




Evidence Explained

ESSA emphasizes “evidence-based” approaches that have demonstrated a statistically significant positive effect on student outcomes. ESSA identifies four levels of evidence: strong, moderate, promising, and evidence that demonstrates a rationale. The levels are defined by the research study design.

focusMATH meets ESSA’s “Strong” evidence criteria

Strong Evidence Criteria	Alignment to Requirements
Experimental study (e.g. a randomized control trial)	Meets A randomized control trial design was used where individual students were randomly assigned to either the treatment or control condition.
Show a statistically significant and positive effect on student outcomes	Meets  Students using <i>focusMATH</i> significantly outperformed their counterparts on the KeyMath3 Test . Overall, students grew by 9 more percentile points than the average comparison student.
Have a large sample and multi-site sample	Meets <i>focusMATH</i> was studied in 7 school districts in 7 geographic regions. The study sample was diverse with 341 students.

What does EvidenceforESSA.org say about *focusMATH*?

The Center for Research and Reform in Education Evidence (CRRE) has rated *focusMATH*'s study as having Strong Evidence on evidenceforessa.org.

[See the full review of *focusMATH* here.](#)

For more information, visit:

pearsonschool.com/evidencebased



Study completed by:

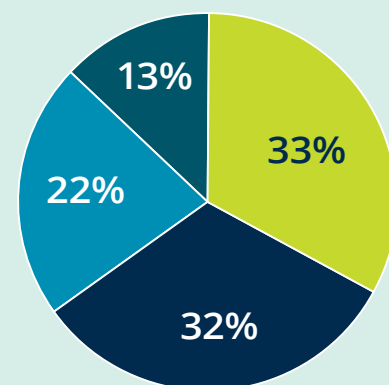
Magnolia Consulting, LLC.

[Available here.](#)

Year: 2010-11

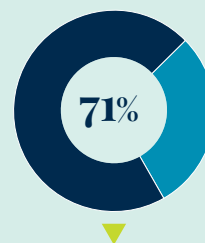
Study description: This study focused on improving third and fifth grade mathematics skills in a small group, pull-out intervention setting. Students used the program twice a week for 30-40 minutes over the course of the school year. Results were analyzed for 341 students, taught by 22 teachers across 11 schools in 7 geographic regions, with matched pretest/posttest scores.

The final sample was diverse including:

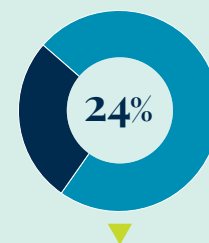


- African-American students
- Caucasian students
- Hispanic students
- Other

Additionally:



qualified for free/
reduced lunch



were designated
English learners