

reading  plus®

SUCCESS STORIES



Econ River High School
Accelerated Learning Solutions

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS

Econ River High School

School Type: Nontraditional school for ages 16-21

Location: Orlando, FL

Number of Schools: NA

Number of Students: 627

Race and Ethnicity:

60.8% Hispanic

23.2% White

11% Black

“Reading Plus is being used as the core curriculum for reading courses at Econ River. The majority of our students begin here on the average of 2-3 years below grade level for reading. Reading Plus is a progressive ladder that, when properly climbed, allows struggling readers to reach the career and college reading readiness level.”

—M. Sadler,
Reading Specialist

SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP OVERVIEW

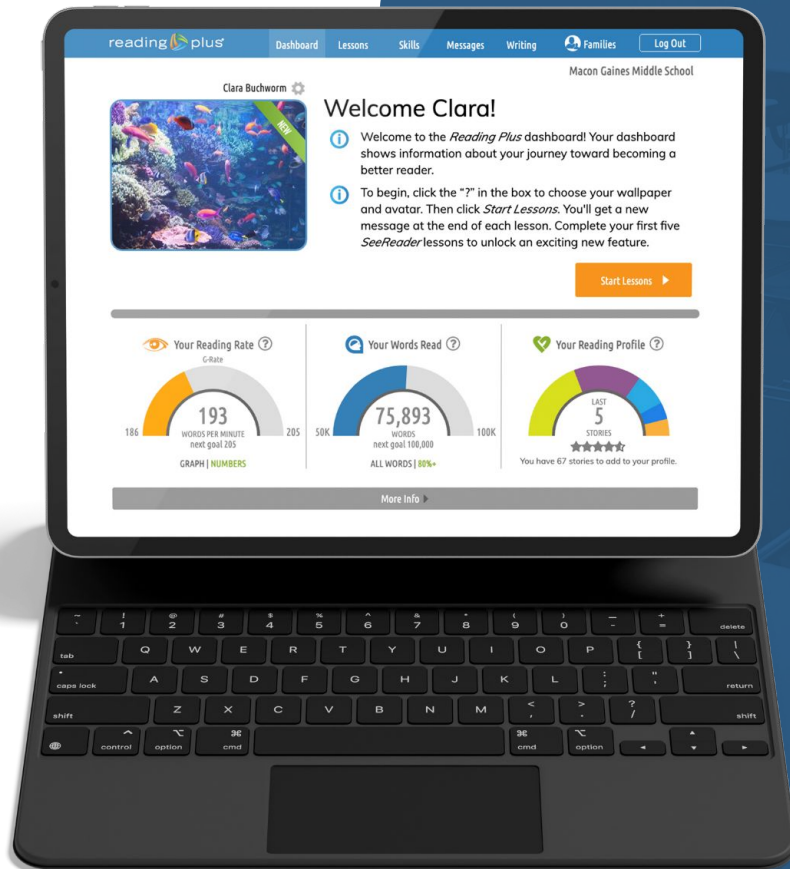
627 students

using Reading Plus

7 years

using Reading Plus

1 school



ECON RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

CHALLENGES

(Before Reading Plus)

Student motivation, grit, stamina, and engagement are the biggest challenges for Econ River High School. These challenges are often directly related to students' long-held feelings/beliefs about reading, based on prior experiences and past performance in school.

SOLUTIONS

The school's focus is engagement, with plans to offer more incentives for students to engage *and* improve.

Reading Plus is being used school-wide.

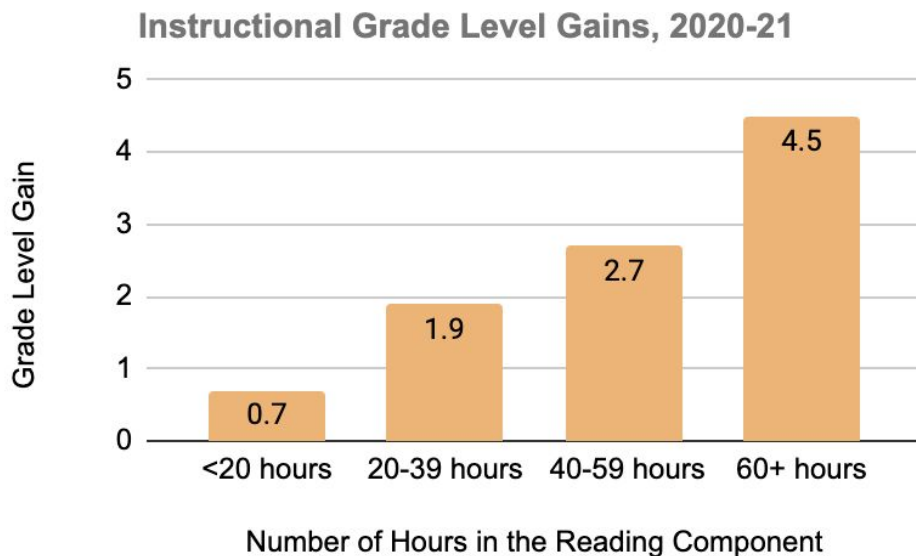
IMPACT

Using Reading Plus with fidelity has had a significant impact on struggling readers.

Administrators have seen improved engagement with one incentive program, in which students receive a \$50 gift card for completing Level M and writing an essay within the Reading Plus program!

RESULTS

Students of Econ River High School with strong fidelity of use made 4.5 instructional grade levels of growth in 2020-2021.



- Instructional grade-level gains include improvements in fluency and comprehension during silent reading
- Grade-level gains are measured through embedded assessments
- The number of hours reflect student time spent in the Reading Plus program

SUCCESS STORY

“Last week, I had a student take the Insight B3 Assessment. He had jumped up four grade levels! He snatched the post-it, went down to his knees, covering his face in emotion, and then jumped up exclaiming, "I'm keepin' this post-it!" I replied, "Damn straight, you're keeping it! That's why I wrote it! In a non-Covid world, I'd be throwing candy at you and we'd have some kind of piñata thing going on!" And he replied, "And I'd be hitting that piñata!" Giant smiles all around! I had reason to go into his classroom shortly thereafter. I asked the teacher if he shared his good news with her. She stated not only did he share it with her but with the whole class and that now she had two more students wanting to retest to try for a better score!! Now, THAT ... a student inspiring others to do better? THAT'S my favorite outcome so far!”

–M. Sadler,
Reading Specialist

BIG WINS

- Even the truly struggling reader, with persistence, has climbed the ladder of improvement.
- A student asked for books on Philosophy and the Universe/Space/Time because of articles he found in Reading Plus!
- As a school, administrators have seen engagement go UP! Teachers are encouraging students more, and students are encouraging their peers!

“The [Reading Plus] program's ability to differentiate reading instruction to match individual needs is precisely what struggling readers need! It is coincidence that my name is the same as the final rung on that ladder—Level M.”

–M. Sadler,
Reading Specialist