

ENGAGE 360° SUMMER PROGRAM



CASE STUDY - SANTA ANA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Educational Services provided the WRiTE BRAiN curriculum to all K-8 students during the Engage 360° summer program, 2016. WRiTE BRAiN enabled students to write their own stories, publish copies, and build a personal library of self-authored books. All Engage 360° summer staff attended professional development facilitated by WRiTE BRAiN, to ensure the curriculum was delivered with fidelity and quality.

Initially, students collaborated in groups to write a co-authored book, and then each student wrote independently. The primary students (K-1) co-authored a class book. Every student who participated received a high-quality, professionally printed and bound copy of their self- or co-authored book. WRiTE BRAiN produced and captured the SAUSD student experience with a professional video -- <https://vimeo.com/179823490>

Santa Ana Unified School District Summer Program / WRiTE BRAiN Assessment

The rubrics were designed as assessment tools to apply if pre- and post- measurement of students' creative writing skills and vocabulary development are a desired focus. It is important to note that, the WRiTE BRAiN philosophy is that data gathered with the purpose of assessing student outcomes, and academic growth, has relevance for those skills with which there are applicable metrics. A student's ability to process their own feelings and to empathize with the feelings and experiences of others, are vital life skills not measurable by rubrics or test scores. While valuable, especially when used as supplemental to more robust literacy-based assessment tools, the rubrics are specific to this children's book authoring program and address the areas outlined.

Educators and parents are familiar with the vicious cycle of "Summer Slide." Learning Loss has been researched and documented for 100+ years, yet lower income youth are still losing more than two months in reading achievement, and face slimmer chances of completing high school and college, when they are not offered enriching summer learning experiences. SAUSD Educational Services developed a rubric for Engage 360° staff to conduct both a pre- and post-assessment of students writing during implementation of the WRiTE BRAiN BOOKS program over summer. The staff was not formerly trained by Educational Services to apply the rubrics, but had access to "how to" videos on how to interpret the rubric and score student writing with a 1 to 4 assessment tool, with 4 surpassing grade level expectations.

Administrative Staff reported that the level of student engagement and attendance for summer programming was at its the highest during the WRiTE BRAiN implementation.

After collecting and analyzing the assessment scores, the following results were reported*:

Of the **2,561 students**, who had both a pre- and post-assessment score:

- 96% experienced **NO LEARNING LOSS**
- 45% experienced a **LEARNING GAIN**

Of the **1,145 students** who experienced a learning gain: (rubric is 1 to 4 measurement)

- 78% increased by 1 level
- 20% increased by 2 levels
- 2% increased by 3 levels

