



United Way
of Santa Barbara County

Kinder Booster 2008 Summary Report

Kinder Booster is a program designed for children entering kindergarten who require extra instruction to help reinforce good classroom and social interaction skills, language development, and provide comfort in the formal school setting. These children come from low-income families that are 90% Latino with limited-English speaking or monolingual Spanish-speaking abilities.

For 2008 Kinder Booster provided 19 sessions of extra instruction and socialization time for 28 new kindergarteners at Franklin and Harding Elementary schools with the goal of benefiting each student in specific skills areas. The teachers identified these students during the first week of school as struggling to adapt to kindergarten relative to the other children. In the school district, Kindergarten ends at 11:30 a.m. for the first five weeks of school as teachers assess students and meet with parents. The Kinder Enrichment program provided 2 extra hours of Kindergarten activities daily for 4 weeks to boost children's skills and adjustment to the classroom setting.

The program's teachers set up daily learning activities based on suggestions by the referring kindergarten teacher to enhance each child's skills and ability to meet regular school day learning expectations. Each day ended with a story reading session. Each child received 4 bi-lingual storybooks and a variety of home play learning kits, each with a letter to parents about the materials, with suggestions on home activities that boost children's skills. Parents were encouraged to read to their children every day and ask them about their classroom activities. Another benefit of the program was that the children in these classes had the opportunity to adjust a full day kindergarten schedule as part of a smaller group and at a more relaxed pace to accommodate their needs.

Summary of results:

	<i>Not Yet</i>	<i>Emerging</i>	<i>Almost Mastered</i>	<i>Fully Mastered</i>
Social-Emotional				
Pre Test	7.14%	43.75%	41.07%	7.14%
Post Test	0.89%	12.50%	54.46%	32.14%
Approach to Learning				
Pre Test	4.76%	44.05%	51.19%	0.00%
Post Test	0.00%	5.95%	65.48%	28.57%
Language Skills				
Pre Test	4.76%	53.57%	41.67%	0.00%
Post Test	1.19%	13.10%	70.24%	15.48%
Motor Skills				
Pre Test	1.79%	30.36%	66.07%	3.57%
Post Test	0.00%	0.00%	55.36%	44.64%