



Research Affirms Mississippi Schools Utilizing Kid's College Surpass the State in Achievement Growth

Adaptive Online Intervention Program Accelerates Growth for Low-Achieving Students

April 9, 2010 – Jackson, MS and Birmingham, AL – An analysis of Quality of Distribution Index (QDI) data for 40 Mississippi schools utilizing the Kid's College online instructional and intervention program confirms these schools surpass the state in mathematics and reading achievement growth from 2007 to 2009.

A new research study by Measure2Learn compares QDI – a value calculated in Mississippi to measure achievement using data from both Language Arts and Mathematics tests – for the 40 schools implementing Kid's College compared to the QDI for the state. The data shows these schools experienced an average QDI growth of 7.2 points, compared to the state's average QDI growth of 5.2 points for the same comparison years.

Thirty-five percent of the schools using Kid's College earned remarkable double-digit achievement growth. Additionally, achievement gains for a sample of schools serving primarily economically disadvantaged students far exceed the state gains.

Notably, the schools utilizing Kid's College began at a lower average achievement threshold compared with the state. Their success indicates that the adaptive program is highly effective at accelerating student growth even for low-achieving students.

"These findings are consistent with data from other states where Kid's College has effectively assisted low-achieving students in moving up the learning continuum faster than other intervention and instructional programs," said Margaret Jorgensen, Ph.D., author of the study and CEO of Measure2Learn, a provider of research and statistical services in K-12 education.

Jorgensen cites two teacher practices that were essential to producing such positive outcomes. First, teachers routinely utilized Kid's College weekly emailed data reports on individual student performance to guide them in differentiating classroom instruction.

Second, teachers used Kid's College adaptive online curriculum as a formative tool to deliver prescriptive instruction for individual students depending on how they performed skill by skill during the previous week.

Learning Through Sports, Inc. provides virtual and onsite training and professional development to assist teachers with utilizing Kid's College standards-based assessments and student data reports, and differentiating instruction for diverse learners, including Response to Intervention (RTI) and special education students.

The complete research study titled, "Research Findings on the Impact of Kid's College on Student Achievement in Mississippi," is available online at <http://www.ltskc.com/research.php> or by request to Learning Through Sports (toll-free: 1-866-552-9192).

About Kid's College

Kid's College® online, core standards-based Math and Literacy curriculum is proven to improve test scores and motivate diverse learners, including at-risk and special needs students. Kid's College accomplishes this by providing self-paced, differentiated and adaptive instruction combined with graphically-sophisticated, popular sports video games as a fun way to reinforce skills practice. Today's digital generation responds to this unique approach to learning that appeals to their inherent interests in sports, technology and interactive video games. To learn more, visit www.ltskc.com.

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