

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

COMING SOON—EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH YOU CAN USE!



What is the research?

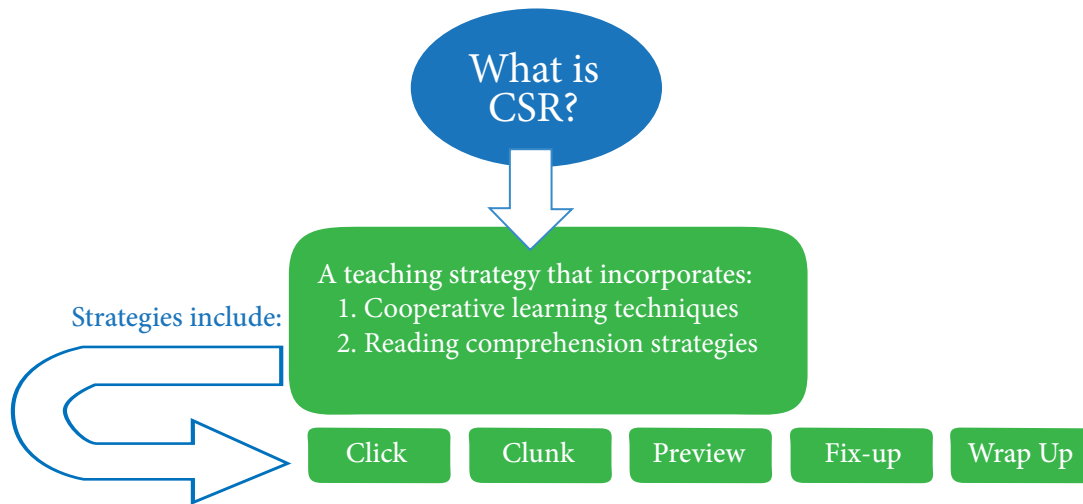
Assessing the Impact of Collaborative Strategic Reading (CSR) on Reading Comprehension: Findings for English Language Learners and Fluent English Speakers

Students who are English Language Learners (ELLs) face many challenges in acquiring language skills that are fundamental to being successful in school. These students are often at-risk for academic failure and the number of these students is on the rise in the Southwest region. In particular, Texas serves the second highest enrollment of ELL students among all states, and its neighboring states have shown increases in their ELL populations (NCELA 2008; Ruiz-de-Velasco & Fix 2000). As a result, identifying and utilizing effective interventions for improving reading comprehension of ELL students is of paramount importance to education professionals.

REL Southwest is currently conducting a research study to evaluate the effectiveness of the Collaborative Strategic Reading (CSR) intervention. *(see chart on page 2)*

The research will use a randomized control trial design to evaluate classrooms using CSR compared with those not using the intervention, understood as *business as usual*. The study focuses on 5th grade students during social studies instruction in districts with high ELL populations. REL Southwest is partnering with the RG Research Group (RGRG), American Institutes for Research (AIR), and ICF International.

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• What are the Key Research Questions to be Addressed?

- Do CSR classrooms outperform control classrooms on a measure of reading achievement?
 - ◆ What are the effects of Collaborative Strategic Reading (CSR) on student reading achievement as assessed by a nationally normed achievement test?
 - ◆ What are the effects of CSR on student reading achievement for (ELL) students?

Who can use the research?

This research will be beneficial to a number of professionals including Policymakers, District Administrators, Educators and Education Researchers. It has become increasingly important to Education Professionals to utilize evidence-based research when evaluating programs that are critical to the quality of instruction and student outcomes.

What will the research look like?

After the completion of the research study, a Final Report will be compiled. The Final Report will be a comprehensive research report that answers the primary research questions. Additional news briefs will be developed to keep you

updated on the research as it progresses and to highlight key findings specific to your needs following the publication of the Final Report.

- *Interim Research Bulletin*—As the study progresses, this bulletin will keep you updated on the research objectives and will provide relevant information regarding the application of research to assist you in aligning goals and potential incorporation of research into education plans.
- *Final Report*—This report will contain an Executive Summary as well as in-depth detail regarding the scope of the rigorous research, methodologies, data sources, participants, etc., as well as a comprehensive presentation of research results.
- *Policymaker News*—This news brief will provide pertinent information for policymakers as they assimilate data into their decision making process regarding education policy as related to ELL reading instruction.
- *District Administrator News*—Customized especially for District Level personnel, this news brief will be tailored to address needs relevant to Districts as they evaluate models for ELL reading instruction.

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Where can I find this research?

Visit our website at <http://edlabs.ed.gov/RELSouthwest> to access updated schedules for research product releases and detailed information on how to access this research. All REL Southwest research is **FREE** of charge.

Who is REL Southwest?

REL Southwest is one of ten educational laboratories in the Regional Educational Laboratory Program (REL Program), under the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) of the U.S. Department of Education.

REL Southwest serves the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

How Can REL Southwest Help Me?

REL Southwest is excited about opportunities to serve you by:

- Providing you with evidence-based research for decision-making.
- Responding to your priority needs for education research.
- Collaborating on site recruitment for Large Scale Rigorous Studies.
- Assisting you in locating current education research.

Contact us Toll Free at 877-338-2623 or e-mail RELinfo@edvanceresearch.com

