

Bowling Green Primary School

CAROLINE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MILFORD, VIRGINIA

SCHOOL PROFILE

469 STUDENTS, GRADE PRE-K-2
44% Free/Reduced Lunch
51% African-American
46% White
1% Hispanic
1% Asian

STUDENTS USING PLATO ACHIEVE NOW™ HELPED THE SCHOOL MEET ITS IMPROVEMENT GOAL

DURING THE 2002-03 SCHOOL YEAR, BOWLING GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL BY AND LARGE MET ITS IMPROVEMENT GOAL WHICH STATES THAT AT LEAST 70 PERCENT OF THE KINDERGARTEN, FIRST- AND SECOND- GRADE STUDENTS USING PLATO ACHIEVE NOW™ WILL SCORE PROFICIENT OR BETTER ON THE PALS. SPRING SCORES ON THE PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS LITERACY SCREENING (PALS) SHOWED THAT AT THE KINDERGARTEN LEVEL, 92.62% OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS MET OR EXCEEDED THE RHYME BENCHMARK, 91.80% MET OR EXCEEDED THE ABC LOWERCASE BENCHMARK, 96.72% MET OR EXCEEDED THE BEGINNING SOUND BENCHMARK, 88.52% MET OR EXCEEDED THE LETTER SOUND BENCHMARK, 93.44% MET OR EXCEEDED THE SPELLING BENCHMARK, AND 90.98% MET OR EXCEEDED THE ENTRY LEVEL SUMMED SCORE. BY SPRING AT THE FIRST-GRADE LEVEL, 88.50% OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS MET OR EXCEEDED THE WORD LIST BENCHMARK, 66.37% MET OR EXCEEDED THE SPELLING INVENTORY BENCHMARK, AND 92.92% MET OR EXCEEDED THE LETTER SOUNDS BENCHMARK. BY SPRING AT THE SECOND-GRADE LEVEL, 93.68% OF PARTICIPATING STUDENTS MET OR EXCEEDED THE WORD LIST BENCHMARK, 95.79% MET OR EXCEEDED THE SPELLING INVENTORY BENCHMARK, AND 88.42% MET OR EXCEEDED THE LETTER SOUNDS BENCHMARK. FURTHER, WHEN COMPARING FALL AND SPRING SCORES ON THE PALS, THERE IS AN INCREASE IN THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS WHO MET OR EXCEEDED THE BENCHMARK IN ALL TASKS BUT ONE: THE PERCENTAGE OF FIRST-GRADE STUDENTS WHO MET OR EXCEEDED THE SPELLING INVENTORY BENCHMARK DECREASED FROM FALL TO SPRING.

BOWLING GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL PURCHASED PLATO ACHIEVE NOW WITH COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL REFORM GRANT FUNDS IN 1999 TO INCREASE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT IN READING/LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATHEMATICS, AS WELL AS TO INCREASE PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT. SINCE THE GRANT, THE SCHOOL HAS HAD CONTINUED SUPPORT FROM LOCAL FUNDING.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT WAS MEASURED BY THE PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS LITERACY SCREENING (PALS). REPORTED IN THIS STUDY ARE THE RESULTS OF THOSE STUDENTS USING PLATO ACHIEVE NOW WHO TOOK BOTH FALL AND SPRING ADMINISTRATIONS OF THE PALS.

PLATO ACHIEVE NOW™ IMPLEMENTATION

- Classroom/Family Homework Model
- Grades K-2, Began September 1999
- Greater than 50% Home Deployment
- Reading/Language Arts Focus

RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

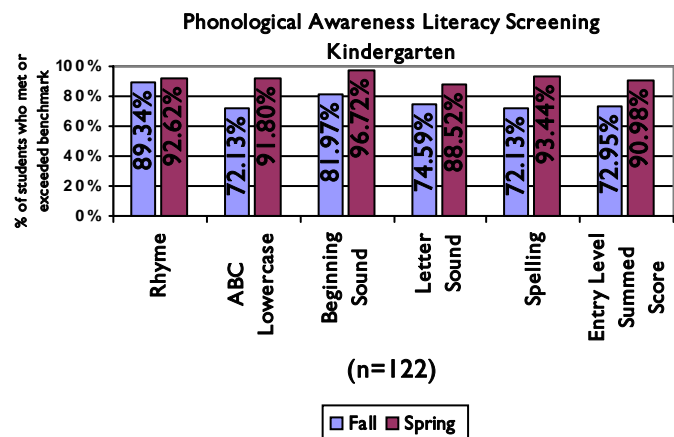
Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS)

