

# PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT

COMING SOON—EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH YOU CAN USE!



## What is the research?

### Effectiveness of a Small Group Mathematics Intervention for Struggling First Graders

While there is research to demonstrate that intensive, explicit small group instruction is effective in reading, the literature base for early math is smaller. However, recent research suggests that this type of instruction is also essential in mathematics. The process of providing this type of instruction with increasing intensity to students who are struggling in an academic area such as mathematics is known as Response to Intervention (RTI). Its major goal is to provide assistance and support to at-risk students in a timely fashion and to do so within the general classroom setting. Ultimately this will help students by bridging the achievement gap and promoting early mathematics learning.

REL Southwest is currently conducting a research study to evaluate a First Grade Mathematics Tutoring program. The intervention in this randomized control trial study represents additional instruction provided above and beyond regular core math instruction. It will be provided to treatment schools with 1st grade students identified as at-risk in mathematics.

This Tier 2 intervention includes, on average, three lessons per week consisting of 40 minutes of instructional time in a small group setting. It includes a range of essential math

$$2 + 2 = 4$$

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topics with a major emphasis on the development of number sense, and on writing and using numbers, discriminating quantities, understanding place value, and solving two-digit addition and subtraction problems. The control schools who are not using the intervention will continue with their business-as-usual condition. This study will compare the performance of both the treatment and control schools.

REL Southwest is partnering with the RG Research Group (RGRG) on this project.

## What are the Key Research Questions to be Addressed?

What is the effect of implementing intensive, explicit small group instruction on at-risk first-grade students' mathematical knowledge and skills as measured by performance on the TEMA-3?

## Who can use the research?

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 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.

## 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 questions. Additional dissemination products will be developed to highlight key findings specific to your needs. Outlined below are the products available for you.

- *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 synthesize the research results and importance to the research findings for policy and legislation. It will provide pertinent information for Policymakers as they assimilate data into their decision making process regarding education policy related to RTI.
- *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 RTI. It will highlight key research findings relevant to District personnel and landscape the implications so that they are meaningful and applicable to the District audience.
- *Curriculum Director News*—This news brief will address issues specific to this audience, as Assessment and Curriculum Directors are charged with the fulfillment of requirements unique to assessment and curriculum.
- *Educators News*—As this study will appeal to teachers, this news brief will highlight the key findings of the research and will share research findings to Educators in a manner that will provide relevant information and assist Educators in the application of this research in the classroom.

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

