

Francis Scott Key Middle School

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOUSTON, TEXAS

SCHOOL PROFILE

915 STUDENTS, GRADES 6–8
94.5% Free/Reduced Lunch
79% African American
20.7% Hispanic
.2% White
.1% Asian/Pacific Islander

LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW™ IMPLEMENTATION

- Texas Middle School After-School Grant
- Grades 6–7, Began February 2003
- Mathematics Focus

RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

Lightspan Progress Test
Stanford 9

RESEARCH TIME FRAME

February–May 2003

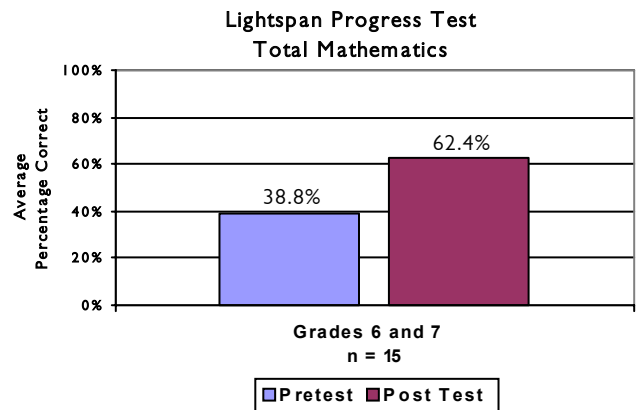
KEY STUDENTS ACHIEVE STRONG GAINS IN MATHEMATICS

FIFTEEN SIXTH- AND SEVENTH-GRADE STUDENTS AT FRANCIS SCOTT KEY MIDDLE SCHOOL DEMONSTRATED GAINS IN IDENTIFIED AREAS OF MATHEMATICS. COMPARISON OF PRE- AND POST-TEST RESULTS FROM LIGHTSPAN PROGRESS TEST TOTAL PERCENTAGE CORRECT SCORES REVEALED GAINS IN ALL CATEGORIES INCLUDING 20% OR MORE IN SIX OF SEVEN CATEGORIES. IN TOTAL MATHEMATICS, SIXTH- AND SEVENTH-GRADE STUDENTS INCREASED SCORES BY 23.6%. ACHIEVEMENTS IN INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES FOR SIXTH-GRADE STUDENTS INCLUDED GAINS OF 35% IN MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY; 25% IN NUMBER SENSE AND NUMERATION; 31.4% IN COMPUTATION AND OPERATIONS; 10% IN DATA, STATISTICS, AND PROBABILITY; AND 20% IN PROBLEM SOLVING. SEVENTH-GRADE STUDENTS ACHIEVED GAINS OF 33.4% IN MEASUREMENT AND GEOMETRY; 19.5% IN NUMBER SENSE AND NUMERATION; 22.2% IN COMPUTATION AND OPERATIONS; 33.4% IN DATA, STATISTICS, AND PROBABILITY; 14.9% IN PATTERNS, FUNCTIONS, AND RELATIONS; AND 27.8% IN PROBLEM SOLVING.

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM FUNDED BY A TEXAS MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER-SCHOOL GRANT USED LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW™ MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM. STUDENTS WERE ASSESSED USING THE LIGHTSPAN PROGRESS TESTS PRIOR TO AND FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF THE LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW IMPLEMENTATION. RESULTS WERE USED TO DETERMINE STUDENT ACADEMIC GROWTH AS WELL AS PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS.

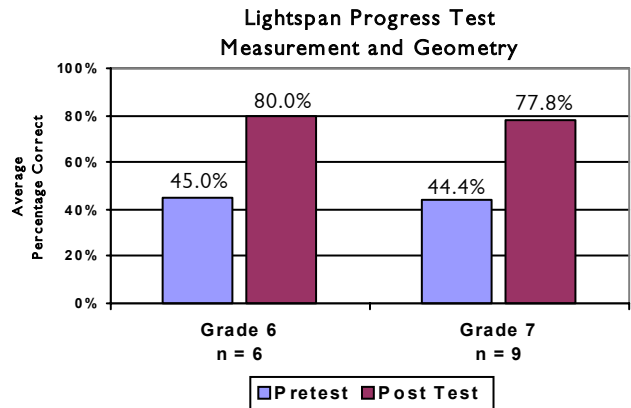
Students improve Total Mathematics performance by 23.6%

Francis Scott Key Middle School students in sixth- and seventh-grade participating in the after-school program using Lightspan Achieve Now™ curriculum raised by 23.6% their average Lightspan Progress Test performance in Total Mathematics. On average, students moved from a pretest score of 38.8% correct to a post-test score of 62.4% correct.



