

# TeachSmart® Learning System Shows Positive Effects

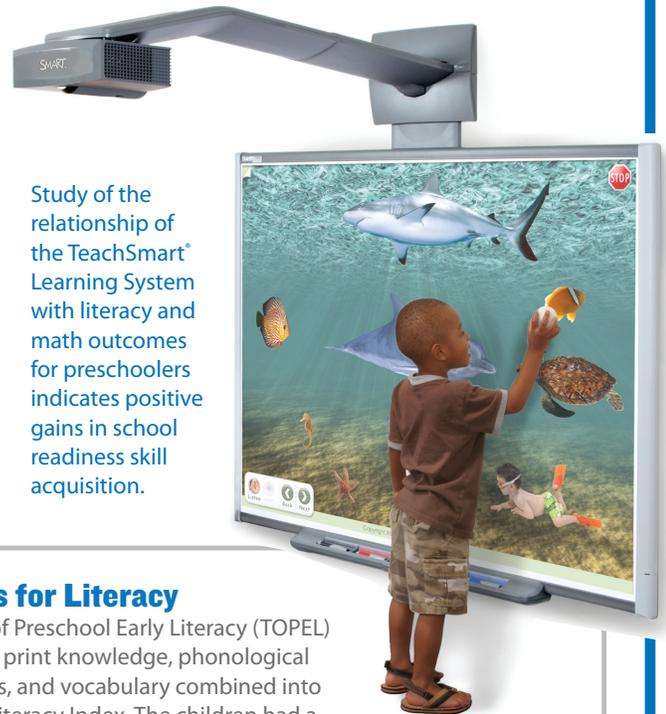
## Summary

Developing and properly using instructional technology hinges on many factors including the developmental appropriateness of the equipment itself and the content to which children are exposed.

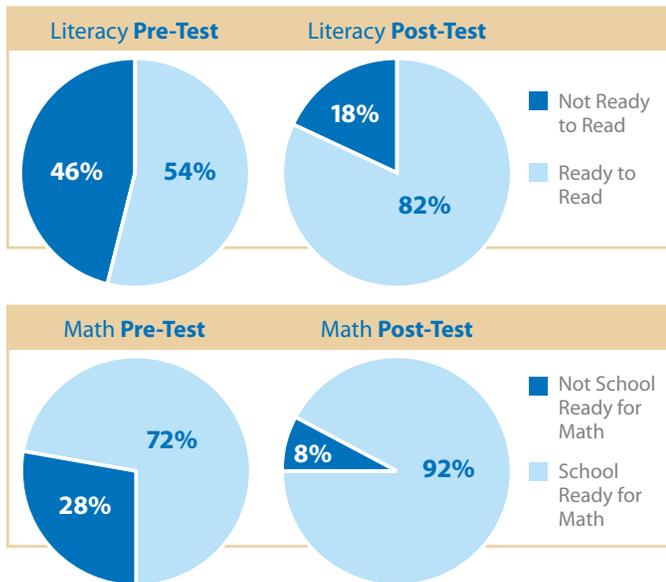
*The results of our recent study found that pre-kindergarten children in classrooms using the TeachSmart® Learning System—an interactive whiteboard with instructional activities designed for preschoolers—made significant gains from fall to spring in literacy and mathematics.*

## Participants

The study included 87 randomly selected children in school district preschools in the 2009-2010 school year. The children were tested on measures of literacy and mathematics near the beginning, and again near the end, of their pre-k year. There were two measures for literacy and one for math. The data was collected and analyzed by outside consultants.



Study of the relationship of the TeachSmart® Learning System with literacy and math outcomes for preschoolers indicates positive gains in school readiness skill acquisition.



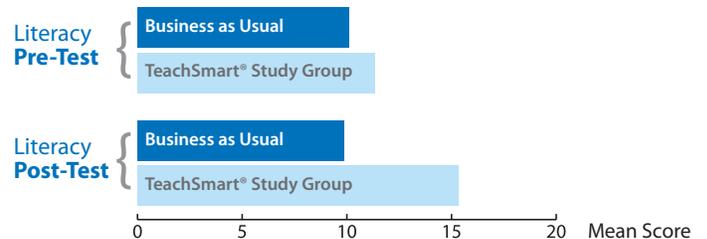
## Results for Literacy

The Test of Preschool Early Literacy (TOPEL) measures print knowledge, phonological awareness, and vocabulary combined into an Early Literacy Index. The children had a significant increase in their Early Literacy Index over the course of the year, where they began well below average and ended as average.

The Get Ready to Read! (GRTR) Literacy Screener also measures early literacy skills, including knowledge of letter and sounds, recognition of spoken words and phonological knowledge. The children again had a significant increase. The score calculated from the Screener provides an index of readiness to learn to read. At pre-test, 46% of the children were Ready to Read, at post-test 82% were Ready to Read.

## Comparing with "Business as Usual"

Results for children in "Business as Usual" classrooms showed no gains on the Get Ready to Read! Literacy Screener. Children in the TeachSmart® classrooms made significant gains in literacy.



## Results for Mathematics

The CPALLS+ Math Screener looks at the skills important for the development of math knowledge; including counting, shapes, operations and number identification. Children in the study showed a significant increase from fall to spring. The Screener also gives an index of progress towards school readiness in mathematics. The results from the pre-test show that 72% of children achieved a high enough score to be considered ready for math in school. At post-test, that number had increased to 92%.

## Conclusion

The importance of these findings is twofold: (1) The literacy and math skills on which these at-risk preschool children increased are known to be predictors of success in school, both in the short-term in kindergarten and first grade, and beyond to have an impact on their entire schooling experience. (2) The study supports that instructional technology as both a vehicle for presenting educational information and as a vehicle for bringing strong content and skills, can be used successfully with young children in early childhood education settings.

