



earobics[®]

HELPING READERS REACH

Strategies and Solutions for
Closing the Achievement Gap

FOR PRE-K TO THIRD GRADE

 HOUGHTON MIFFLIN | earobics



Learning to read is a challenge for almost 40% of children today. If a child is not able to read by the end of third grade, the odds are great that he or she will never catch up. And the effects of falling behind can be devastating.

Early intervention is crucial.
Now there is a solution:

Earobics®

INTRODUCTION

High poverty students, students with special needs, students of different cultural backgrounds, English language learners, and urban and rural students all deserve an opportunity to excel.

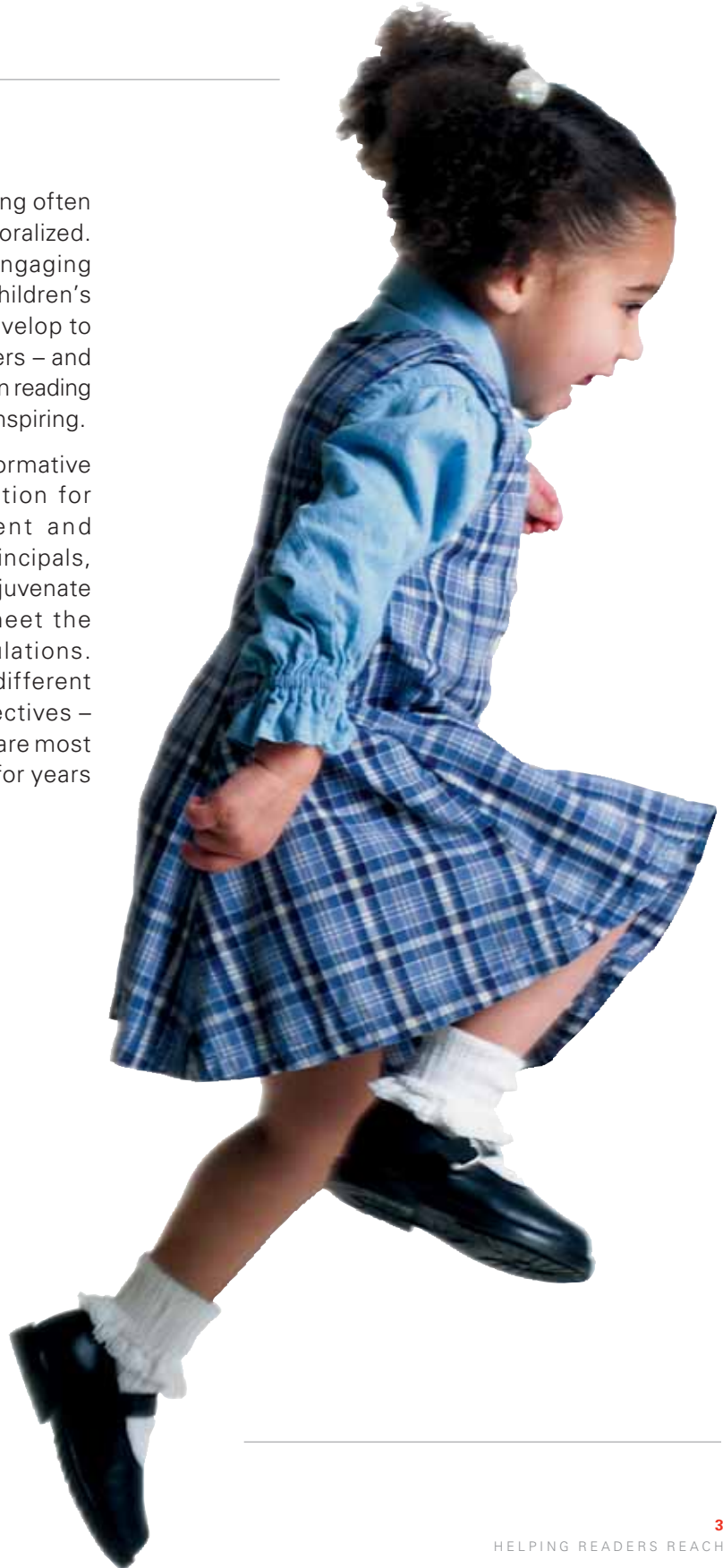
How we raise the bar and close the achievement gap is the extraordinary responsibility we collectively share.

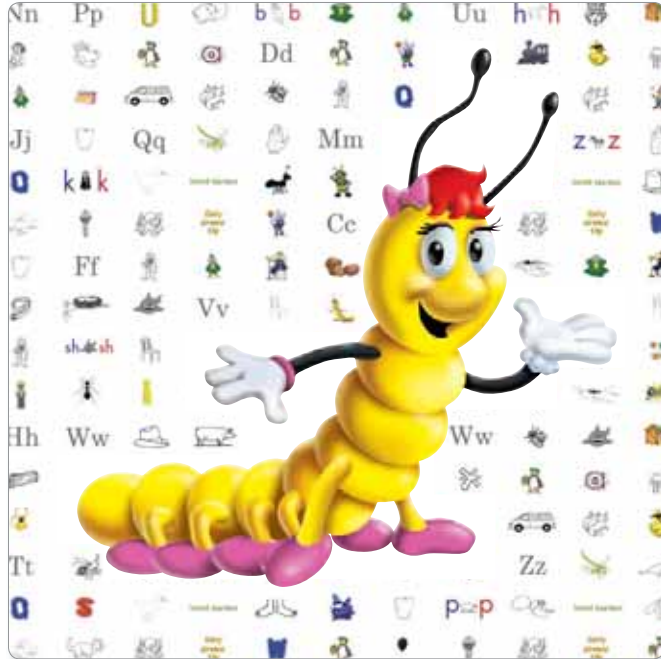
Our fundamental belief: ALL children, regardless of socio-economic status, gender, or ethnicity, are entitled to success in learning and success in life.

MULTISENSORY APPROACH

Students who struggle with reading often tend to withdraw or become demoralized. For that reason, effective and engaging instruction is critical to build on children’s strengths and enable them to develop to their full potential. Effective readers – and confident learners – accelerate when reading is viewed as fun, motivating, and inspiring.

Earobics is a powerful and transformative multisensory reading intervention for raising academic achievement and empowering school districts, principals, and teachers to strengthen and rejuvenate their reading curriculums to meet the needs of diverse student populations. It enables the teacher to take a different approach to critical learning objectives – and ignite a spark in children who are most in need – that builds confidence for years to come.





