



Midland 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.

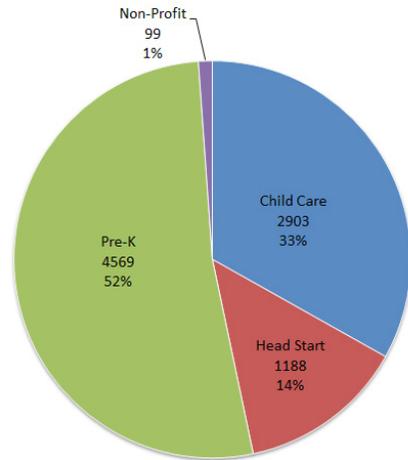
TSR focuses on teacher behavior in the classroom, the quality of instruction, and importance of the environment early education takes place in. As such, the Texas School Ready project ensures that the vehicles that have the greatest potential for positive impact on child outcomes (teachers and environment) 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 8,700 children and 600 teachers in a variety of settings in the Midland area since 2008. We are excited to partner with Midland College as a TSR Lead Agent for 2015-2017!

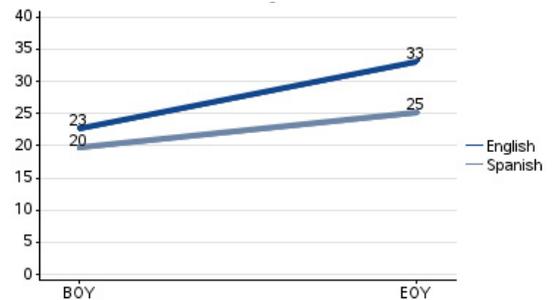
The graphs on this page show data from Midland area TSR classrooms last year. Children show steady growth in key predictors of literacy development like identifying letters in the alphabet and understanding phonological patterns like rhymes and alliteration. These are important school readiness skills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

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

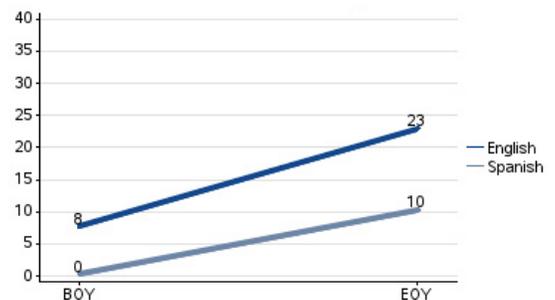
Midland Area Students Served in TSR Since 2008



Student Gains in Phonological Awareness Region 18, 2014-2015



Student Gains in Letter Knowledge Region 18, 2014-2015



For more information about the Texas School Ready project, visit texaschoolready.org





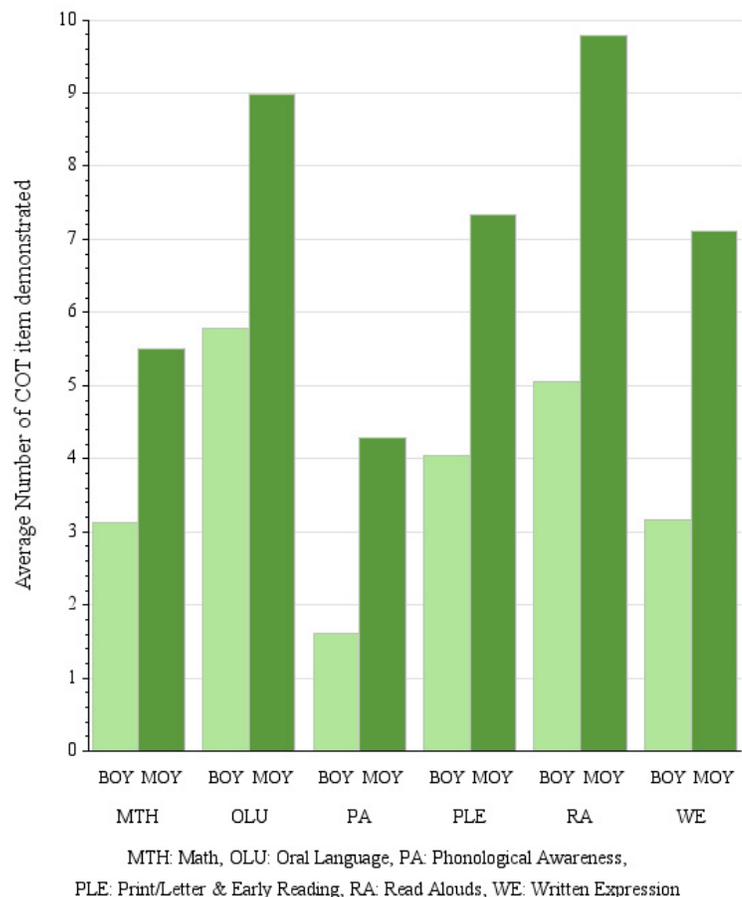
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At the heart of TSR is the desire to increase teachers' use of evidence-based practices and improve the quality of teacher-child interactions. Using cutting-edge techniques like data-driven coaching in the classroom, TSR is able to move outcomes in a positive direction. Pre-k teachers participating in TSR 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. Sherry Palmer, the principal of the Carver Early Education Center in Odessa, spoke about her experiences, and the experiences of teachers at her school:

"The TSR project recognizes the amazing capacity of young children and provides quality professional development for their teachers. TSR has provided a foundation of research-based knowledge and skills for our teachers that has improved the quality of instruction, thus leading to improved kindergarten readiness for our children. As a new administrator to Pre-K 3 years ago, TSR supported me in learning about Pre-K in a way I could be the leader my school deserves."

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



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

For more information about the Texas School Ready project, visit texaschoolready.org

