



# Region 8 School Readiness Efforts Pay Off for Children and Teachers

Texas School Ready Project (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.

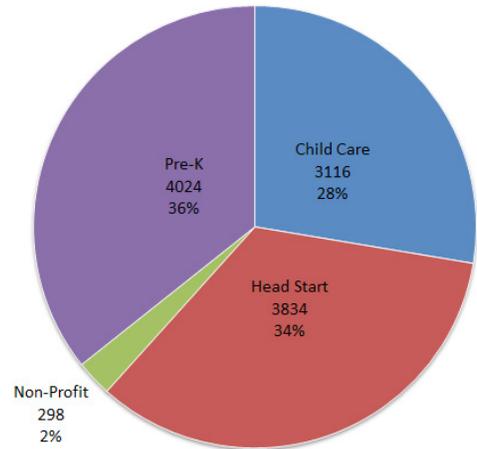
TSR focuses on teacher behavior in the classroom, the quality of instruction, and importance of the environment early education takes place in. As such, the Texas School Ready project ensures that the vehicles that have the greatest potential for positive impact on child outcomes (teachers and environment) 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 in Texas to implement the program with preschool teachers and impact child outcomes. Since 2008, TSR has served approximately 11,200 students and 600 teachers in a variety of settings in the North East Texas area. We are happy to continue working with Region 8 Education Service Center as a TSR Lead Agent for 2015-2017.

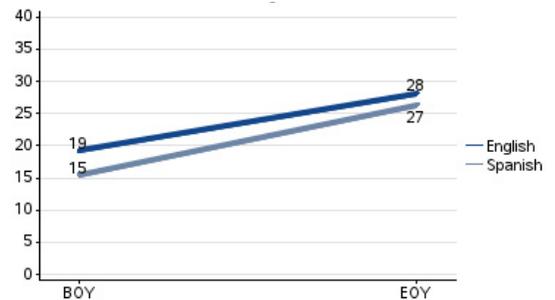
The graphs on this page show data from Region 8 TSR classrooms last year. Children in Region 8 TSR classrooms show steady growth in key predictors of literacy development like identifying letters in the alphabet and understanding phonological patterns like rhymes and alliteration. These are important school readiness skills that help children be more successful when they get to kindergarten.

As illustrated in the charts above, children in Region 8 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)!

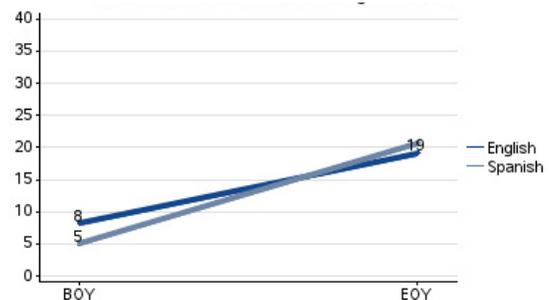
North East Texas Students Served in TSR Since 2008



Student Gains in Phonological Awareness Region 8, 2014-2015



Student Gains in Letter Knowledge Region 8, 2014-2015



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





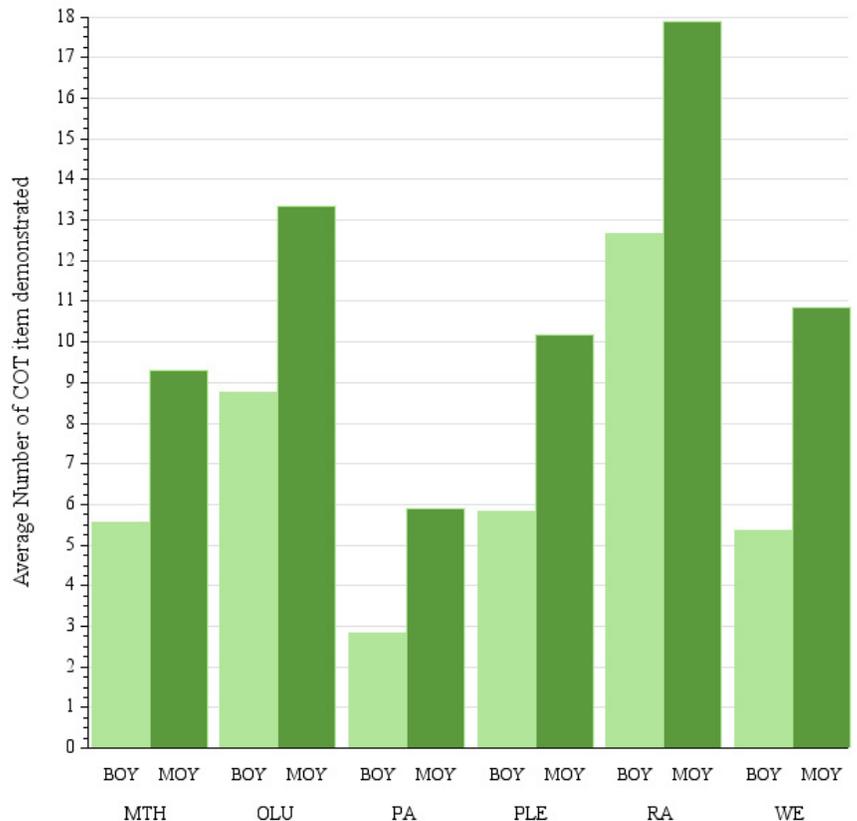
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At the heart of TSR is the desire to increase teachers' use of evidence-based practices and improve the quality of teacher-child interactions. Using cutting-edge techniques like data-driven coaching in the classroom, TSR is able to move outcomes in a positive direction. Region 8 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!

Teachers who have participated in TSR have expressed the tremendous impact the project has had on their classroom instruction and professional growth. One teacher spoke about her experiences in TSR:

"This program has encouraged me to be a better teacher, leader and mentor for teachers, children and their parents or caregivers. It has changed my teaching skills to that of a professional teacher, always looking for ways to incorporate unique teaching strategies. This program has lead me to obtain my Masters degree in early childhood education from SFASU. It has helped me reach lifelong goals and achievements to improve the quality of teaching through positive experiences and growth processes. It has made me feel more responsible and worthy to call myself a teacher for my program. I am proud to say that I am part of the Texas School Ready program. Thank you for all the opportunities and doors you have lead me through and changes to open new ones for others."

Teacher Gains in the Use of Instructional Strategies  
Region 8, 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, Region 8 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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