Foundations



Connections

EAROBICS – A COMPREHENSIVE READING INTERVENTION SOLUTION

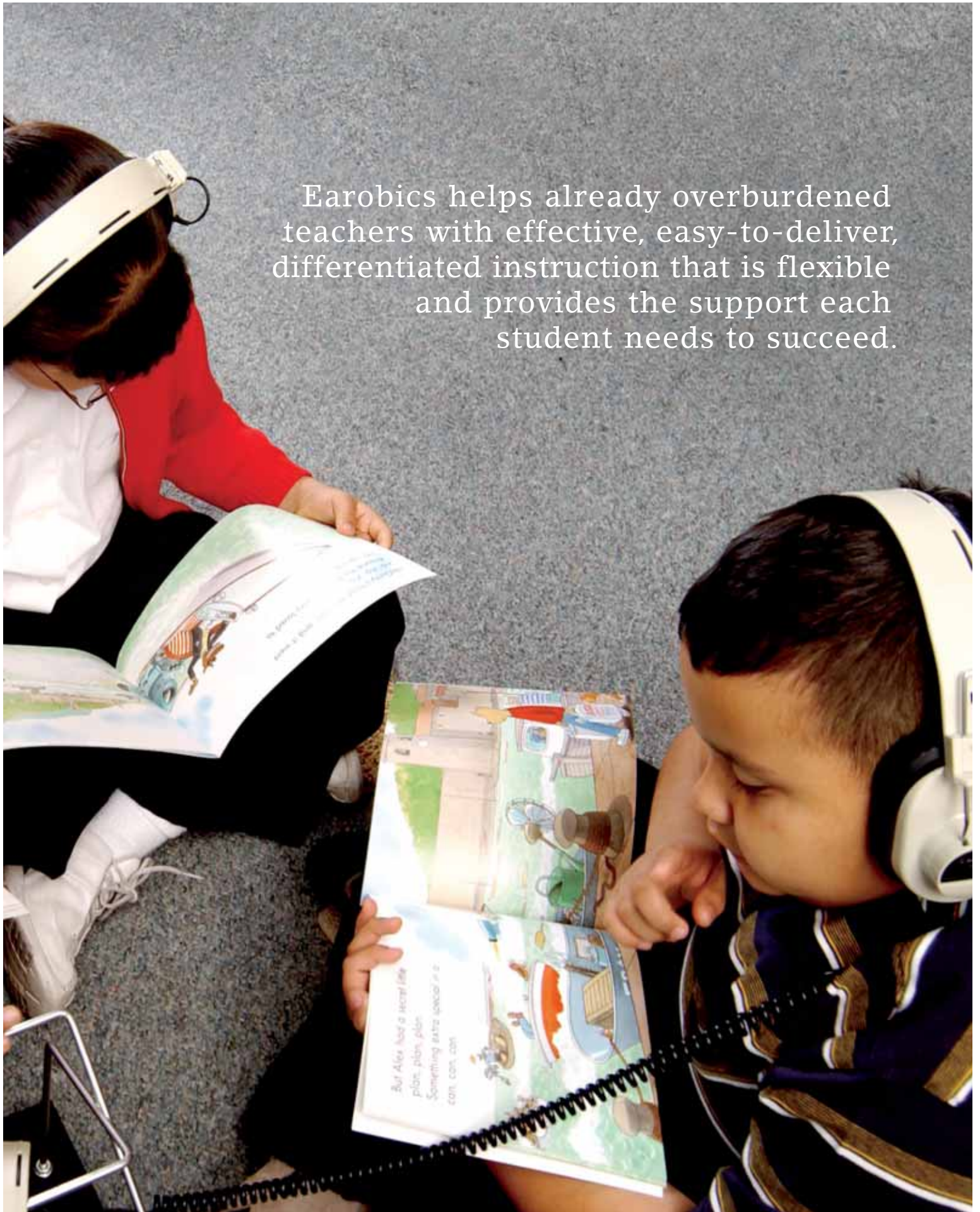
Originally developed by educators nearly a decade ago, and now a part of Houghton Mifflin Company, Earobics delivers individualized reading instruction in all areas deemed critical by the National Reading Panel. It helps educators address the challenges of reading through technology, multimedia materials and professional development. A proven, research-based solution, Earobics delivers demonstrable impact on achievement in reading comprehension, and ensures flexible and differentiated classroom instruction.

Earobics enhances and complements a school's existing reading curriculum. It helps students develop the foundational skills to become successful readers, and gives teachers effective strategies for practice in the development of key skills that enhance the core curriculum. This is done through the combined use of software, teacher-directed activities, manipulatives, and books. Earobics consists of two major components:

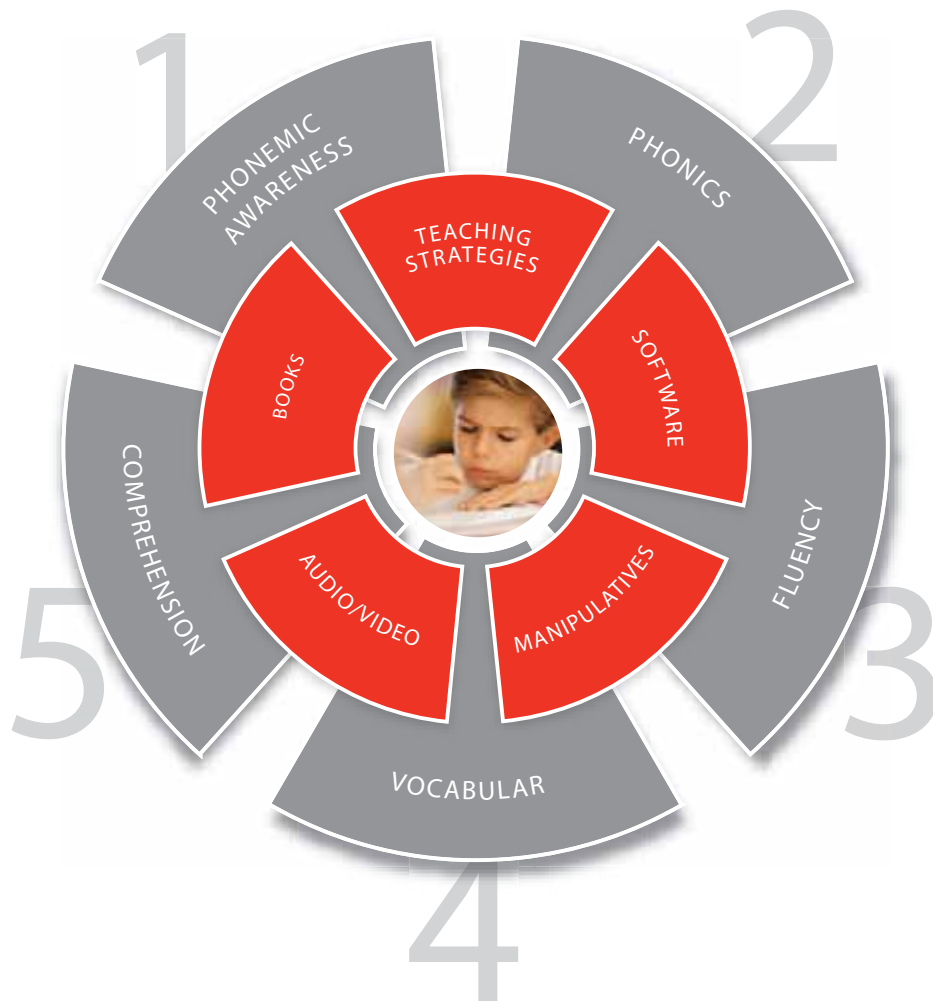
- *Foundations* for pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade students
- *Connections* for second and third graders, and other struggling readers

