

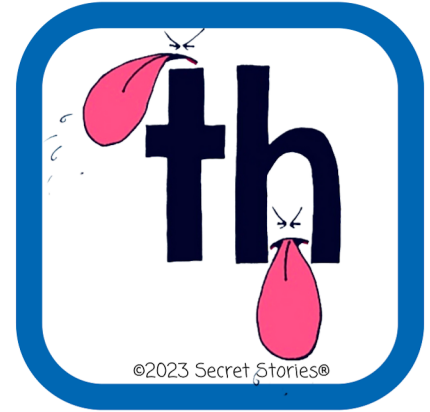
# Secret Stories® Study: Kindergarten Intervention, South Carolina



## Study Summary

The case study teacher implemented Secret Stories® in their kindergarten reading intervention class in rural South Carolina in the fall of 2018. The efficacy of Secret Stories® was examined based on changes in student reading levels from fall until December, based on DRA® assessments.

Despite students in the treatment class being identified as "struggling learners" and qualifying for intervention, 100% were reading at grade level after just 3 months of Secret Stories®. More impressively, 65% of students were reading above or well above grade level in this short period of time.



## Product Description

Secret Stories® is a multisensory, neuroscience based approach to fast-tracking phonics skills for reading that can be used alongside any reading or phonics curriculum. Rooted in the science of reading and aligned with early brain development, Secret Stories® uses familiar schemas to help children make sense of the sounds letters make together, along with embedded mnemonic images to help them remember for independent reading and writing.

## School Setting

The case study was located in a rural South Carolina school. On average, the school performed slightly above the state average in reading, with a majority of its students coming from Caucasian families (79%). A small minority of students were Hispanic (10%) or Black/African-American (5%). Nearly two-thirds of students (65%) lived in low-income households.

Figure 1: Enrollment by Ethnicity

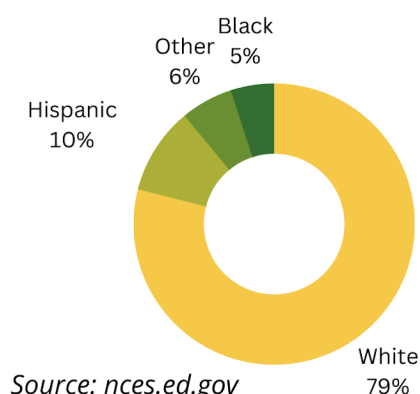
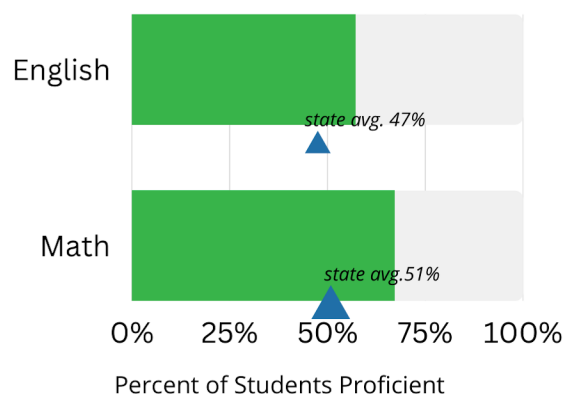
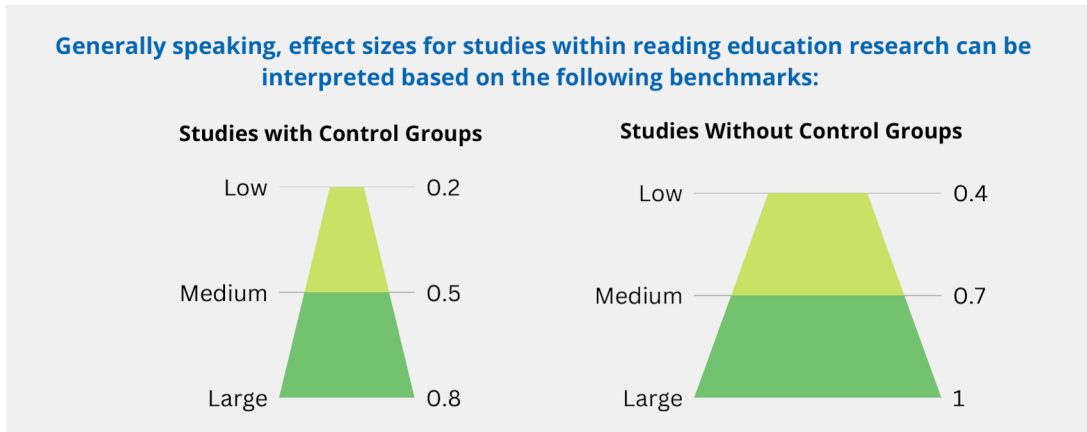


