





Earlwood Rockets Boys' Reading!

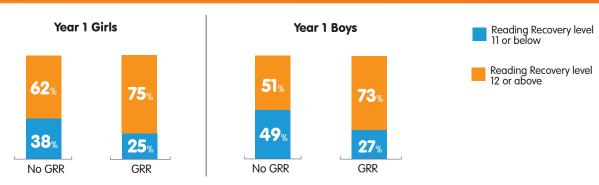
Before the Program

- 90% of the children have a language other than English.
- Used a traditional phonics program that taught 26 letters, and only then taught blending.
- Staff had heard of the value of synthetic phonics and were impressed with the results coming from neighbouring Get Reading Right schools.
- They were particularly concerned with improving the results of their boys, who were lagging behind the girls.

What Changed

- Their kindergarten team visited a school that had already implemented Get Reading Right.
- The school bought the resources needed, the increasingly enthusiastic team "followed the Toolkit carefully".
- After one year it was taken further with the catch up (Power Pack) program being implemented for those that needed it.
- Reading levels were measured after six terms and compared with a group that had not had the benefits of synthetic phonics instruction.

Results: a huge improvement for both sexes but, impressively, the boys' gains were even stronger.



"The school recognised the value of not "picking and mixing" resources and approaches; this coupled with the teacher's explicit, systematic and enthusiastic teaching of the program, meant huge leaps in literacy. This was most evident for the boys, who statistically are more likely to struggle than the girls!"

- Michael Wood, Get Reading Right

"We were especially pleased with the progress made by the boys. We found the games and activities very enjoyable; the manuals are very explicit and easy to follow. Get Reading Right is a very comprehensive program; it has helped our students progress faster in a fun and enjoyable way."

— **Beatriz Marin,** ESL teacher

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