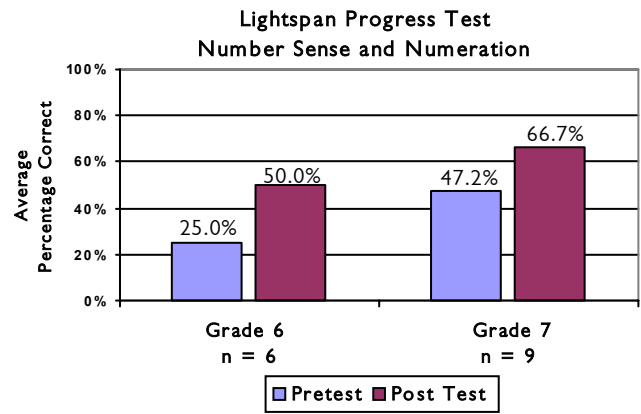
Gains for sixth- and seventh-graders soar over 30% in Measurement

Fifteen sixth- and seventh-grade students participating in the ten-week after-school program using Lightspan Achieve Now curriculum achieved gains in Measurement and Geometry. As measured by Lightspan Progress Tests, sixth-grade students scored an average of 45% correct on the pretest and 80% correct on the post test, for an average overall gain of 35%. Seventh-grade students scored an average of 44.4% correct at pretest and improved by 33.4% to an average correct of 77.8% on the post test.



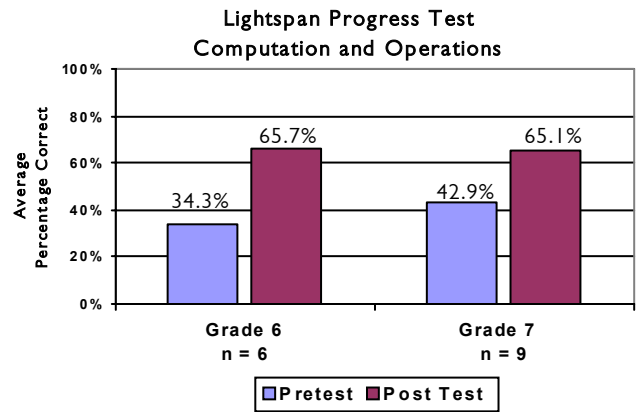
Sixth-grade students gain 25% in Number Sense and Numeration

Sixth- and seventh-grade students made strides in Number Sense and Numeration during their participation in the after-school Lightspan Achieve Now program. Sixth-grade students scored an average of 25% correct on the Lightspan Progress Pretest and increased by 25% to an average correct of 50% on the Lightspan Progress Post Test. Seventh-graders moved from an average score of 47.2% on the pretest to an average score of 66.7% correct on the post test, for an overall gain of 19.5%.



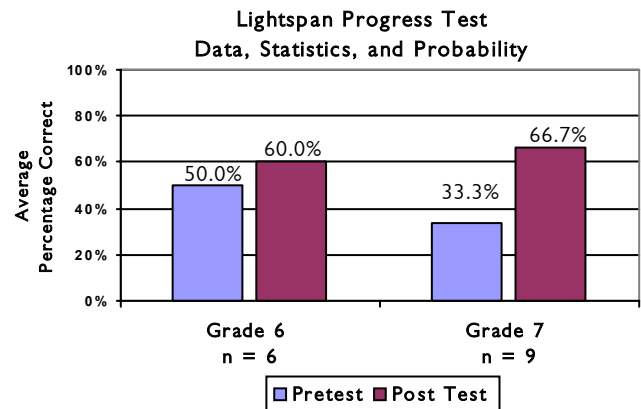
Strong gains posted by sixth and seventh-grade students in Computation and Operations

Students in sixth and seventh grades using Lightspan Achieve Now in the after-school program focused on improving mathematics skills. Sixth-grade students increased their Lightspan Progress Test total percentage scores by 31.4% in Computation and Operations. Seventh-grade students increased their Lightspan Progress Test total percentage correct scores in Computation and Operations by 22.2%.



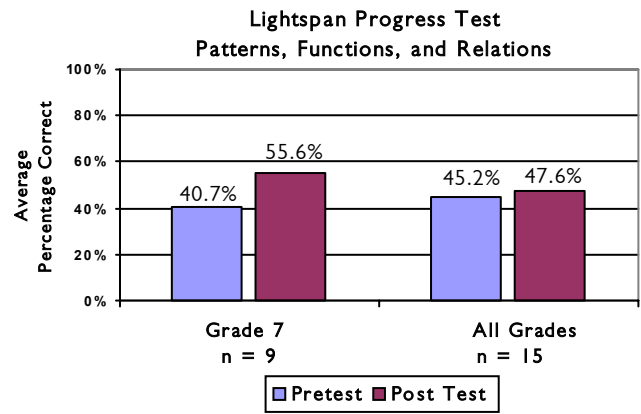
Seventh-grade students lead in Data, Statistics, and Probability

Mathematics performance in the area of Data, Statistics, and Probability improved for seventh-grade students participating in the Lightspan Achieve Now after-school program. As measured by Lightspan Progress Tests, seventh-grade students moved from a total percentage correct score of 33.3% at pretest to a post-test score of 66.7% correct, for an average overall gain of 33.4%. Sixth-grade students scored an average of 50% correct on the pretest and increased to an average of 60% correct on the post test, for an overall gain of 10%.



