



10 February 2007

Dear Creator of an Intervention Program,

Thank you very much for allowing us to use your program in the Literacy Pathway Reading Trial. This letter is being sent to the creators of the three intervention programs used in the trial. We wish to notify you that the intervention component of the trial has now been completed. The children in the trial are yet to undertake the 6 month follow-up assessments post intervention. As per usual scientific practice, the results of the trial will not be able to be released to interested individuals, but formally evaluated and presented in a complete, peer-reviewed scientific report.

Overall, all programs were user friendly and the children mostly enjoyed their sessions. Where parents and children were committed and involved, they were able to understand the elements of the program and use it readily at home. Although each program had different elements, from our Project Officer view point, they all showed signs of being helpful for children with reading difficulties. Each program offers different approaches to assisting children who struggle to read at their appropriate level. The degree, to which each program was helpful, at this stage, is unknown and should be evident when the results have been evaluated and analyzed.

From a teaching perspective, children who have low literacy skills unfortunately can suffer across the board with their education. Those children who are not given specialised, individualised and intensive support are likely to suffer from low self esteem, behavioral problems and further frustrations from lack of academic success. It is vital that schools put in place support systems to help these children and their parents. It is hoped that the Literacy Pathways study will provide evidence to enhance ways of assisting children with reading difficulties. In particular, we hope to assist the reading recovery field to move further towards tailored interventions that particularly fit a child's specific type of reading problems. In doing so it may also help inform and educate teachers as to new approaches that could be used in the classroom to improve educational outcomes for children below literacy benchmarks.

Thank you for your ongoing work in this important area.

Best regards,

Jill Burrill and Nadia Ollington,
Literacy Pathways Project Officers- Intervention
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