

Lexia Reading Core5 Research Report

2016/17 School Year Results for over 22,600 Students in Charter Schools USA

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Introduction

An analysis of more than 22,600 K–5 students within the Charter Schools USA (CSUSA) network found that incorporating recommended use levels of the Lexia Reading Core5® program into instruction resulted in substantial growth in reading skills during the 2016/17 school year, over and above that achieved with non-Core5 instruction. Among students who regularly reached their usage targets with Core5, the percentage working on skills in or above their grade level increased from 44 percent to 91 percent – an improvement of 47 percentage points. In fact, students’ reading growth was so impressive that CSUSA increased the number of schools using Core5 from 5 to 48 within the school year.

Implementation Description

In most CSUSA schools, Core5 is used grade-wide for K–2 students, but the program is used only for intervention purposes for grades three through five. CSUSA assessed students’ reading abilities in the fall, winter and spring using the computer-administered, adaptive screening tool, NWEA™ MAP®. Performance was captured with RIT (Rasch UNIT) scores, which measure student achievement on an equal-interval scale across all grades, and researchers compared students’ fall and spring levels in Core5 to their fall 2016 and spring 2017 MAP RIT scores. The remainder of this report focuses on the 8,700 students who used Core5 as recommended for the entire school year.

“We found a statistically significant correlation between MAP and Core5,” said Lexia President Nick Gaehde. “In other words, students’ levels in Core5 at the beginning and end of the year closely matched their MAP RIT scores in the corresponding time periods. Best of all, Core5 students who met their Core5 usage targets had higher gains in MAP across all grades.”

PROGRAM FIDELITY

Students received weekly usage targets that updated monthly, based on their likelihood of reaching benchmark in Core5.

Students used the program as recommended if they met their weekly usage targets for at least 50% of the weeks they used the program (e.g., 10 weeks out of 20).

PROGRESS EXAMPLE

A 3rd grader who started the year working in a 2nd grade level (1 Grade Below) and then completed all of the 2nd and 3rd grade material ended the year in 4th grade material (Reached EOY Benchmark).

Overall Comparisons for All Students

In addition to the increase in students working at or above grade level, the percentage of students working on skills two or more grade levels below their grade decreased from 19 percent to only 2 percent. Students who met their usage targets in Core5 increased their RIT scores by an average of 15.6 points. In comparison, students in the non-Core5 schools increased their RIT score by 12.3 points on average.

Results and Comparisons for Students in Grades K-2

Among K-2 students, the percentage working on skills at or above grade level in Core5 increased from 46 percent to 95 percent, leaving less than one percent working on skills two or more grade levels below (Figure 1). Early elementary students also significantly increased their RIT scores by 16.8 points, on average, compared to the students in the non-Core5 schools who increased their RIT score by an average of 15.5 points (Figure 2).

Figure 1. Progress in Core5 (Grades K-2; N=2,784)

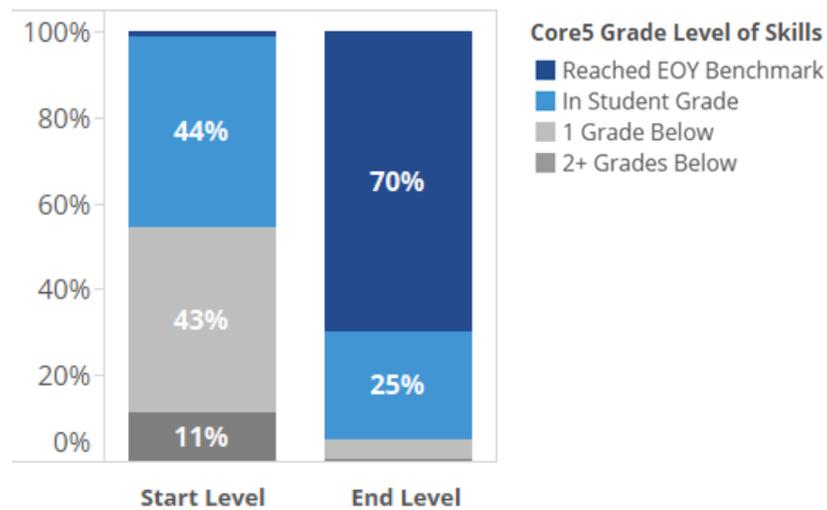
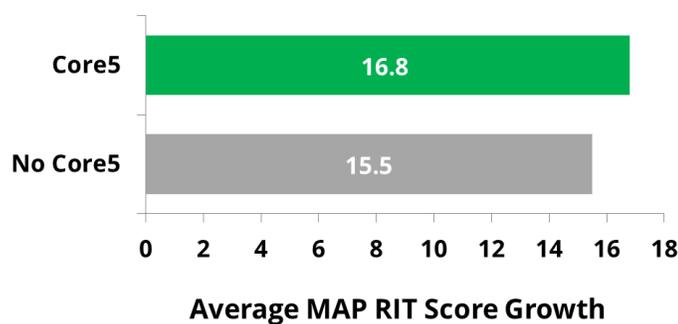


Figure 2. Gains on MAP (Grades K-2; N=8,500)



Results and Comparisons for Students in Grades 3–5

Among students in grades 3–5, the percentage working on skills in or above grade level increased from 38 percent to 75 percent (Figure 3). Half of students began the school year reading 2+ grades below grade level (dark grey), and most gained more two or more years of material in Core5 by the end of the year. More than half ended the year past their end-of-year, grade level benchmark. This acceleration of growth substantially contributed to Core5’s overall impact. Core5 students in grades 3–5 significantly increased their RIT scores by 10.3 points, on average, compared to the students in the non-Core5 schools who increased their RIT score by an average of 8.8 points.

