

Imagine Español Students in Grades K–1 Significantly Increase Their Spanish Literacy Skills on the IDEL Assessment During the 2018–2019 School Year

OVERVIEW

During the 2018–2019 school year, a public school district in the Southwest piloted Imagine Español with 121 students in Grades K–1. Imagine Español activities are classified into five strands: print concepts, syllable decoding, word recognition, vocabulary, and listening/reading comprehension. On average, students used the program for 11.2 hours. Imagine Learning analyzed student performance on two subtests of the Indicadores Dinámicos del Exito en la Lectura (IDEL) assessment, *Fluidez en Nombrar Letras* and *Fluidez en la Segmentación de Fonemas*, in Fall 2018 and Spring 2019.

RESULTS

For **kindergarteners**, the number of activities completed in syllable decoding, vocabulary, and listening/reading comprehension significantly predicted growth on the *Fluidez en Nombrar Letras* and *Fluidez en la Segmentación de Fonemas* subtests. Specifically, for each activity worked, students were likely to improve by 0.12–0.22 points on the subtests (Table 1). For first graders, the number of activities completed in syllable decoding, word recognition, vocabulary, listening, and reading comprehension significantly predicted growth on the *Fluidez en la Segmentación de Fonemas* subtest. Students were likely to improve by 0.04–0.08 points on FSF for each activity in any of the four strands. These results support the role of Imagine Español as a supplementary tool for the development of Spanish literacy skills.

Demographics

Hispanic	77.7%
Black	8.3%
White	10.7%
Asian	1.7%
English Language Learners	13.2%
Female	52.9%

Table 1. Number of Points Kindergarten Students Improved for Each Additional Activity Completed in Imagine Español, 2018–2019

Imagine Español Students, Kindergarten

Kindergarten

IE Activities/IDEL Subtest	FNL	FSF
Print Concepts	0.07	0.08
Syllable Decoding	0.19**	0.16*
Word Recognition	2.2	2.7
Vocabulary	0.12*	0.12*
Listening/Reading Comprehension	0.22**	0.18

Note: * $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$

Table 2. Number of Points First-Grade Students Improved for Each Additional Activity Completed in Imagine Español, 2018–2019

Imagine Español Students, First Grade

First Grade

IE Activities/IDEL Subtest	FSF
Print Concepts	0.04
Syllable Decoding	0.04*
Word Recognition	0.08*
Vocabulary	0.05**
Listening/Reading Comprehension	0.07**

Note: * $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$