Earobics incorporates software instruction that is highly engaging and automatically adjusts to the skill level of each child. In groups or individually, teacher materials provide explicit instruction in vocabulary, phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension and writing through creative activities.

Earobics helps already overburdened teachers with effective, easy-to-deliver, differentiated instruction that is flexible and provides the support each student needs to succeed.



CRITICAL COMPONENTS OF READING: THE BIG 5

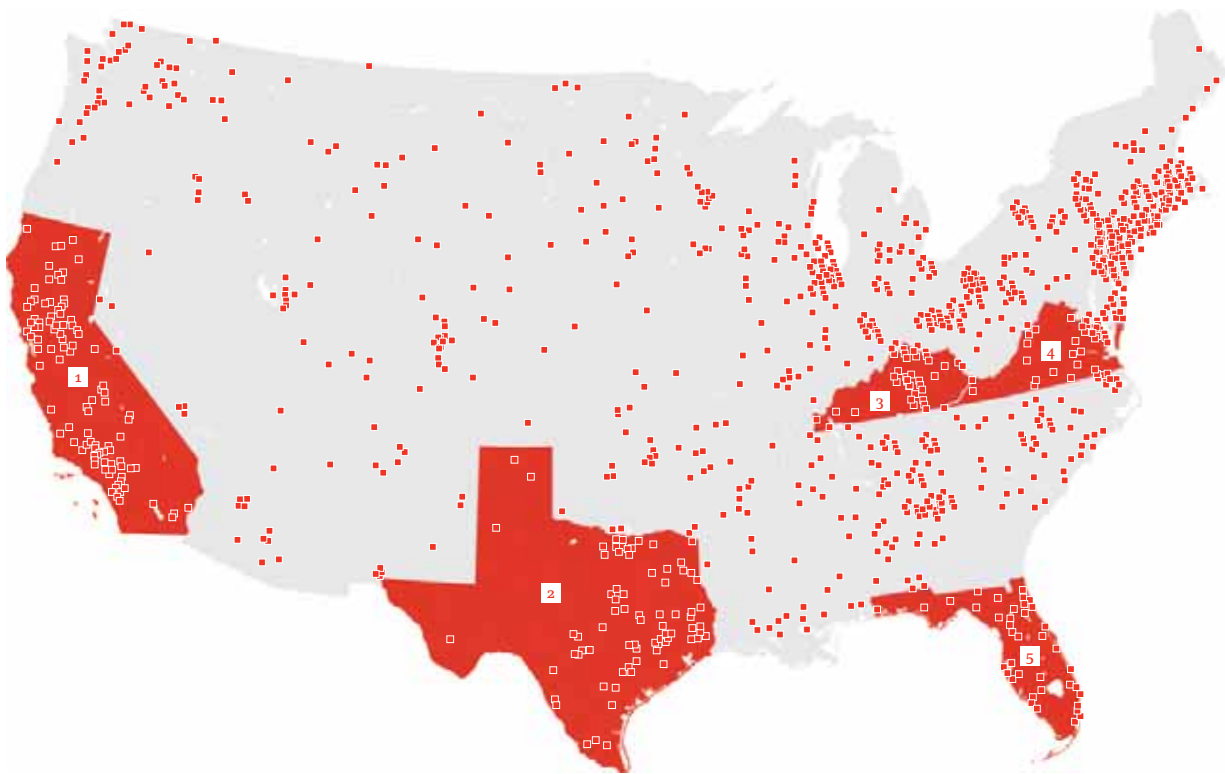


Schools that use Earobics and effectively align proven strategies to the critical components of reading make headway against the achievement gap and discover new ways to achieve success.

	SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN METHODOLOGY	EAROBICS ADVANTAGE
<p>1 Phonemic Awareness</p>	<p>Phonemic awareness instruction should be systematic, explicit, and individualized.</p> <p>Technology is an effective tool for delivery of phonological awareness.</p>	<p>Employs adaptive technology that delivers systematic, explicit and individualized instruction. Automatically adjusts to ensure students are working at the appropriate level.</p>
<p>2 Phonics</p>	<p>Phonics instruction should be systematic and explicit.</p> <p>Manipulatives and music are effective tools for delivery.</p>	<p>Supports a core’s systematic presentation of phonics with explicit instruction using manipulatives and music.</p>
<p>3 Fluency</p>	<p>Students need to develop automaticity with word recognition skills to fluently read.</p> <p>Should be done with explicit sight word building activities, text cues, and opportunities for repeated oral readings.</p>	<p>Includes explicit multisensory activities to build sight word vocabulary.</p> <p>Includes opportunities to multiple readings through lesson activities, Earobics Theaters, Readers Theaters, and multiple media versions of texts.</p>
<p>4 Vocabulary</p>	<p>Language enrichment requires exposure to words in a variety of contexts.</p>	<p>Develops language and vocabulary concepts through context clues, background knowledge, repeated exposure to words in multiple contexts, and oral language experiences.</p>
<p>5 Comprehension</p>	<p>Comprehension is achieved when all of the foundational areas of reading are mastered.</p> <p>Additionally, explicit instruction in comprehension strategies should be delivered through teacher-directed activities.</p>	<p>Includes activities that support the ability to predict, activate background knowledge, retell, identify main idea, draw conclusions and more.</p> <p>Professional development and teacher guides promote an engaging results-driven approach.</p>

FOCUSED ON RESULTS

Earobics is considered one of the most validated and quantifiable reading intervention programs – and in a variety of settings including urban as well as rural districts, at-risk students, students in general and special education, and English language learners. The results speak for themselves.



