



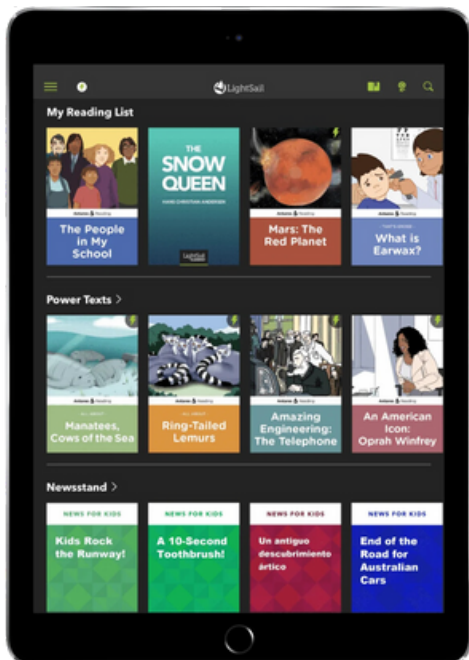
LIGHTSAIL ESSA EVIDENCE PACKET

LXD RESEARCH
MINDPLAY

The most
adaptive reading
experience ever!



LightSail provides students with access to:



Expansive Library

10,000 high-interest whole books and texts.



Shorter Texts and Whole Books

Help to build reading stamina for true post-secondary readiness.



Personalized Reading Modules

Open doors to reading for students with dyslexia, ADHD, visual impairments, and autism.



Fluency Builder

Simplifies oral reading fluency development with Running Records and Read-Aloud Assignments.

SUPPORT GROWING READERS



IMMEDIATELY ENGAGE STUDENTS

Simple intuitive design has classrooms reading within minutes.



EXPONENTIALLY GROW READING TIME

Students love the LightSail experience and naturally spend more time reading.



ACCELERATE LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

Students reading 25 minutes a day on LightSail are seeing 2+ years of Lexile growth in a single year.

LightSail Foundational Research Summary

The thesis behind the LightSail product is distilled from years of evidence-based practice and research into education, psychology and neuroscience. It expresses a theory of action that underlies how students read and learn. LightSail has reduced the years of research and teaching success into a potent formula, which guides the product's focus.

Access + Engagement + Motivation = Mastery

LightSail builds the rigor and transparency of the **Lexile Framework** directly into each reading experience. Districts who adopt the LightSail application for student reading time **gain visibility into each reader's developing reading ability**, helping to measure (and project) progress - all **without the disruption and pressure** of high-stakes tests.

ACCESS

LightSail is designed to empower students by providing a broad choice of reading materials in real-time and within a student's zone of proximal development.

Benefits:

- Greater Choice
- Improved Comprehension
- Increased Reading Stamina

ENGAGEMENT

When using LightSail, student engagement is fostered through three strategies: personalization, ongoing embedded assessments throughout each text, and student activities mapped to proficiency-based standards.

Benefits:

- Optimal Reading Comprehension for Learning
- Self-Directed Reading
- Faster Growth in Reading Achievement

MOTIVATION

In LightSail, motivation is stimulated through providing real-time data (feedback) and a focus on individual growth.

Benefits:

- Better Comprehension
- Stronger Reading Outcomes
- Increased Reading Time

Review the full paper online: [The Science Behind LightSail](#)

Logic Model for MindPlay LightSail

PROBLEM STATEMENT

When learning to read, students need access to texts that interest them and is at Lexile score is within each student's zone of proximal development. In addition, their teachers must have the time and tools to document each students' progress after every reading period in order to effectively and efficiently generate their Lexile score and initiate the use of the multitude of evidence and research-based instructional strategies to meet the needs of each student.

RESOURCES

What resources are or could be available?

- Dedicated time for teacher and student training on using LightSail's reading platform
- Web-based help desk and teacher learning community
- Fun and meaningful reading materials across a wide variety of Lexile levels
- Access to MetaMetric's data processing
- Evidence and research-based content from experts in the field
- Comprehension questions that are standards-aligned and can also be aligned to more specific state-wide curriculum (ex. Texas has the TEKS)
- Books contain read aloud capabilities, visual and vocabulary supports, and contextual video clips for multi-modal learning

STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES

What will the activities, events, and such be?

