

I Houghton Mifflin Harcourt's *Mathletics* Excels in Afterschool Research Study

BOSTON — June 18, 2008 — A recent study by the Department of Education's (DOE) Institute of Education Services found a positive and statistically significant difference in student achievement between students who used Houghton Mifflin Harcourt's *Mathletics*, an intensive afterschool intervention program for grades 1–5, and those in regular afterschool activities.

The study examined whether interventions of structured approaches to academic instruction in afterschool programs produced better academic outcomes than regular afterschool services.

In the first year of the study, *Mathletics* was implemented in 25 afterschool centers with the following findings:

- Students received an average of 179 minutes of math instruction per week.
- Students using *Mathletics* received 30 percent more hours of math instruction over the school year, compared with students in the regular afterschool program group.
- Students in the *Mathletics* group attended the afterschool program more than students in the regular program group on days when *Mathletics* was used.
- Students using *Mathletics* saw positive and statistically significant impacts on math SAT 10 test scores.

Before the program began, the average total test score among the *Mathletics* program group was 569.3 scaled score points. In the absence of the *Mathletics* intervention, this group of students would have improved their average score over the school year by 33.0 points, to 602.3 scaled score points. With the intervention, the *Mathletics* program group was able to increase its average test score over the school year by 35.8 points, to 605.1 scaled score points. This 8.5 percent difference in growth represents a significant difference for the students participating in the *Mathletics* program.

To access the full DOE report, visit <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/pubs/20084021.asp>.

About *Mathletics*

Mathletics, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, is a new math model for afterschool programs built around five mathematical themes or strands: numbers and operations, measurement, geometry, algebra and functions, and data analysis and probability. Daily 45-minute periods are constructed to mirror a gym exercise session, with a short group activity (the warm-up), followed by 30 minutes of focused skill-building (the workout), and a final small-group activity to complete the session (the cool-down). Students progress through material at their own rate, with pretests at the beginning of each topic to guide lesson planning and posttests to assess mastery or the need for supplemental instruction. The model also includes games to build math fluency; hands-on activities; projects; and computer activities for guided instruction, practice or enrichment.

About Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Boston-based Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company is a global education company with approximately \$2.5 billion in revenue. The Company publishes a

comprehensive set of best-in-class pre-K–12 educational solutions, ranging from research-based textbook programs to instructional technology to standards-based assessments for students and educators. The Company also publishes an extensive line of reference works and award-winning literature for adults and young readers. With origins dating back to 1832, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt combines its tradition of excellence with a commitment to innovation. To learn more about Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, visit www.hmhpublish.com.

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