RESEARCH TIME FRAME

2002-2003 School Year

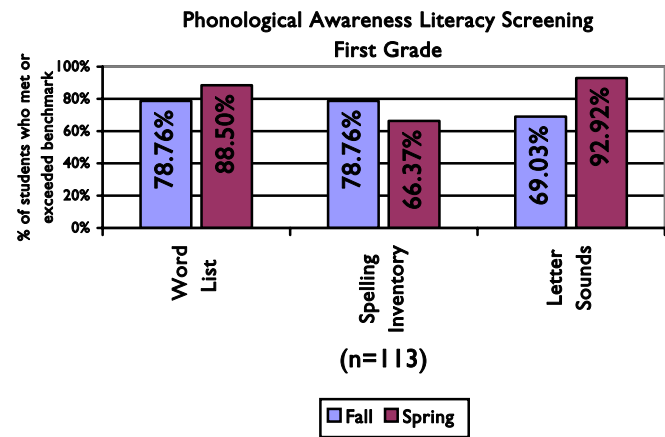
More than 70% of Kindergarten students met the Spring benchmarks

By spring, more than 70% of Kindergarten students using PLATO Achieve Now met or exceeded all PALS benchmarks. The percentage of Kindergarten students who met or exceeded the Spring benchmarks ranged from 88.52% to 96.72%. Further, there is an increase in the percentage of students who met or exceeded the benchmark across all tasks, when Fall and Spring results are compared.



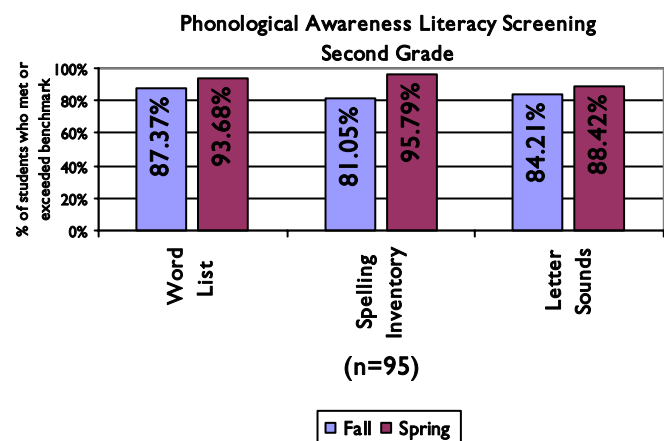
More than 70% of first-grade students met the Word List and Letter Sounds benchmarks by spring

By spring, more than 70% of first-grade students using PLATO Achieve Now met or exceeded the Word List and Letter Sounds benchmarks. However, only 66.37% of first-grade students met or exceeded the Spelling Inventory benchmark. From Fall to Spring, there is an increase in the percentage of students who met the Word List and Letter Sounds benchmarks and a decrease in the percentage of students who met the Spelling Inventory benchmark.



More than 70% of second-grade students met the Spring benchmarks

By spring, more than 70% of second-grade students using PLATO Achieve Now met or exceeded all PALS benchmarks. The percentage of second-grade students who met or exceeded the Spring benchmarks ranged from 88.42% to 95.79%. Further, there is an increase in the percentage of students who met or exceeded the benchmark across all tasks, when Fall and Spring results are compared.



Bowling Green Primary School Background

Bowling Green Primary School is located in Caroline County, Virginia, between Richmond, Virginia and Washington, D.C., along the I-95 corridor. It serves a rural, largely at-risk population of 458 students in grades pre-kindergarten through second grade.

The PLATO Achieve Now™ program at Bowling Green Primary School began in the fall of 1999 as a Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program in the first- and second- grades. The program was supported by the coordination and collaboration of several programs such as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Grant for Professional Development, Title I, Title IV, Goals 2000 Technology and the Technology Literacy Challenge Grant. The school administration and the school board have a firm commitment to improving instruction as evidenced by matching funds in the budget to support and maintain full implementation.

PLATO Achieve Now was used in all pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, first- and second- grade classrooms for instruction. The program was also deployed to the home to enhance the home-school connection and to provide needed practice in mathematics, reading, and language arts. Small group instruction was used to target individual objectives in the classroom. PLATO Achieve Now was aligned to the Virginia Standards of Learning, using baseline assessment data to target achievement objectives. A curriculum plan was developed for the entire school correlating the Achieve Now Program with the Virginia Standards of Learning. The PLATO

consultant provided professional development to teachers with a focus on aligning PLATO Achieve Now to the curriculum. The teachers also participated in professional development sessions on the PLATO Network® with a focus on how to integrate the product into their curriculum. Second-grade teachers also received professional development sessions on PLATO eduTest Assessment™.

In addition to increasing student achievement in the classroom, the school wanted to promote and enhance meaningful family involvement in student learning. Family Involvement Workshops held at the school emphasized the goal of bringing the school, home, and community closer together. Along with these goals, the workshops introduced parents to the variety of resources available on The PLATO Network for helping their children increase academic performance.

Future plans for the PLATO Achieve Now program include providing teacher support in aligning program materials to individual needs, and increasing teacher knowledge of the Achieve Now Adventures. Through PLATO, access to technology has been made available in an equitable manner for students at Bowling Green Primary School. Additionally, the PLATO Achieve Now program involved families in their children's education, linked families to the school, and motivated student learning inside and outside the classroom.



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