- Students choose texts from their own Lexile score range
- Students complete embedded "cloze" activities to check for comprehension
- After completing an assigned book, students get to choose their next book
- Students choose their book difficulty
- Student assessment data is reviewed every two weeks yielding an updated Lexile score
- Teachers and students view dashboards with performance data
- Teachers can look at students' performance on specific standards and concepts to choose or create review questions that target individual learning gaps
- Reading settings are adjusted for individualized screen supports
- Teachers assess students' oral reading skills and provide feedback via chat
- Educators can import and curate content in any language from websites, Google Docs, PDFs, and ePubs
- Educators can customize imported text by adding standards-aligned questions and annotations, and even removing unwanted ads and content from websites

OUTPUTS

What are the initial products of these activities?

- Students independently seek out new reading material more frequently
- Students receive instant, actionable feedback from the LightSail Reading program
- Students choose books to read at or above their Lexile level
- Students can experience and practice peer-collaboration by writing their own books.
- Students have lots of opportunities to practice their reading skills
- Teachers can quickly locate and assign highly-motivating books for each student
- Teachers can quickly assess students' comprehension for every book
- Teachers can create their own customized reading material to engage their students
- Teachers have agency to share their custom-created content with others outside of their class if they choose

SHORT-TERM AND INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

- Students transfer new knowledge and skills to offline reading experiences
- Students deepen their understanding of various elements of reading such as comprehension, fluency and vocabulary
- Students improve their reading stamina
- Students improve their resiliency at overcoming reading challenges
- Students are more likely to seek out reading for enjoyment
- Teachers more successfully differentiate instruction for all learners
- Teachers become more aware of the many ways reading can be supported
- Teachers gain confidence in the power of assessments and their ability to support lasting, positive change in their student readers

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS

- Students increase their confidence as readers
- All students become literate, building foundational skills that help them pursue vocations of interest
- Educators feel more encouraged and fulfilled by helping all their students become literate
- Economic and social benefits of having strong reading skills, such as reducing drop-out rate and increased employment opportunities appear

ASSUMPTIONS

- The school district uses Lexile levels to assess student reading
- There is enough scheduled time on the computer to use an online reading program, as well as the internet connection
- Administrators support the implementation of LightSail Reading as well as frequent training and development

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CASE STUDY

SummerSail Summer Reading Program in urban school district

KEY OUTCOME

Significant student Lexile gains, reversing “summer slide”

STUDY PROFILE

Schools:

Seven middle schools in a large urban school district

Students:

Grades 6-8
Reading level: 4th grade or below
87% African American or Hispanic
85% Eligible for free/reduced lunch

Implementation:

122 Students
At-home independent reading during summer break

OVERVIEW

The greatest hurdle to summer reading is providing students with books they can and want to read. At LightSail, we were eager to test a digital version of the “bookmobile” described by Richard Allington in *Summer Reading: Closing the Rich/Poor Reading Achievement Gap* – a school bus laden with crates of books that drives to impoverished neighborhoods so that children have access to reading material.

We delivered our library of engaging books virtually to 122 at-risk students at seven middle schools. The LightSail summer reading program – dubbed SummerSail – equipped each student with an iPad® tablet with LightSail literacy software and a Wi-Fi hotspot. The LightSail app gave students access to a library with hundreds of digital books across a variety of topics, genres, and levels.

LightSail’s software measured reading behavior, and in-text assessments in each book tracked student growth.

OUTCOMES

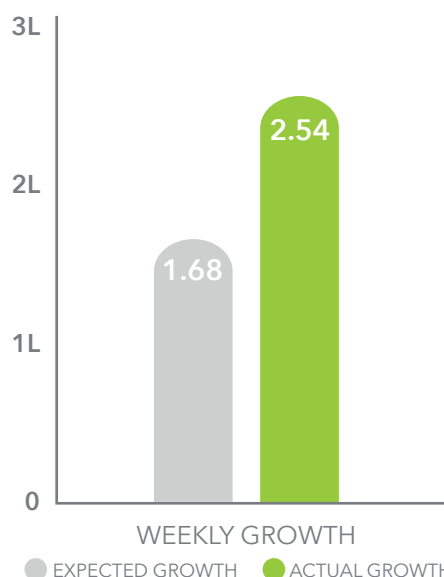
In six weeks, students grew 2.54L per week versus expected growth of 1.68L. Students read for an average of 24.7 minutes per day and finished 6.1 books – mostly independently, without prompting by an educator.

Students saw meaningful gains in Lexile measure, reversing the unfortunate “summer slide” skill loss that plagues low-income students.



Source of expected Lexile growth benchmarks: MetaMetrics, creator of the Lexile framework.

SUMMERSAIL OUTCOMES



DAILY READING TIME:

24.7 minutes



BOOKS COMPLETED:

6.1

LXD Research is an independent research firm that specializes in evaluating educational programs to support accelerated learning.

Learn more at
www.lxdresearch.com

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