

# Struggling Lafourche Parish students improve LEAP scores. 45% in study reach Basic – up from 3%.

## Implementation Objectives

The Lafourche Parish Public Schools was interested in evaluating the effects of the Fast ForWord products on the reading skills of its students. The district used a case study involving the assessment of student reading ability before and after participation on the Fast ForWord products.

## Methodology

School personnel tested the students' reading skills at the beginning and end of the study with the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP). School personnel administered the assessment.

At each school, educators were trained in:

- Current findings on the neuroscience of how phonemic awareness and the acoustic properties of speech impact rapid development of language and reading skills
- Methods for assessing candidates for use of Fast ForWord
- Appropriate measures for testing and evaluation
- Effective implementation techniques
- Use of Progress Tracker reports to monitor student performance
- Techniques for measuring gains students achieve after they have finished using the product

## Schedule of Use

Students used the Fast ForWord products for 48 or 50 minutes per day, five days per week, for eight to twelve weeks. On average, students completed 72% of the Fast ForWord Language product in 28 days.

## Assessment Results

The LEAP is a part of Louisiana's criterion referenced state testing program. The LEAP is administered each spring to students in grades 4 and 8. A version of it, the Graduate Exit Examination (GEE) is administered to students in tenth grade.



## Program Study Statistics

**School years:**  
2005-2007

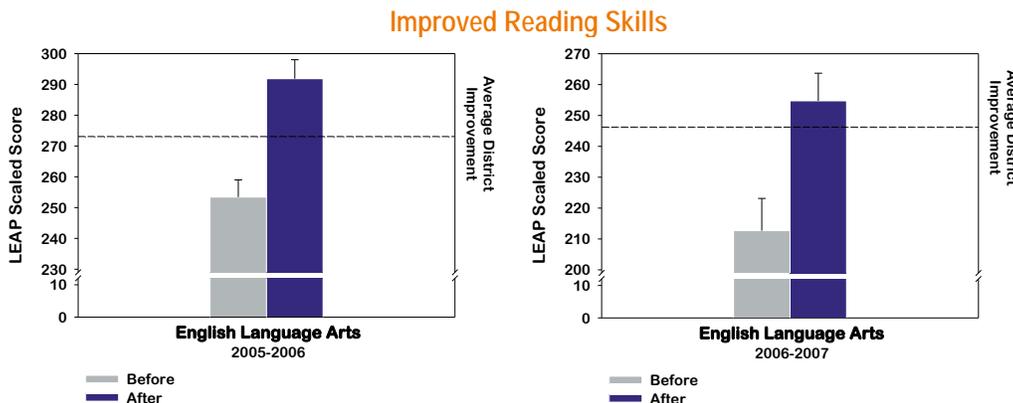
**Number of Students:**  
63 students

**Grade Level:**  
Fourth, eighth, tenth grade

**Products Used:**  
Fast ForWord Language  
Fast ForWord Middle & High School  
Fast ForWord Language to Reading

**Assessment tool used:**  
Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP)

**School Structure:**  
Suburban



On average, students who used Fast ForWord products during the 2005-2006 school year made significant gains in English Language Arts, improving their scores 38 points compared to an average district improvement of 19 points. In terms of achievement levels, the percentage of students reaching a level of Basic or higher rose from 3% to 45%. Students who participated in Fast ForWord during the 2006-2007 school year also showed significant gain and outperformed their district peers, with the percentage of students performing at an achievement level of Basic or higher increasing from 0% to 21%.

## Educational Gains

The results found in this study support other studies demonstrating that using the Fast ForWord products results in the strengthening of foundational reading skills, better positioning students to partake in the classroom curriculum.

Students achieved significant gains in reading.

For detailed analysis of this data or to request other reports showing significant academic gains following use of the Fast ForWord family of products go to: [www.scilearn.com/resultsreports](http://www.scilearn.com/resultsreports)

**Contact us for more information:**  
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