Earobics is installed in over 8,000 schools across the U.S.

CASE STUDY #1: CALIFORNIA

A group of K-3 students in the L.A. Unified School District, of which over 83% of students are English language learners, were identified with reading difficulties. Thirty-nine students received instruction with Earobics. This group was compared to a control group of K-3 struggling students who used a core reading program alone. Students who used Earobics achieved significantly greater improvements on ORAL-J and TOMAL than students in the control group who received instruction in the core reading program alone.

CASE STUDY #2: TEXAS

In Spring Branch ISD, Earobics was used with 21 at-risk kindergarten students in an overall student population which is 95% socio-economically disadvantaged. Students who received instruction with Earobics made statistically significant gains through the course of the year on Marie Clay's Observation Survey of Early Literacy, used as an assessment tool in the district.

CASE STUDY #3: KENTUCKY

In Jefferson County Public Schools, Ky., students were selected from Reading First schools to determine the impact of Earobics on student reading performance, as measured by DIBELS. Results showed that the percentage of students reaching benchmark in the high-use group increased by 32% from fall to spring.

CASE STUDY #4: VIRGINIA

In Newport News, Va., eight schools participated in a study to assess phonological awareness, based on the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) assessment. Half of the kindergarten classes in each school were randomly assigned to Earobics classes. Scores from Earobics classes were compared to non-Earobics classes in the same eight schools. Of those students who failed to achieve the fall benchmark, a significantly higher percentage of students who used Earobics succeeded in achieving the spring benchmark.

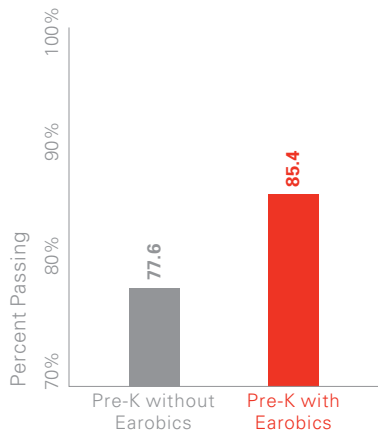
CASE STUDY #5: FLORIDA

In the Polk County School District in Florida, the Stanford Achievement Test Series was used to measure reading comprehension gains for first graders. Earobics, deployed in five of the 41 Title I schools, was found to significantly improve students' reading comprehension, and students scored higher than those students who were in non-Earobics classrooms.

Earobics also received high marks from the Florida Center for Reading Research, one of the most commonly accessed studies for validation on reading intervention.

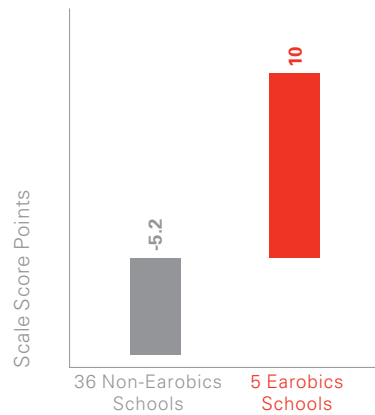
HENRICO COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS, VA

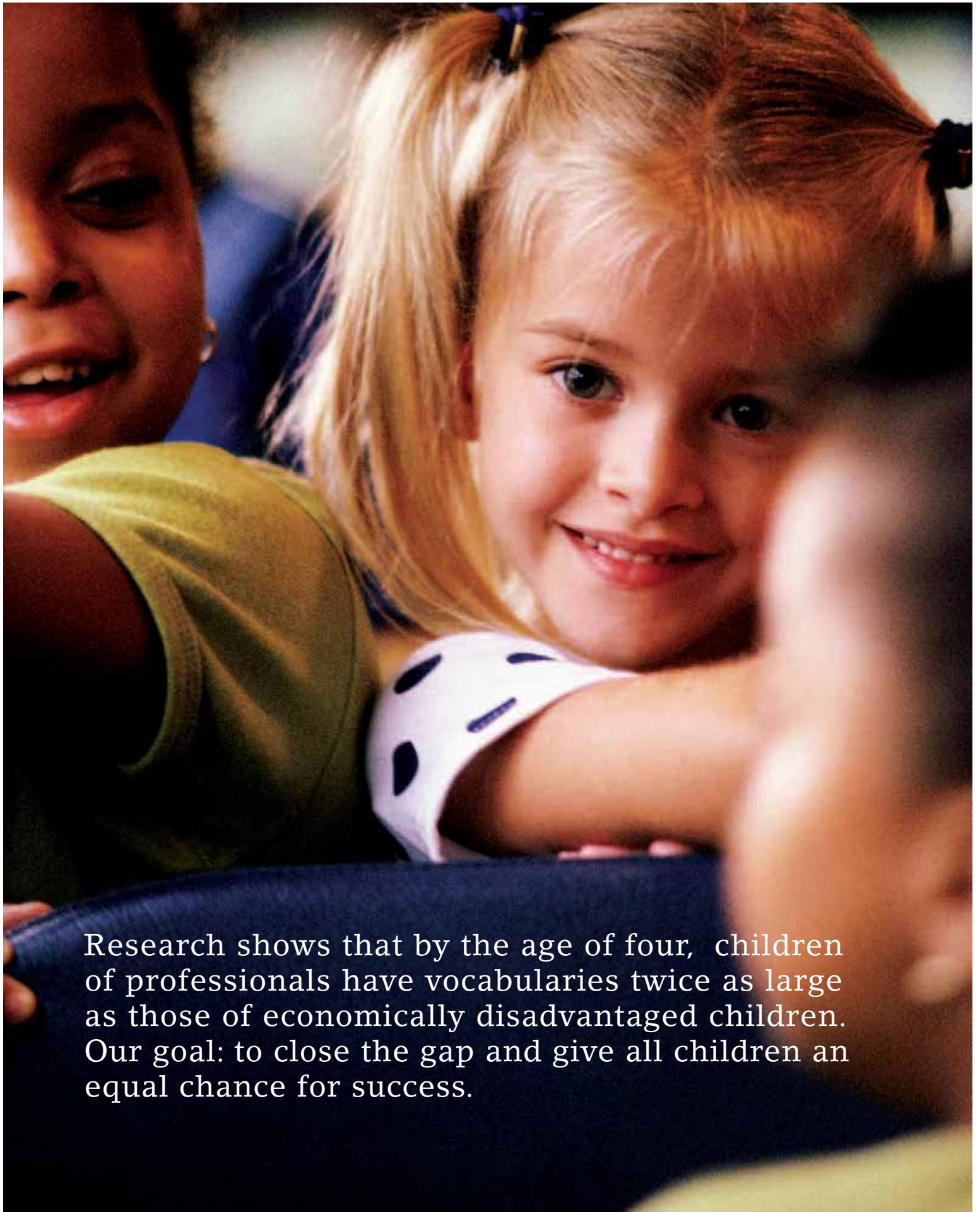
1st Grade Comparison of Program Participants



