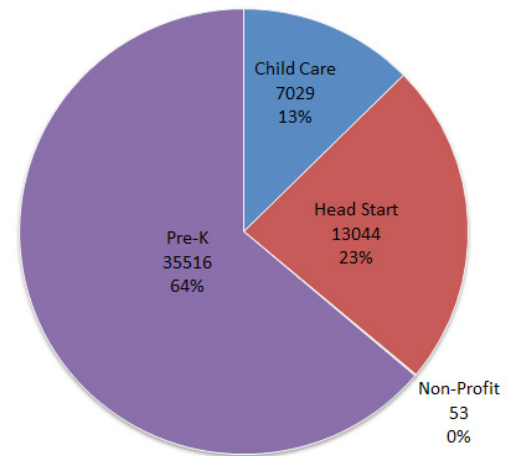
TSR focuses on teacher behavior in the classroom, the quality of instruction, and importance of the environment early education takes place in. As such, the Texas School Ready Project ensures that the vehicles that have the greatest potential for positive impact on child outcomes (teachers and environment) receive attention and proper resources in order to improve the quality of early childhood programs.

Since the beginning of the project in 2003, TSR has partnered with sites across Texas to implement the program with preschool teachers. In fact, TSR has served approximately 55,000 children and 3,100 teachers in a variety of settings in the Rio Grande Valley since 2008. We are proud to continue working with La Joya Independent School District as a TSR Lead Agent for 2015-2017!

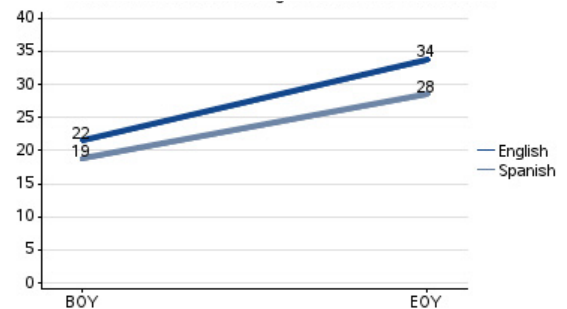
The graphs on this page show data from La Joya ISD TSR classrooms last year. Children show steady growth in key predictors of literacy development like identifying letters in the alphabet and understanding phonological patterns like rhymes and alliteration. These are important school readiness skills that help children be more successful when they get to kindergarten.

As illustrated in the charts to the right, children in La Joya TSR classrooms show considerable gains in skill development in both English and Spanish from the beginning of the school year (BOY) to the end of the school year (EOY)!

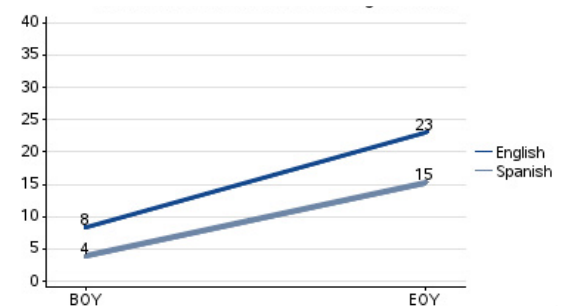
Rio Grande Valley Students Served in TSR Since 2008



Student Gains in Phonological Awareness La Joya, 2014-2015



Student Gains in Letter Knowledge La Joya, 2014-2015



For more information about the Texas School Ready project, visit [texaschoolready.org](http://texaschoolready.org)





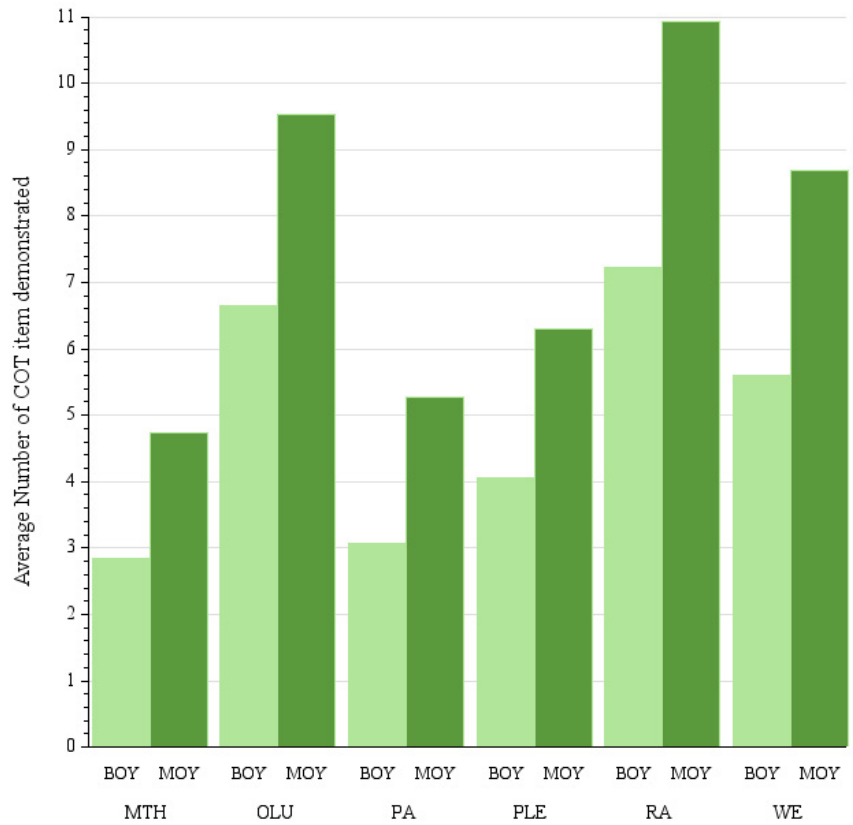
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At the heart of TSR is the desire to increase teachers' use of evidence-based practices and improve the quality of teacher-child interactions. Using cutting-edge techniques like data-driven coaching in the classroom, TSR is able to move outcomes in a positive direction. Pre-k teachers in La Joya ISD have shown dramatic changes after just a few months of participation in the project. Improvements have been documented across all content areas related to key early childhood indicators!

Teachers who have participated in TSR have expressed the tremendous impact the project has had on their classroom instruction and professional growth. Claudia Vela, a teacher at La Joya Head Start, spoke about her experiences:

“Being in the program has helped me adjust my teaching styles to meet the needs of my students. The eCIRCLE classes have helped me grow professionally. I am able to apply what was learned in my eCIRCLE class the very next day in my classroom.”

Teacher Gains in the Use of Instructional Strategies  
La Joya, 2014-2015



MTH: Math, OLU: Oral Language, PA: Phonological Awareness, PLE: Print/Letter & Early Reading, RA: Read Alouds, WE: Written Expression

As illustrated in the graph above, La Joya ISD TSR teachers increase the quality of their practices from the beginning of the school year (BOY) to the middle of the school year (MOY)!

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