Figure 2: District Summary Ratings



# Methodology

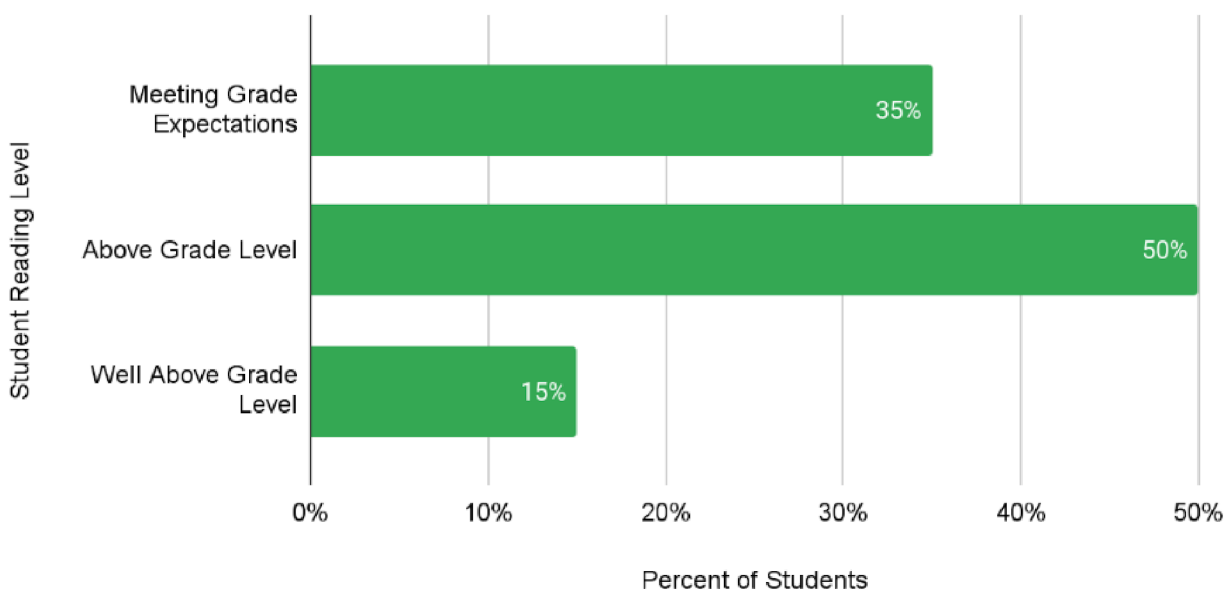
The results of this study were measured after three months of incorporating Secret Stories using the DRA® assessment. The DRA® assessment is a benchmark assessment that also measures vocabulary and comprehension. All data was independently validated by a second analyst to ensure the integrity of data and this report was reviewed by a third-party research firm.



# Key Findings

After 3 months of using Secret Stories®, 100% of students were already reading at grade level, with 65% of students reading above or far above grade level.

**Figure 3: DRA® Reading Levels of Kindergarten Intervention Students After 3 Months of Using Secret Stories®**



## Conclusion

Despite students in the treatment class being identified as "struggling learners" and qualifying for intervention, 100% were reading at grade level after just 3 months of Secret Stories®. More impressively, 65% of students were reading above or well above grade level in this short period of time. These results suggest that Secret Stories® can help close literacy gaps with intervention students in a short period of time, as well as move struggling learners above grade level.

## Research Limitations

This study report was written and analyzed via secondary data analysis, as the authors did not design the study. Fidelity of implementation of Secret Stories® could not be verified with this study.

## Ethics Agreement

This case study was written by an independent firm on behalf of Secret Stories®, under a contractual agreement that all results would be published, regardless of outcomes and that no data would be withheld from said firm. All data and methods were independently checked by a third party education research firm not associated with Secret Stories®, or the writers of this report.



### ***Independent Verification***



Learning Experience Design (LXD)  
Research & Consulting  
a division of Charles River Media Group, LLC

This case study was written by an independent analyst on behalf of Secret Stories who verified the results. All reports were also independently reviewed by [Learning Experience Design Research](#), a third-party education research firm.