POLK COUNTY SCHOOLS, FL

Stanford-9 Reading Comprehension Improvements





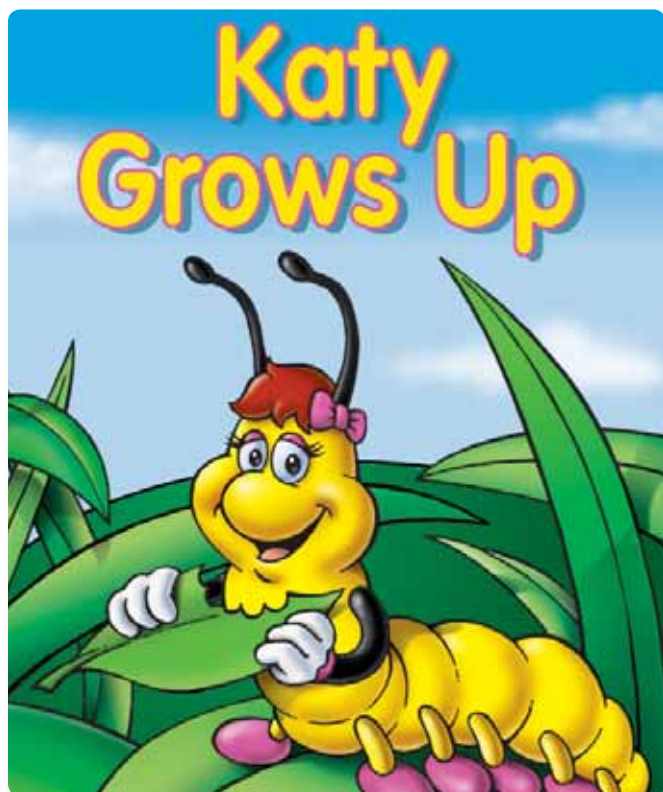
Research shows that by the age of four, children of professionals have vocabularies twice as large as those of economically disadvantaged children. Our goal: to close the gap and give all children an equal chance for success.

A TRUE BLEND OF LEARNING AND LITERACY

Academic success is highly dependent on receiving appropriate instruction. At-risk students who are given not only more but different instruction increase their chances for successful learning. Earobics does not just expose students to the same exercises over and over again. Earobics provides new ways for students to reach success.



Interactive Instruction



Books

INTERACTIVE SOFTWARE

The award-winning Earobics software provides individualized instruction in the full range of phonemic awareness and other literacy skills, and makes learning fun with the popular Katy Caterpillar and Hakeem Hippo, and other characters.

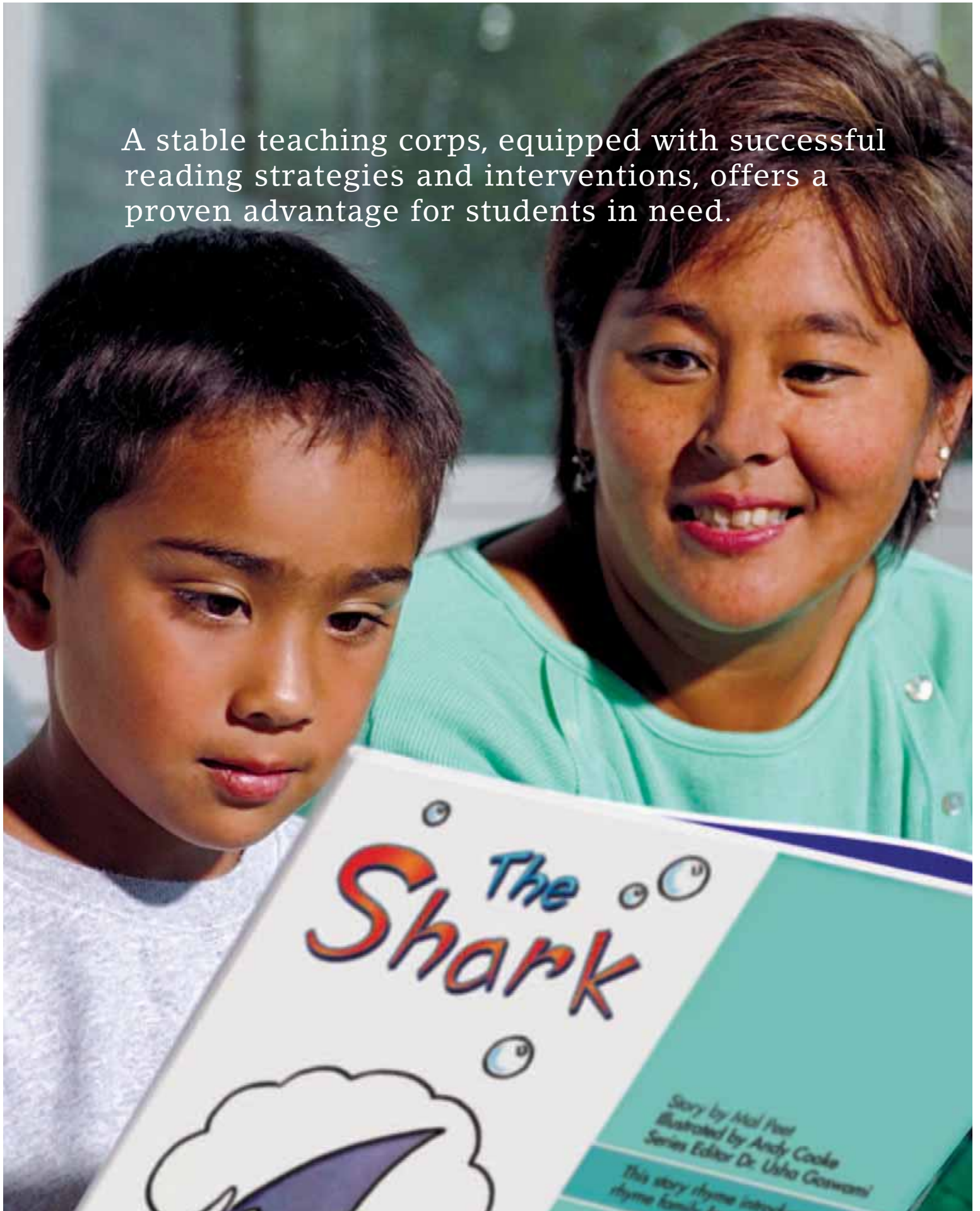
With hundreds of levels of instruction, the software automatically adjusts based on each student's individual strengths and weaknesses. Easy-to-read reports enable teachers to use real-time data to drive instruction.

