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Academic Success Center of Kentucky Newsletter

Building Better Minds

May 2012

The Vision Grows Academic Scores Increase Research Study Begins



Carol and Kyle Brown, founders of the Academic Success Center of Kentucky

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord...plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

Adequate words have escaped us this past month as we have seen God go before us and open doors that we never imagined. These were not our plans but His.

"Academic Scores Increase"

Rose's Gains Continued and Generalized

We are continually asked if the brain training our students do will transfer to academics and if their cognitive skills will continue to progress. The answer is YES! As you may recall from the March newsletter, I worked with Rose during her resource time for 9 weeks between the Fall and Winter MAP test and then 3 additional weeks through mid January. I intentionally did NOT work with her during the Spring to see if her gains would hold. As you can see they continued to increase, the pathways have connected! This was far beyond what I had expected.

	Fall	Winter	Spring	
Gains				
Reading	161	181	189	+28
Math	171	182	207	+36
Language	158	175	181	+23
Science				
Concepts	161	185		
Science	168	184		

Rose's cognitive scores also

When we started the learning center, we prayed that God would bring us the students and families who would benefit and that He would give us wisdom beyond ourselves. We stand amazed and humbled. Our vision was limited to students with "typical" learning struggles of dyslexia, processing disorders, ADD, memory, comprehension....

Right now, we have students from 5-80 years of age. There are students from 8 surrounding counties who attend K-12 private, public, homeschooled, college and graduate schools. There are also professionals and senior adults who are training their working memory.

There are students with no diagnosis, to students with dyslexia, processing delays, developmental delays, Aspergers, Down Syndrome, and sensory disorders.

As one professional who is a student with us this summer has said, "Everyone can benefit from these brain trainingexercises."

<u>Visit our website!</u> <u>www.academicsuccesscenterky.com</u> We are excited to announce the addition of Erin Kilby to our staff and 4 summer interns. increased in the areas of processing and working memory. The training transferred or generalized to all areas.

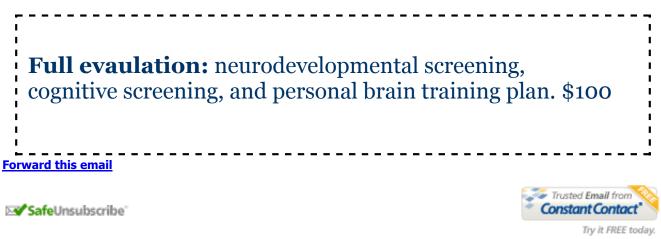
"Research Study Begins"

Can we duplicate the gains Rose achieved with other students with Down Syndrome? That is a question that myself and others have asked. On April 27, I had the privilege of meeting with Dr. Carolyn Mervis who is a leading authority and researcher with Down Syndrome at the University of Louisville's Department of Psychology and Brain Science. After hearing Rose's story and reviewing our program, she asked if they could do a research project with us. After picking me up off the floor, I said yes.

She inform me that this type of cognitive program has never been done with students with Down Syndrome in a research study. If we can see the gains transfer to other students academic and cognitive skills as with Rose, this will give hope to many families. This is an exciting opportunity to be a part of this ground breaking research for these amazing students.

As many of you know, the program was not initially designed for this group in "my" mind. But as you can see, it was in "God's" mind. What a blessing to be a part of this project and more importantly in the lives of many wonderful students and families.

Please contact us if you know of someone who may be interested in participating or if you would like to contribute to the project. All gifts are tax deductible. A \$5000 grant was received for the Down Syndrome Research Project from the River Foundation Giving Council. "We believe the data showing educational advancement can possibly reverse the trend of this being the population that is most often aborted during pregnancy."



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