

OUTCOMES FROM USING FAST FORWARD

After completing the Fast ForWord language programs, most students will experience improved cognitive, language and literacy skills. Some changes you may expect to see in students might include:

Cognitive skills

- *Stronger Memory* - Including better retention and recall of information, event sequences, and details.
- Better *attention* and greater ability to *focus* on their work for longer periods of time - in class and homework
- Following instructions better
- *Sequencing* events in an organized and complete manner

Language and literacy skills

- Improved receptive and/or expressive language skills
- Greater ability to sound out new words
- Improved spelling
- Gains in ability to construct written composition
- Enhanced Reading Skills - including recollection of details, the ability to understand complex sentences, and confidence when reading aloud.

Other benefits can include:

- **Academic Achievement** -- including better grades, and the literacy component of maths.
- **Better Listening and Understanding** -- Including response time to questions, ability to follow the flow of conversation easier, and humour comprehension.
- **Improved Self-esteem** -- Including participation in classroom and group activities as well as enthusiasm about school.
- **Greater sociability**
- **Clearer Communication** -- Including pronunciation, participation in conversation, vocabulary, spontaneity, and ability to stay on topic.
- Improved study skills and habits
- **Improved maths** (due to improved language skills not computation skills).

Why are these changes created by use of Fast ForWord?

Fast ForWord works on any underlying phonological deficits, specific language deficits (such as auditory discrimination, language processing, sound-letter association) and strengthens the cognitive skills (memory, attention, processing speed and sequencing) which are essential to effective reading and learning. More importantly, Fast ForWord develops the integration of all these areas so processing networks work better.

Fast ForWord is a progressive program and as the neuronal pathways are built, the brain uses these to make language processing more efficient and easier for the student to learn.

Do all students benefit equally?

Each student experiences different benefits. Each of our brains is different; thereby each student will experience different benefits from using Fast ForWord. The outcomes for some students may display anecdotal changes before there is transference in academic gains whereas other students will show academic gains in the classroom more quickly.

When can I expect to see improvements?

In some students, changes can be seen as early as 4 or 5 weeks into the first Fast ForWord program. For others, improvements may be evident immediately after the student has finished both language programs. In other cases, changes (especially academic results) can take longer to emerge. Some students require reading instructions to help 'fill in' instructions and learning they may have missed.

What is Next?

Once the language programs are completed, some students benefit greatly from reading instructions to help 'fill in' instructions and learning they may have missed.

The Fast ForWord Reading programs (levels 1 -5) can also help students to 'catch up'.

