

# PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

COMING SOON—EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH YOU CAN USE!



## What is the research?

### How a Summer Reading Intervention Based on Lexiles Affects Reading Comprehension.

Summer learning loss occurs when some of the academic gains made over the school year are lost during the summer months. This learning loss is especially prevalent among economically disadvantaged students. However, utilizing a voluntary summer reading program in which students are provided with books to read during the summer appears to be a promising approach to improving reading comprehension over the summer. In particular, research suggests that a reading program that is voluntary and provides books that are in content areas of interest to students and are at their reading levels may be particularly effective at mitigating summer learning loss.

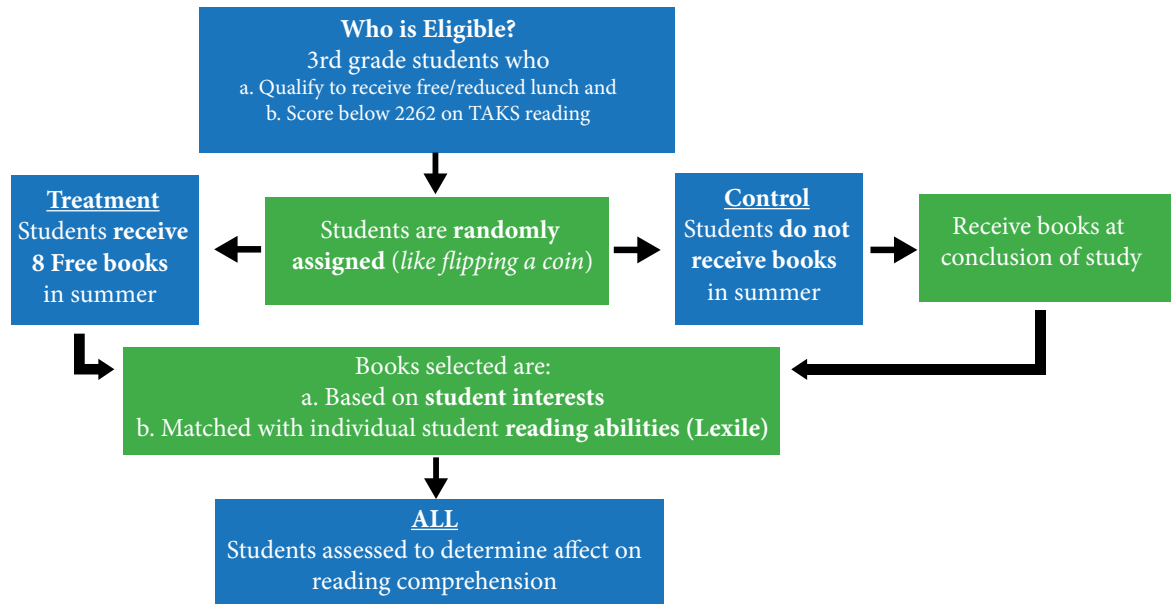
**REL Southwest at Edvance Research** is currently conducting a Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT) to examine the affect of a summer reading intervention on reading comprehension. Below is a chart illustrating the basic elements of the project:

REL Southwest is partnering with the RG Research Group (RGRG) and MetaMetrics, Inc on this important study. *(see chart on page 2)*

## What is the Key Research Question to be Addressed?

- Do economically disadvantaged, below-average readers who receive free books at their reading level and in their area of interest over the summer improve in reading comprehension compared to students who do not receive books?

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## Who can use the research?

This research will be beneficial to a number of professionals including Policymakers, District Administrators, Educators, Education Researchers, and Parents. 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 question. 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 related to summer reading programs and reading comprehension.
- *District Administrator News*—A report customized especially for District Level personnel, this news brief will be tailored to address needs relevant to Districts as they evaluate the effectiveness of summer reading programs with regard to summer learning loss.
- *Educators News*—This news brief will present research findings to Educators in a manner that will provide relevant information and assist Educators in the application of this research in the classroom.
- *Parent Education News*—This brief will attempt to bridge across groups and provide parents with valuable information that can assist them in making informed decisions about their child's education as it relates to a summer reading program and reading comprehension.

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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 **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](mailto:RELinfo@edvanceresearch.com)**

