

Peak Literacy 2024 Extended School Year (ESY) Pilot



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# History

Since 2020, Peak Literacy has helped K-12 students who are behind in their literacy development to quickly catch up to their peers through short daily reading and math lessons, supported by encouraging volunteer coaches.

Peak partners with schools, parents, and after school programs to implement the program during times that are convenient for parents, students, teachers, and administrators.



## Introduction

• In June 2024 through July 2024, Peak Literacy collaborated with the Children's Trust of Alachua County and the Alachua County School District to pilot a summer literacy intensive project for third graders attending the Extended School Year at Shell Elementary and Stephen Foster Elementary.

• The following Peak presentation will share the outcomes of the pilot.



2024 ESY Pilot Program







Our mission is to prepare young readers for personal and collective success through consistent one-to-one reading instruction provided by competent and nurturing volunteers.







## PEAK Literacy in ESY

- oJune 3<sup>rd</sup>- June 27<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Φ4 weeks, 4 days per week (16 total days)
- @Pilot study (no control group)

	# Students served	Total # lessons	Average # lessons/student (16 possible)	% of students attending 3+ lessons/week (Goal: 80%)
Stephen Foster Elementary	11	150	13.6	9 (82%)
Chester Shell Elementary	25	252	9.5	8 (32%)
Total	36	402		

## PEAK Literacy in ESY



- Hired 2 tutors; worked 8:30–12, M–
   Th
- Process:
  - Tutors retrieve students from class
  - Complete lesson (15 min.) one to one, in separate room
  - Return student to class and retrieve next student







# Effective Literacy Instruction

### **Systematic**

- Instruction logically sequenced to build on student's prior knowledge
- Moves from easier to challenging in manageable increments

### **Explicit**

- Clear, direct, unambiguous
- I do, we do, you do
- Many opportunities to respond; students <u>practice</u> skill or concept
- Number of student opportunities to respond best predictor of student success

