

SuccessMaker[®] Enterprise

Product Information Brief

What Works Clearinghouse Evaluation

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PearsonSchool.com/SuccessMakerEnterprise

Background

The *What Works Clearinghouse*, an initiative of the U.S. Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences, recently evaluated *SuccessMaker Enterprise*, a comprehensive educational software program used in more than 16,000 schools nationwide to deliver differentiated one-on-one instruction to learners in grades K-8. The results of this evaluation rated *SuccessMaker Enterprise* as having potentially **positive effects on students' comprehension and general literacy achievement, with students scoring an average of 11 percentile points higher than students using other digital interventions.**

The positive outcome of this evaluation is very significant as it re-affirms the extensive development research base of the product and the alignment of the product to the research standards of federal initiatives like No Child Left Behind (NCLB), and key funding sources, including Title I. Additionally, the size of the variance in scores between the treatment and non-treatment groups can be considered to be both practically and statistically significant and the broad range of grade levels, locations, and demographics included in the evaluation aid in the generalizability of the results.

Additional Vetting of Research. The development research base for *SuccessMaker Enterprise* alone is very extensive. The product's research foundations go back to the pioneering work on probability models of learning led by Dr. Patrick Suppes at Stanford University in the mid-1960's. As the individual courses were developed, numerous practices and recommendations outlined by a number of leading research bodies and publications were employed. For schools and districts requiring additional vetting and peer-review of the product's research base, the positive evaluation of the *What Works Clearinghouse*, which has its own rigorous scientific research standards that must be met before a review can be conducted, will help meet this requirement.

Alignment to the Research Standards of Title I and NCLB. The research standards held by the *What Works Clearinghouse* are very similar to those found in NCLB and Title I legislation, which state that educators should only purchase programs that have been proven effective by scientific research when using public funds. The positive review of the *What Works Clearinghouse* supports the compliance of *SuccessMaker Enterprise* to legislative guidelines for using public funds to purchase educational programs. While claims of a sound scientific research base are made by nearly every publisher, the positive review of the *What Works Clearinghouse* demonstrates Pearson's commitment to going above and beyond best research practices.

Significance of Findings. This evaluation demonstrated a positive improvement index of 11 in the areas of comprehension and general literacy achievement. This means that students using *SuccessMaker Enterprise* increased an average of 11 percentile points above students using other literacy interventions or literacy

programs—a sizable variance which can easily be considered to be both practically and statistically significant. Even in areas where *SuccessMaker Enterprise* users were not found to outperform peers using other products, *SuccessMaker Enterprise* users consistently performed as well as their peers demonstrating the same levels of gain in achievement in these domains.

Generalizability of Results. Finally, these studies were conducted across multiple grades, locations, and demographics, not just in lab conditions or with ideal implementation settings, and *SuccessMaker Enterprise* users exhibited similar achievement gains regardless of these differences.

To read the complete report from the *What Works Clearinghouse* or to learn more about SuccessMaker Enterprise, contact us today.

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