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SUCCESS STORY

Hungerford Elementary, Eatonville, FL

Summary

Hungerford Elementary in Eatonville, FL needed a program that would not only increase test scores, but also encourage students to enjoy learning. Teachers at Hungerford were finding it a challenge to motivate students and hold their attention. Tamara Collins, the dean at Hungerford Elementary, started looking for technology that would make learning easy and fun. The school started using Study Island, and has since seen students' Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) scores increase 125% in math, and nearly 39% in reading between 2007 and 2011, and increase 91% in science between 2008 and 2010.

Situation

The students at Hungerford Elementary were struggling on the FCAT. In 2007, Hungerford Elementary only had 52.6% of third through fifth graders passing reading and 32.3% passing math on the FCAT. With no perceived motivation to pass, students approached studying as a chore. Collins realized that learning preferences had changed over the years, and that incorporating engaging and interactive technology into a student's weekly learning, while also giving them some control would help increase student performance, motivation, and test scores.

Solution

Collins discovered Study Island, a web-based instruction, practice, and learning program built from Florida and Common Core standards. She was drawn to the program for many reasons, but mainly because of the embedded Khan Academy videos in the lessons. These videos reinforced concepts through multi-sensory learning that complemented foundational classroom instruction.

All 248 students at Hungerford used Study Island for at least 50 minutes per week. "We encouraged our students to use Study Island by having several incentive programs," said Collins. "We have a 'Top 5' program that honors the top five students in each class who have the highest percentage on their Study Island math topics. We also host the Blue Ribbon Race, which is a grade level race to see who can obtain the most Study Island Blue Ribbons. The winners then receive rewards ranging from pizza and movie parties to special game time."

Study Island®

Results

Since adding Study Island, Hungerford Elementary has seen FCAT scores in math rise from an average of 32.3% passing to an average passing rate of 72.6%, a nearly 125% increase. Reading scores have increased 39%, and fifth grade science scores have increased 91%.

"I don't know where we would be without Study Island," added Collins. "It feels like it was customized specifically to fit our needs. From lesson supplementation to intervention and remediation, Study Island does it all, and is constantly being updated with new enhancements that make it even better."

FCAT Math Scores

	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade
2007	26	38	33
2008	79	42	33
2009	81	81	60
2010	68	94	58
2011	86	74	58

FCAT Reading Scores

	3rd Grade	4th Grade	5th Grade
2007	47	44	67
2008	79	62	54
2009	85	68	60
2010	68	78	66
2011	62	82	75

FCAT Science Scores

	5th Grade
2007	0
2008	22
2009	35
2010	42

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