Frequent monitoring of student progress

## Great Leaps Program

**Phonics** 

Phrases

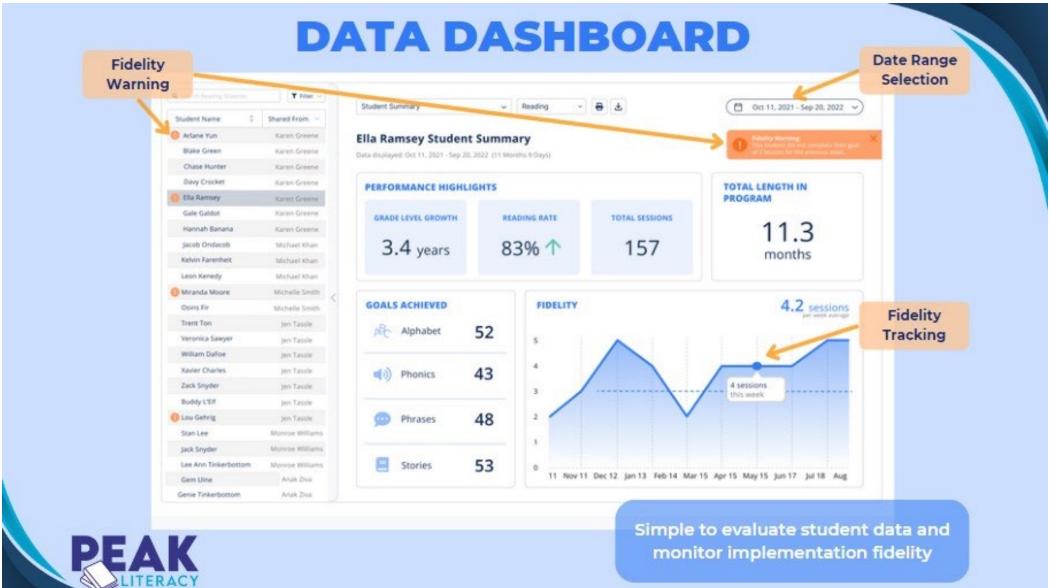
**Stories** 







## **Progress Monitoring**



# Great Leaps Data: Stephen Foster

Student	Total # Lessons (16 possible)	Starting Grade Level	Ending Grade Level	Total Grade Level Growth
1	14	1.1	2	0.9
2	15	1.1	1.3	0.2
3	11	1.1	1.2	0.1
4	16	1.8	2.6	0.8
5	14	1.3	2.9	1.6
6	13	1.1	1.1	0
7	15	2.5	3.6	1.1
8	10	1.1	1.2	0.1
9	13	2.9	3.1	0.2
10	15	4.3	4.5	0.2
11	14	5.4	5.5	0.1
Toal lessons	150		Average grade level growth	.48

# Great Leaps Data: Chester Shell 1

Student	# Lessons	Starting grade level	Ending grade level	Total grade level growth
1	14	4.7	4.7	0
2	11	4.3	4.8	0.5
3	13	2.9	3.1	0.2
4	14	2.8	3.9	1.1
5	9	1.1	1.1	0
6	8	1.1	1.1	0
7	11	3.7	3.9	0.2
8	10	3	3.1	0.1
9	9	2.8	2.9	0.1
10	12	3.1	3.4	0.3
11	5	1.1	1.1	0

# Great Leaps Data: Chester Shell 2

Student	# Lessons	Starting grade level	Ending Grade Level	Total grade level growth
12	14	3.8	4.2	0.4
13	7	1.1	1.1	0
14	10	5.3	5.3	0
15	7	1.1	1.1	0
16	8	4.1	4.1	0
17	8	1.4	1.6	0.2
18	11	1.1	3.2	2.1
19	7	2.3	2.5	0.2
20	11	1.9	2.3	0.4
21	12	1.9	2.5	0.6
22	8	2.6	3	0.4
23	15	0	0	0
24	7	0	0	0
25	11	1.1	1.1	0
Total lessons	252		Average grade level growth	.28

# Reading Gains

	Stephen Foster	Chester Shell
% of students demonstrating any progress in reading (GL)	100%	100%
% of students demonstrating TOWRE- 2 pre/post test improvement (of students tested)	80%	92%

# Finding #1: Student Reading Improved

#### **Students:**

"When I was third grade it was really hard for me to read. When I started the [Great Leaps] lessons it got easier. It helps with the big words."

"It's *helping me learn*... words and other words that I don't even know about yet."

### **Tutors:**

"The child I am working with struggles with not only reading but self confidence. Because of this program he has improved in his reading skills and has also *found his voice*."

"[This student] is one of the most determined readers I know. She is determine[d] to learn how to sound and say the words on her own. Her reading is so much better."

# Finding #2: Supportive, caring tutor-student relationships correspond with learning

Student: "I like that she helps me...Sometimes I don't get some of the words...She helps me spell things out"

Tutor: "one-on-one sessions with tutors are immensely beneficial. They provide students with a safe space to express themselves and ask as many questions as they need."

Learning, and motivation to learn, cannot occur until students develop a sense of trust and belonging with tutor, especially in a virtual setting (Spears & Young, 2022) Tutor: "PEAK helps bridge the gap in students' education... It also allows tutors to develop camaraderie with their students"

Student: "I like reading with [my tutor]"

# Finding # 3: Lesson process and structure conducive to student success

"[PEAK Literacy is] fantastic. Just the extra reading instruction. The extra intervention.. The one on one." –ESY school principal

"The team is very open to getting feedback from schools and provide an individualized approach to meeting the needs of each student. They know that students that have a deficit in an area are often times reluctant [to] practice it. By giving students constant motivation and feedback, they are encouraged to persevere when challenged instead of shutting down." -ACPS staff member





## **Successes**

- Reading Gains with personalized, focused instruction
- Improved Relationships with school staff, leaders
- Tutor/Student Relationships supportive, caring relationships
- Student Engagement-kids enjoyed it, reward box

## **Challenges**

- Parent Engagement
- Limited Time biggest gains experienced after +4 weeks in program
- Variability in Attendance







# Thank You!







# Moving Forward

Fund Peak Literacy to provide services year-round.

 Services to be provided during out of school time



# Thank you!