Figure 3. Progress in Core5 (Grades 3-5; N=1,365)

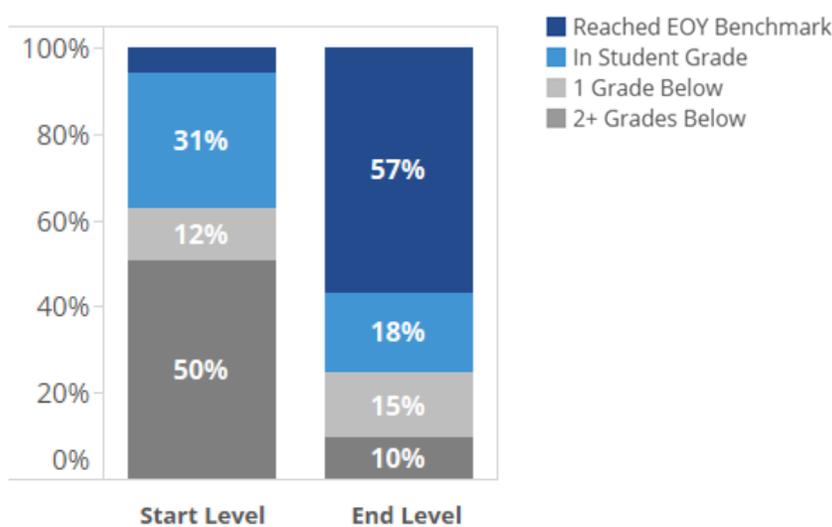
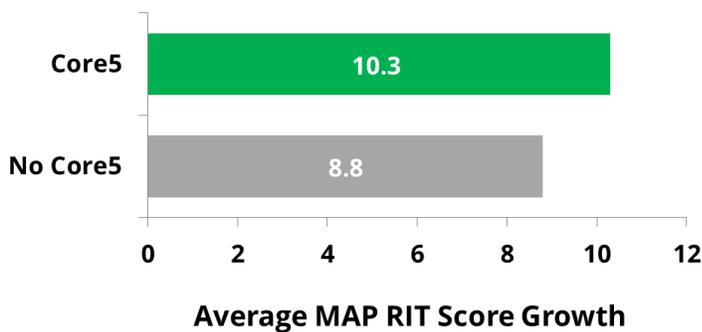


Figure 4. Gains on MAP (Grades 3-5; N=3,910)



“We are very pleased with the gains we are seeing in our schools using Lexia Reading Core5,” said Michael Braggiotti, data analyst, innovations, CSUSA. “The engagement features in the program keep students motivated to learn, and the robust reporting features allow teachers and administrators to monitor student progress closely. Engagement with the program, by both students and staff, has helped close the gap for many students. We look forward to using the findings from this research to motivate 100 percent of our students to meet their usage targets!”

“We believe that a strong implementation leads to strong results. This successful partnership between Lexia and CSUSA is based on the schools’ commitment to working with our implementation team to ensure that their use of the program provided teachers with the greatest opportunity to accelerate student outcomes,” said Gaehde.

About Lexia Reading Core5

Lexia Reading Core5 is a research-proven, technology-based program that accelerates the development of fundamental literacy skills for students of all abilities in grades pre-K–5. Following a rigorous scope and sequence built for college and career ready standards, Core5 provides explicit, systematic instruction through personalized learning paths in six areas of reading. Core5 seamlessly adapts with student performance, targeting skill gaps as they emerge and equipping teachers with the data and instructional resources they need to personalize instruction for every student. Embedded assessment technology predicts students' year-end performance and provides ongoing norm-referenced and actionable data to help teachers prioritize and plan instruction with the offline instructional materials.

About Charter Schools USA

Charter Schools USA, founded by Jonathan Hage in 1997, is the first education management company to earn corporation system-wide accreditation through AdvancED and is one of the nation's leading charter school management companies. CSUSA currently manages 84 schools in seven states serving more than 70,000 students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. CSUSA's innovative educational advantages include advanced technology, meaningful parental involvement, student uniforms, consistent and fairly-enforced discipline policies, highly qualified and motivated staff, community focus, integrated character education and high academic growth and performance.

About Lexia Learning

Lexia Learning, a division of Rosetta Stone, empowers educators through adaptive assessment and personalized instruction. For more than 30 years, the company has been on the leading edge of research and product development as it relates to student reading skills. With a robust offering that includes solutions for differentiated instruction, personalized learning, and assessment, Lexia Learning provides educators with the tools to intensify and accelerate literacy skills development for students of all abilities. For more information, visit www.lexialearning.com.

About Rosetta Stone

Rosetta Stone Inc. (NYSE: RST) is dedicated to changing people's lives through the power of language and literacy education. The company's innovative digital solutions drive positive learning outcomes for the inspired learner at home or in schools and workplaces around the world.

Founded in 1992, Rosetta Stone's language division uses cloud-based solutions to help all types of learners read, write, and speak more than 30 languages. Lexia Learning, Rosetta Stone's literacy education division, was founded more than 30 years ago and is a leader in the literacy education space. Today, Lexia helps students build fundamental reading skills through its rigorously researched, independently evaluated, and widely respected instruction and assessment programs.

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