Through the use of interactive instruction, students develop their skills, engage with lively characters, and advance as they are ready. Software activities are supported by a blend of multimedia materials and lessons that incorporate computer experience into the curriculum.

ROBUST STUDENT RESOURCES

Earobics includes a variety of tools and resources such as big books, little books, and leveled readers to support independent reading, small group, and whole group activities. Music, manipulatives, audiocassettes, videotapes, and talking CDs motivate students on multiple levels and keep them actively engaged.

A stable teaching corps, equipped with successful reading strategies and interventions, offers a proven advantage for students in need.



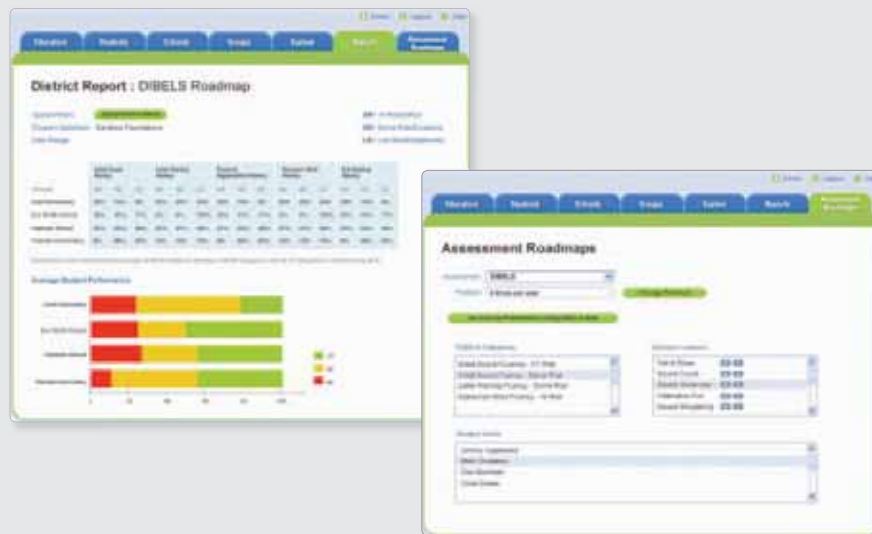


Schools using Earobics have increased their reading scores on DIBELS and other assessments at significantly higher rates than those using other forms of intervention.

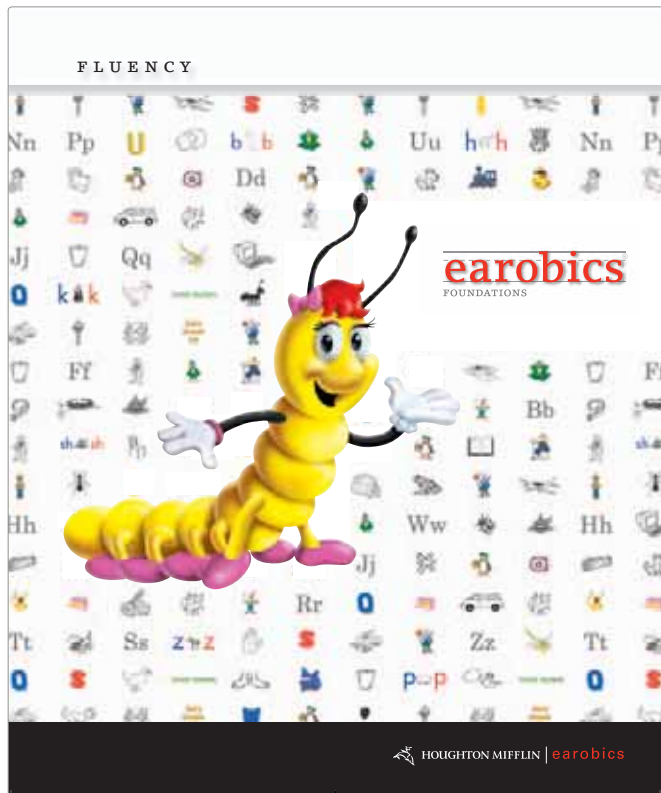
CORRELATIONS & ASSESSMENTS

Each implementation of Earobics is seamlessly integrated into the classroom to provide effective literacy instruction that achieves results. Earobics is correlated to core programs including Harcourt, Open Court, Scott Foresman, Houghton Mifflin, and others.

Tools for assessing student performance and using data to drive instruction are key components of Earobics. The Earobics Reading Assessment Roadmap informs key instruction based on industry-accepted screening and assessment tools such as DIBELS. As a result, teachers have the analytics needed to interpret scores on screenings, and can use that information to individualize instruction, identify the appropriate lessons for intervention, and monitor ongoing progress. Through a seamless interface, teachers are free to focus on precise instruction, and minimize administrative time spent on manual data input.



Your students' DIBELS performance can be monitored by district, school, classroom, or individual student, and aligns to Earobics lessons for targeted instruction.



Teacher Resource Guide

TEACHER RESOURCES

The classroom teacher is vital to the success of a literacy program. Lessons in the Earobics Teacher Guides include explicit instruction and strategies using Earobics materials and resources to enable teachers to provide an effective teaching intervention. Earobics incorporates best teaching practices to differentiate reading intervention. Following a proven “teach, practice, apply” methodology in every lesson, teachers can customize instruction to individual student needs.

