



Kilgore School Readiness Efforts Pay Off for Children and Teachers

Texas School Ready (TSR) project 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.

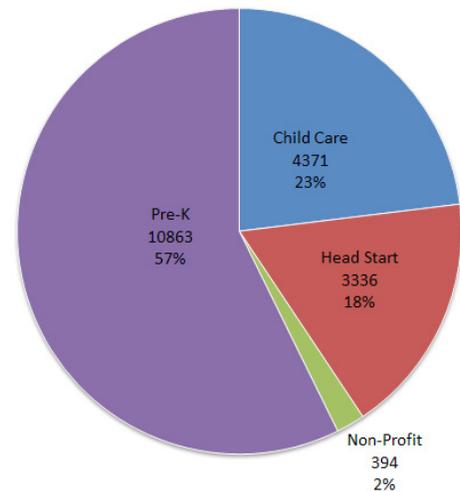
TSR focuses on teacher behavior in the classroom, the quality of instruction, and importance of the environment early education takes place in. As such, the Texas School Ready project ensures that the vehicles that have the greatest potential for positive impact on child outcomes (teachers and environment) 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 in Texas to implement the program with preschool teachers and impact child outcomes. Since 2008, TSR has served approximately 19,000 students and 1,200 teachers in a variety of settings in the Kilgore area. We are excited to work with Kilgore College as a TSR Lead Agent for 2015-2017!

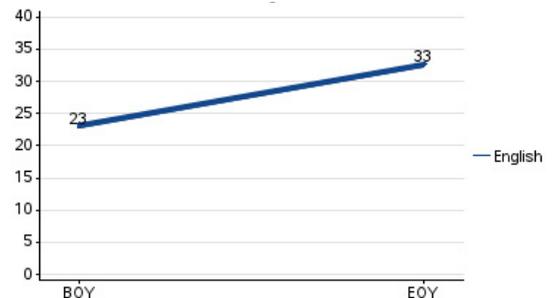
The graphs on this page show data from Kilgore TSR classrooms last year. Children in Kilgore TSR classrooms show steady growth in key predictors of literacy development like identifying letters in the alphabet and understanding phonological patterns like rhymes and alliteration. These are important school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

As illustrated in the charts to the right, children in Kilgore TSR classrooms show considerable gains in skill development from the beginning of the school year (BOY) to the end of the school year (EOY)!

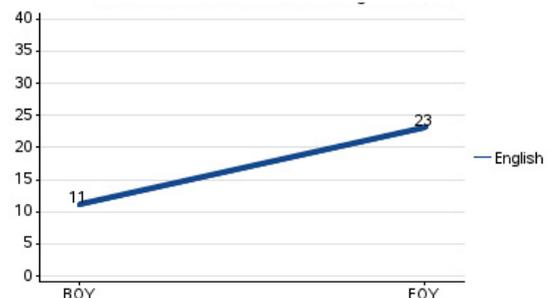
Kilgore Students Served in TSR Since 2008



Student Gains in Phonological Awareness Region 7, 2014-2015



Student Gains in Letter Knowledge Region 7, 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. Kilgore pre-k teachers have shown dramatic changes after just a few months of participation in the project. Improvements have been realized across all content areas related to key early childhood indicators!

TSR participants have expressed the tremendous impact the project has had on their schools, teachers, and children.

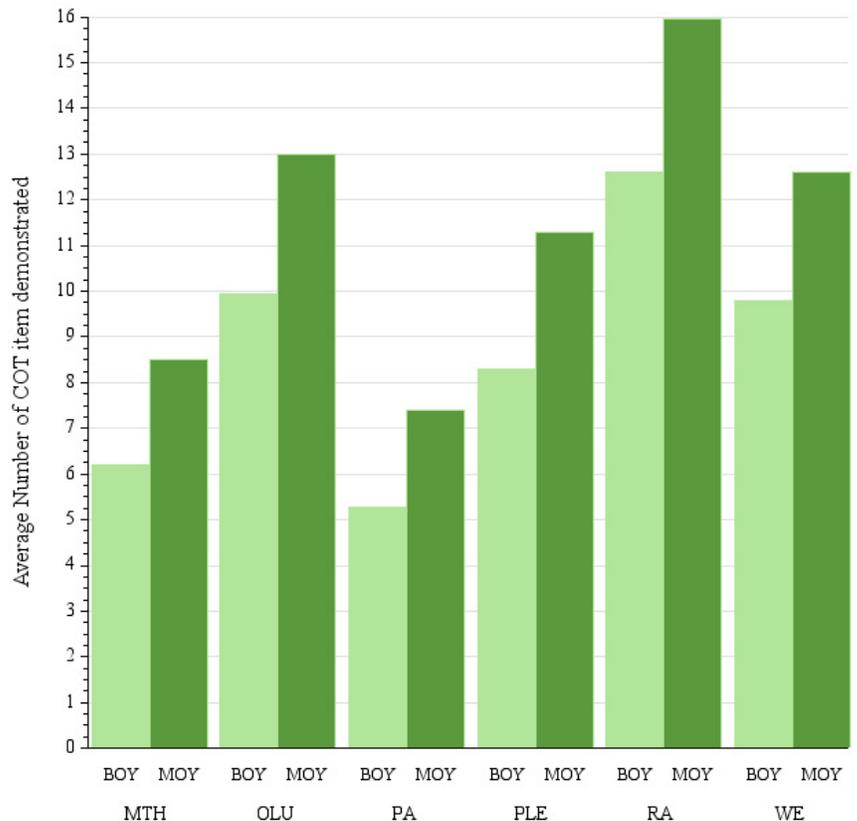
"Lil Eagles had the great opportunity to be a part of the TSR program. It did not only make our teachers better, it empowered them with knowledge to become better than they could ever imagine. The progress we see in our students has been incredible. Teachers at the public school can not believe how well prepared they are for Kindergarten. I would like to thank the TSR employees for giving our students a huge step forward in their educational future."

- Matt Crawford, Director of Lil Eagles Preschool and Child Care in Tatum

"The TSR program has been very beneficial in enhancing our programs at both of our centers. We have found that the program provides many positive learning experiences and brings more professionalism for our teachers. We like that all children, regardless of income or social status, benefit from this program. The trainings provided are an asset not only to educators, but to the children and families, as well. As administrators, we feel that the overall impact that the TSR program has provided is the positive educational influence that is carried from the classroom into the homes of our families. Because of our participation in the program, we feel that closer relationships have been established between us, as educators, and the families we are privileged to serve."

- Tammy Senn and Georgia Johnson, Directors of Guiding Light Child Care Learning Centers in Mineola and Quitman

Teacher Gains in the Use of Instructional Strategies
Kilgore, 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, Kilgore TSR teachers increase the quality of their practices dramatically from the beginning of the school year (BOY) to the middle of the school year (MOY)!

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