**Fort Smith Public Schools**

**PROFILE: English Language Learners**

Number of Students: 188 Average Age: 9.4

Average Hours of Instruction: 74.5

Lindamood-Bell Programs Implemented: Seeing Stars**®**

Outcome Measures:

* Symbol Imagery Test
* Woodcock Reading Mastery Test-3rd (word attack)
* Wide Range Achievement Test-4th (reading and spelling)
* Gray Oral Reading Tests-4th (rate, accuracy, fluency, and comprehension)

**BACKGROUND:**

Fort Smith Public Schools in Fort Smith, AR, serves a large percentage of students who are at-risk of reading failure. During the 2018-19 school year, Fort Smith Public Schools implemented Lindamood-Bell® instruction to address the specific needs of this student population. 188 students received an average of 74.5 hours of primarily Seeing Stars instruction to develop symbol imagery for reading. Instruction was delivered by Fort Smith teachers who received professional development in the programs developed by Lindamood-Bell’s founders. Student gains were measured with a battery of reading assessments.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| *Magnitude of Change*   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Small (< 3.0) |  | Medium (3.0-4.5) |  | Large (> 4.5) | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | Pre |  | Post |   \*Statistically significant (*p* ≤ .05). |

**RESULTS:**

On average, Seeing Stars students achieved significant improvements in reading. They made large standard score changes on the foundational components of reading. Additionally, their growth in Symbol Imagery, Word Attack, Word Recognition and Reading Comprehension placed these students within the normal range (25th-75th percentile). Their pre- to posttest results were statistically significant on all measures. The results of this study illustrate that Lindamood-Bell instruction in the Seeing Stars program leads to improved reading, which is essential to achieving success with school curricula.