SUPPORT FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

The number of English language learners is growing exponentially in our nation’s schools. This rapid increase, and the shortage of teachers, places new challenges on administrators to meet yearly progress standards. Earobics supports the needs of English language learners and is designed to effectively boost scores. Now supporting 10 languages, including Spanish, Vietnamese, Hmong, Cantonese, Korean, Russian, Haitian-Creole, Arabic, Polish, and English, Earobics enables students to hear directions presented in their native language.



Instructional Support In 10 Languages



SPECIAL NEEDS FOCUS

Many children are placed in special education programs to address literacy skills. When used to support students with special needs, Earobics delivers individualized instruction that is needed most – and without the high costs typically applied to special education services. Schools and districts that have implemented Earobics for special education typically accelerate reading achievement, and experience significant cost savings. They also find that their students gain immeasurably from pre-intervention before longer term special education services need to be added.

ALIGNS TO FUNDING & STATE STANDARDS

Earobics is a vital reading intervention program that meets the requirements of many grant and funding sources including Reading First, Title I, and other state-specific literacy grants that support academic and achievement standards. Earobics adheres to all state, district, and school reporting standards mandated by NCLB.

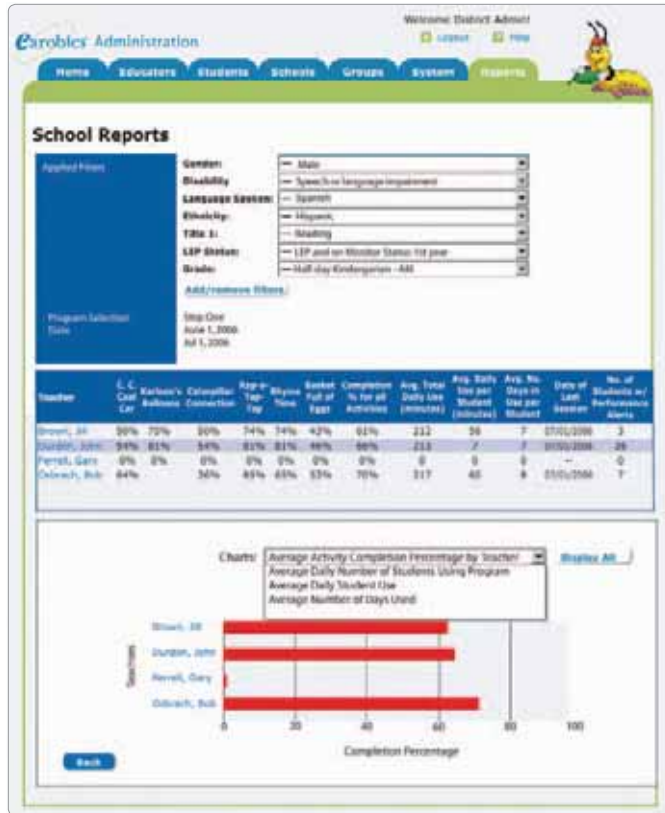
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Each implementation of Earobics includes teacher-centered customized professional development sessions that give educators the skills and strategies they can use immediately to make their students better readers – in school, at home, and in their communities.

Earobics offers a full suite of programs including site reviews which profile levels of instruction, to product training, implementation planning, and family literacy workshops. Earobics empowers teachers, parents, students, and districts with successful strategies and proven approaches.

Our trainers and learning consultants partner with you to promote hands-on interaction, and guide you through an effective reading intervention that can be effectively aligned and correlated with your existing curriculum. The Earobics team has an impressive track record working in the schools as teachers and administrators.

High-quality teachers, supported by ongoing and customized professional development, increase the probability of success. Earobics partners with teachers to go the extra mile.



School Reports

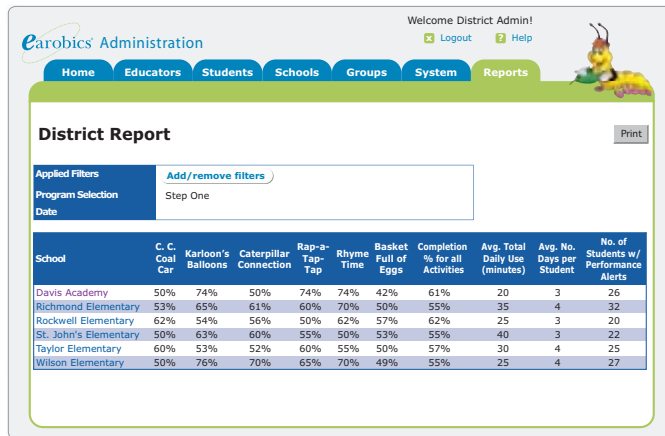
SCHOOL/HOME CONNECTION

In addition to establishing a nurturing school environment for reading, there is as vital a need to have support and reinforcement in the home. Earobics also includes school-to-home literacy connection kits to help parents make use of the strategies at school.