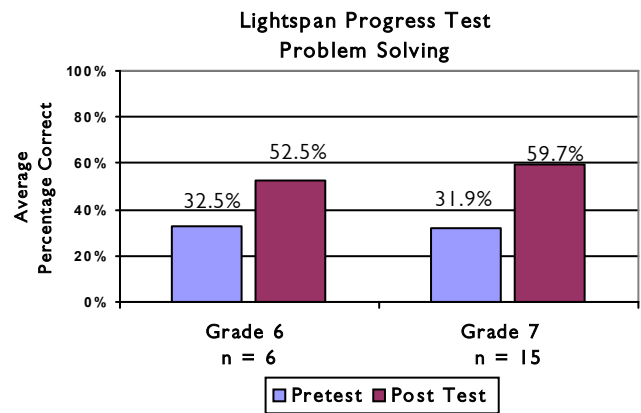
Seventh-graders make greater gains in Patterns, Functions, and Relations

Seventh-grade students using Lightspan Achieve Now in the after-school program demonstrated gains of 14.9% in Patterns, Functions, and Relations as measured by Lightspan Progress Tests. Seventh-grade students scored on average 40.7% correct on the pretest and increased to an average score of 55.6% correct on the post test. All other participating students scored an average of 45.2% correct at pretest and increased by 2.4% to an average of 47.6% correct at post test.



Problem Solving skills improve for seventh-grade students

Students in seventh-grade participating in the ten-week after-school program improved their Lightspan Progress Test mathematics performance after using Lightspan Achieve Now. In Problem Solving, students scored an average of 31.9% correct on the pretest and increased to an average of 59.7% correct on the post test, for an average overall gain of 27.8%. Sixth-graders increased their total percentage correct scores by 20% with an average score of 32.5% correct on the pretest and 52.5% correct on the post test.



Francis Scott Key Middle School Program Background

Francis Scott Key Middle School is one of Houston Independent School District's (ISD) middle school sites using Lightspan Achieve Now in their after-school program. The school is located in northeast Houston and serves 915 students. The ethnic composition of the school is 79% African-American and 20.7% Hispanic, with 94.5% of students participating in free/reduced lunch. The fifteen participants involved in this evaluation were of African-American origin.

Key Middle School's mission is: "...to teach so that all students are assured of learning and developing intellectually, physically and socially. This is to be accomplished within an educational environment that is safe, orderly and nurturing." The motto at Key is: "Educate to Escalate!" Key Middle School began a partnership with Lightspan when it was awarded the Texas Middle School After-School Grant. Key Middle School initiated implementation of Lightspan Achieve Now in the after-school program. Project goals were determined by participating faculty members who chose to focus project implementation on improving student achievement in mathematics.

During February 2003, targeted students were administered the Lightspan Progress Pretest. Teachers scored tests and analyzed data. After-school teachers utilized Lightspan Progress Test correlations to address individual student needs and align resources to support student learning. Teachers used the analysis to select appropriate learning activities and materials supporting selected achievement objectives. Students participated in the after-school program for sixty minutes, four times weekly, over a period of ten weeks. Teachers used Lightspan Achieve Now curriculum to motivate and engage student participation in mathematics. Students demonstrated mastery of concepts through a series of assessments including Lightspan Progress Checks, teacher-made quizzes, and Lightspan Progress Tests.

Fifteen students of African-American origin participated in the project from February through May 2003. Students met attendance requirements necessary to be a part of this study. Campus after-school teachers designed individual plans to meet each student's unique needs. Students attended the after-school program and were provided a PS one™ game console. Students worked for approximately one hour on a Lightspan Adventures® CD selected specifically for that student. CD selection was tightly correlated to the student's specific academic needs.

Participating students achieved academic gains as measured by the Lightspan Progress Pretest and Post Test. Continued use of Lightspan Achieve Now emphasizing assessment, alignment, instruction, and evaluation offers opportunities to conduct action-based research at the campus level while improving student achievement. Lightspan Achieve Now provides students with an innovative, motivational way to process targeted mathematics objectives.



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