

The Superkids Reading Program

An Evidence-Based Program As defined by The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), passed in December 2015 replacing the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, includes criteria for which programs can be called “evidence-based.”

The Every Student Succeeds Act’s definition of evidence-based programs is meant to help states and districts make informed decisions about which programs to adopt. According to ESSA, an evidence-based program “demonstrates a statistically significant effect on improving student outcomes” and is based on research and ongoing efforts to examine its effects.

The Superkids Reading Program is included as a **qualifying program that meets the required federal definition of evidence-based** on the “Evidence for ESSA” website, developed by the Center for Research and Reform in Education at Johns Hopkins University and which provides up-to-date and reliable information on programs that meet ESSA evidence standards.

The Superkids Reading Program features two qualifying evaluations that “found significant positive outcomes on measures of sound and word reading,” and therefore reaches the second of three levels of evidence, “Moderate,” that are required for funding by The Every Student Succeeds Act:

<https://www.evidenceforessa.org/programs/reading/superkids-reading-program>

In addition, *The Superkids Reading Program* has been subjected to evidence-based research that meets other levels of the federal requirements and other evidence-based requirements. To date, research on *Superkids* has been conducted in schools in nearly every region of the United States and with every major student group since the program’s inception in 2003. The research studies were conducted by independent evaluators and by the program’s founders. In these studies, *Superkids* shows statistically significant effects on reading achievement. Below is a list of the studies.

Independent Studies

- Three-Year Longitudinal Study Shows Impressive Gains for 1,800 Superkids Students
- Study by Ohio State University Professor Shows Strong Effects for Superkids
- Peer-Reviewed Scientific Study Confirms Superkids Superior Results
- Superkids Students Dramatically Outperform Control Group
- Independent Researchers Discover Rapid Student Progress with Superkids

Rowland Reading Foundation Research

- Third-Grade Scores Improve Dramatically for Students Taught with Superkids in K–2
- Catholic Students Achieve Superior Results in National Study of the Superkids
- Lutheran Schools in Nationwide Trial of the Superkids Achieve Extraordinary Results
- Study Shows Superkids Program Is Highly Effective with Beginning Readers

For more information about these studies and the evidence for *Superkids*, go to <https://www.zaner-bloser.com/reading/superkids-reading-program/index.php>