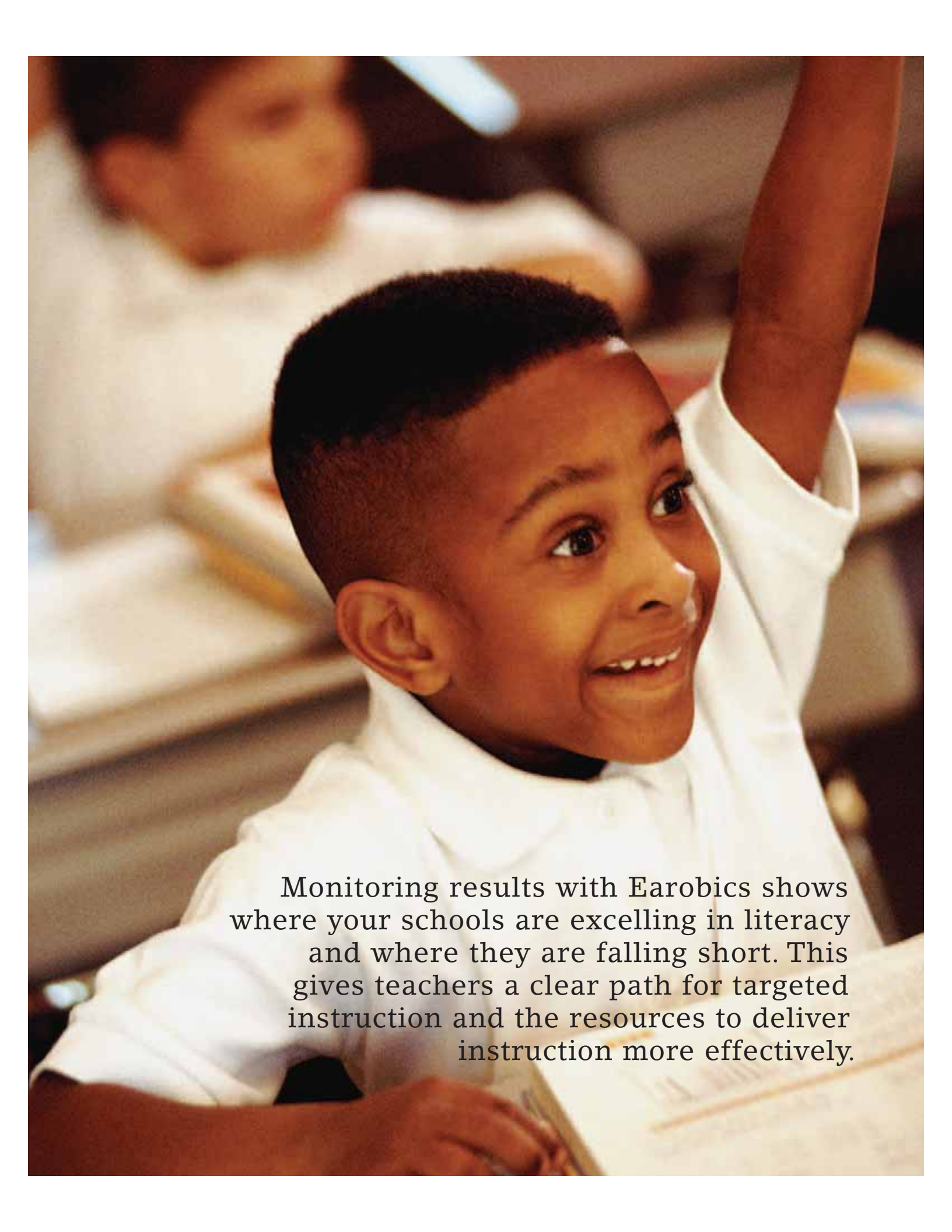
POWERFUL REPORTING & DELIVERY

Earobics includes powerful and customizable software reporting capabilities that allow teachers and districts to view student and group progress, and provide adaptive instruction based on performance. Reports can be viewed by individual, classroom, school, and district level, and in adherence with popular assessments, correlations, and NCLB parameters to monitor yearly progress. Automatic performance alerts and intuitive graphical reporting provide at-a-glance analytics and benchmarks to further guide instruction.

Available in a Web-based version, or via LAN, WAN, or CD-ROM, Earobics gives you the freedom to choose the platform that works best in your school or district, and supports your existing implementations. We also offer flexible migration plans to ease your transition to a new environment. In addition, Earobics supports Macintosh and Windows operating systems.



District Reports

A young boy with short dark hair, wearing a white collared shirt, is smiling and raising his right hand in a classroom. He is looking towards the right side of the frame. In the background, another student is visible, slightly out of focus. The lighting is warm and indoor, typical of a classroom.

Monitoring results with Earobics shows where your schools are excelling in literacy and where they are falling short. This gives teachers a clear path for targeted instruction and the resources to deliver instruction more effectively.

HELP YOUR STUDENTS GET AHEAD

Research shows that children's cognitive abilities are profoundly shaped by the circumstances of their early school years. Earobics has a long-standing track record of success and gives your students and teachers more and different opportunities to overcome learning challenges:

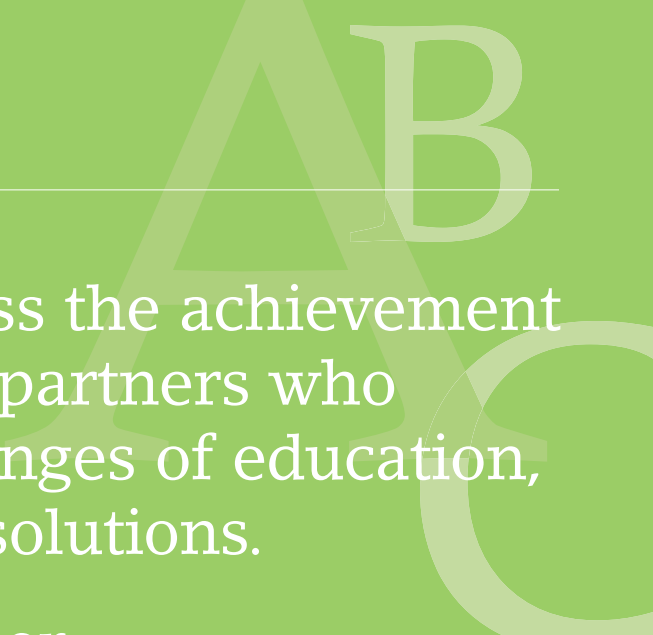
- Rich multisensory literacy instruction, with a "right-tool-for-the-task" approach
- An engaging curriculum with software instruction support available in 10 languages
- Evidence-based instructional practices
- School-to-home connections
- Superior teacher-centric professional development with collaborative and valuable customized lessons

THERE IS REASON TO CELEBRATE.

For over 10 years, Earobics has been in the schools working with hundreds of thousands of children to build fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, phonological awareness, phonics and self esteem in new, innovative, and effective ways.

Helping your students believe
that everything is reachable.





Schools cannot address the achievement gap alone. They need partners who understand the challenges of education, and can provide real solutions.

Earobics is your partner.

We pledge to help you make a difference in the lives of your students.

EAROBICS

Earobics (www.earobics.com) is a transformative multisensory reading intervention solution designed to support at-risk readers and foster a safe and achievement-oriented learning environment. Earobics includes interactive software, individualized instruction, student resources, teacher guides, correlations, customized professional development, and school to home connections. Widely deployed in over 8,000 schools and in use by hundreds of thousands of students worldwide, Earobics is a vital choice for districts and schools that need targeted reading instruction to boost performance and close the gaps.

Please contact the Earobics Sales Desk at:

909 Davis Street
P.O. Box 1363
Evanston, IL 60204-1363

Contact us by phone:

(888) 328-8199

Contact us by fax:

(888) 328-5881

Visit us via the web:

www.earobics.com

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222 Berkeley Street
Boston, MA 02116
617-351-5000
www.hmco.com

