

ARROWSMITH PROGRAM – RESEARCH SUMMARY 2017

15. December 2016 Motor Symbol Sequencing Whole Cohort Study

Study undertaken by a primary school in Australia.

A study comparing results across four Grade One classes.

- Students per class: 18 to 22
- 3 classes: traditional handwriting program
- 1 class: 30 minutes/day doing the Arrowsmith exercise for learning motor plans necessary for writing

Assessment Tool: Wold Sentence Copy Test - a standardized visual motor test used as a predictor of academic performance

Findings:

Student Results	Arrowsmith Class		Gifted Class		Academic Class 1		Academic Class 2	
	Pre Test	Post Test	Pre Test	Post Test	Pre Test	Post Test	Pre Test	Post Test
Average Growth (letters per minute)	21		17		13		9	
No. students at or above grade level	2	19	6	14	7	9	1	9
Change:		+17		+8		+2		+8

The students receiving 30 minutes per day of a cognitive program designed to improve motor planning involved in reading and writing showed significantly greater improvement on a measure of writing than students receiving traditional academic curriculum in grade 1.

At Risk Readers

- 5 students identified at risk for reading problems in kindergarten; Reading Recovery program recommended for Grade 1
- All 5 students placed in Arrowsmith class in Grade 1
- 10 weeks in the program, all 5 students reading at proficient level and no longer recommended as needing Reading Recovery program