

Imagine Español 2018-2019 Southwest Pilot Study

Imagine Español is a personalized learning solution that accelerates grade-level reading and language proficiency in Spanish for students in grades PreK to 2. The program is uniquely crafted to address the specific features of the Spanish language such as letter-sound instruction, syllable awareness, and transparent orthography. In the program, activities are classified into 5 strands to provide a comprehensive instruction (i.e. print concepts, syllable decoding, word recognition, vocabulary, and listening reading comprehension).

Background

To determine the impact of the Imagine Español program, a pilot study was conducted in the 2018-2019 school year partnering with a school district in the southwest of the United States. One hundred and twenty one students from the school district in grades K-1 used Imagine Español and completed the beginning- and end-of- year Indicadores Dinamicos del Exito en la Lectura (IDEL) assessment. On average, these students used the program for 11.2 hours.

Imagine Learning analyzed student's performance on two subtests on the IDEL assessment (i.e. Fluidez en Nombrar Letras (FNL), Fluidez en la Segmentacion de Fonemas (FSF) and applied multiple linear regression to model the relationship between growth and usage for each grade level and subtest with the beginning-of-year performance controlled.

Results

Studies found, for kindergarteners, the number of activities practiced in syllable decoding, vocabulary and listening, reading comprehension strands, significantly predicted the growth on FNL and FSF sub-test. With one extra activity worked, students were likely to grow 0.12-0.22 more points on these two sub-tests. For students in first grade, activities in all strands except for print concept have a positive and significant relationship with growth in FSF. Specifically, students were likely to grow 0.04-0.08 more points on FSF when they worked on an additional activity in any of the four strands.

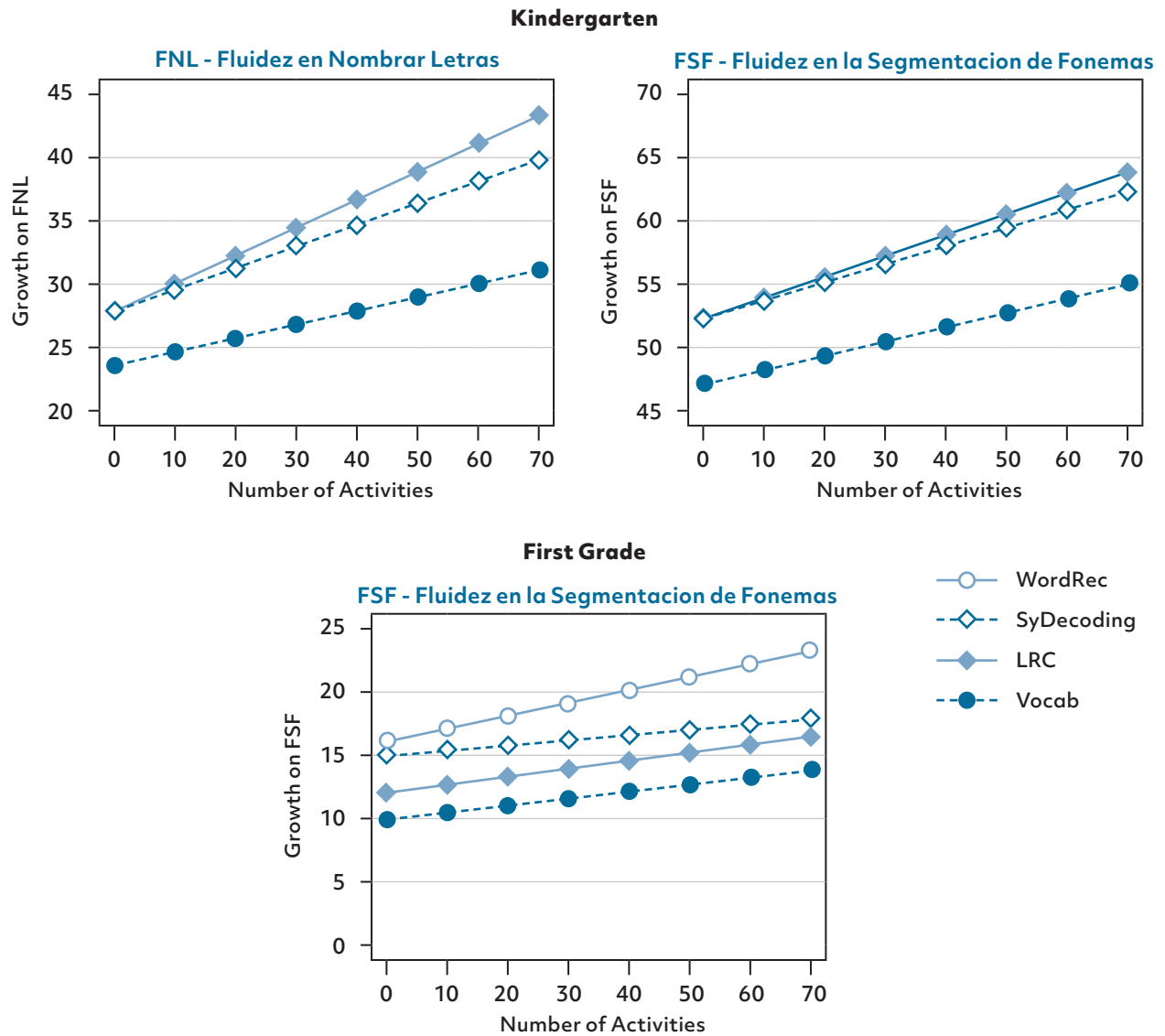
Kindergarten

IE Activities/IDEL Subtest	FNL	FSF
Print Concepts	0.07	0.08
Syllable Decoding	0.19**	0.16*
Word Recognition	2.2	2.7
Vocabulary	0.12*	0.12*
Listening Reading Comprehension	0.22**	0.18*

First Grade

IE Activities/IDEL Subtest	FSF
Print Concepts	0.04
Syllable Decoding	0.04*
Word Recognition	0.08*
Vocabulary	0.05**
Listening Reading Comprehension	0.07**

Note: * $p < 0.05$ ** $p < 0.01$



Conclusions

The results of this study support the role of Imagine Español as a supplementary tool for the development of Spanish language and literacy skills. Positive and significant relationship between usage and growth on IDEL subtests (i.e. FNL and FSF) indicates the effectiveness of the program. Given these findings, we would expect similar results for similar students who use Imagine Español.