

Lincoln Foundation – Executive Summary

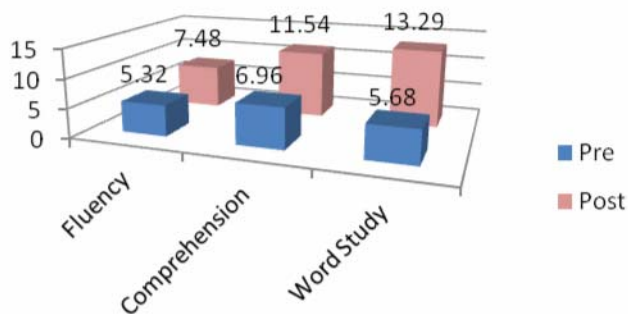
2009-2010 Portland & Western Library Reading Program

Program Description and Participants

- The Portland and Western Library Reading Program is an after-school program designed to provide remedial and developmental reading instruction for at-risk students from Portland Elementary School, Lowe, St. Matthews, Tully, and Wilder Elementary Schools. In addition to students from these schools, students who live in the Portland or Russell neighborhoods may also attend the tutoring program in their neighborhoods.
- Students receive tutoring in reading, homework assistance, and a daily snack and beverage.
- The primary goal of this program is improve the students' reading skills.
- There were twenty-four participants at each site, Portland Library and Western Library, for a total of 48 participants.

Evaluation Results

- **Attendance** - the participants for the library programs attended the following elementary schools: Portland, Coleridge-Taylor, Tully, St. Matthews, Lowe, Watson Lane, and Kennedy-Montessori. The mean number of days in attendance was approximately 21 days.
- **Knowledge Growth** - participants were given a pre- and post-test for fluency, comprehension, and word study. There were positive statistically significant ($p < .001$) in all three areas.



- **Survey Feedback** – The most agreed upon statements were 1) “the teachers and tutors helped me a lot” (100%), 2) “I read better because of coming to this program” (96%), 3) “I like working with the tutors” (92%), and 4) “I like our big group activities” (92%).

Recommendations

The primary recommendations include:

- increase the end of the year surveys (23 out of 48 were completed) and
- increase the number of participants that complete both the pre- and post-tests (28 out of 48 students had both scores).

	Portland	Western	Totals
Gender			
Female	10	16	26
Male	14	8	22
Race/Ethnicity			
African-American	12	24	36
White	10	0	10
Hispanic	1	0	1
Other	1	0	1
Grade			
Second	3	11	14
Third	19	9	28
Fourth	2	3	5
Fifth	0	1	1
Free/Reduced Lunch			
Free/Reduced	22	24	46
Paid	2	0	2

Commendations

The following goals were met:

- Provide remedial and developmental reading to at-risk students from the surrounding schools and neighborhoods. [41 out of 48 students live within a 2.5 mile radius of one of the libraries and 96% qualify for free/reduced lunch]
- Have students in regular attendance. [39 participants were in attendance at least 10 days, the median number of days in attendance was 21, and 17 participants attended 30 days or more]
- Improve reading skills. [Statistically significant gains were made in fluency, comprehension, and word study by the participants]
- Students will have a positive attitude about the program. [Survey results indicated high satisfaction with the Portland and Western Library Reading Program]