

BES Adult Literacy Project

Nationally Validated

Functionally literate adults (reading below 4.0 reading level)



Intensive community-based adult literacy program:

- *Oral and written activities enhance a problem-solving approach to literacy.*

Results



- *Based on results of longitudinal and cross-sectional studies, participants' reading skills greatly improved to a statistically significant degree as measured by the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE).*
- *Students continued to make statistically significant reading gains during their second cycle of instruction.*
- *BES works equally well for men & women and adults of different racial/ethnic backgrounds & socio-economic levels.*

The Program

As a means of improving reading skills, the BES Adult Literacy Project's instructional methods combine a problem-solving approach with a linguistic analysis of words, sounds, and sentences and a highly structured sequence of oral and written skills.

Intensive instruction is provided over a 20-week cycle. All instruction is classroom-based and occurs within community centers and churches.

Professional Development

Twelve hours of intensive staff/teacher training are required by a BES teacher/trainer. Ten to 12 hours of periodic visits are necessary to monitor trainees' development, model teaching methods, and answer questions on implementation.

BES staff are available to conduct workshops and awareness presentations at the project site or elsewhere. Potential adopters are welcome to visit the project by appointment. The BES curriculum is packaged for dissemination and is used during training and implementation.

Costs & Funding Options

Costs for the program are approximately \$183 per student per year initially but are reduced to \$110 per student in subsequent years. For adopters who already employ paraprofessional staff, the costs could be as low as \$20 per student. Project staff are available to provide ongoing support and technical assistance. Awareness materials are available at no cost.

Learning Standards

English Language Arts: 1) read, write, listen, and speak for information and understanding.

Contact

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