



UNT - Center
for Parent
Education



Texas HIPPY 2006-2007 Evaluation Report

HIPPY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) is an international home-based literacy program with a 20-year record in the state of Texas. The 2006-2007 impact study encompassed parent involvement and the child's readiness for Kindergarten.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

Did parents engage in home-literacy activities with their preschool children?

Was there an increase in parental involvement in the education of preschool children?

Do HIPPY children enter Kindergarten "ready to learn"?

PURPOSE

The purpose of this research brief is to provide evidence that HIPPY was a positive influence in preschool children's readiness for Kindergarten and their parents' involvement in school and the community.

The 2006-2007 study compared involvement of parents of HIPPY kindergarten children and their parents at the beginning and end of their first year in the HIPPY Program. The study also surveyed the Kindergarten teachers of HIPPY children to determine the effects of the HIPPY program on school readiness.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT INTERVIEW 2006-2007

Method

In the Fall of 2006, HIPPY Home Visitors administered the Parent Involvement Interview (2-pages, 14 items) to first-year HIPPY parents prior to week 2 of the 30 weeks of HIPPY instruction. The same assessment was administered again at the completion of the school year. The Parent Involvement Interview divides questions into four sections: a) in-home literacy, b) parent's interactions with school staff, and c) parent's school involvement. 776 HIPPY first-year parents participated in the pretest. Of those, 474 parents also participated in the posttest.

Results

Did parents engage in home-literacy activities with their preschool children?

- 76.0% of the HIPPY parents increased the amount of time spent engaging their children in literacy activities at home.

Was there an increase in parental involvement in the education of preschool children?

- 82.6% of HIPPY parents had more frequent contact with personnel at the children's school.
- 80.6% of HIPPY parents increased their level of parent involvement with their children's school.
- 92.8% of HIPPY parents were reported by their child's Kindergarten teacher as equally or more involved than parents of other children in their class.

- Results from one-tailed, paired sample t-tests indicate a significant increase, at the .001 level, in mean scores from pre to post administration on In-home Literacy, Interaction with School Staff, and School Involvement Sections of the Parent Involvement Interview.

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER SURVEY 2006-2007

Benchmark

To identify school readiness expectations of the general population of Kindergarten children in Texas, 52 Kindergarten teachers across the state reviewed the Kindergarten Teacher Survey and identified the number of questions a child in their classroom would have to be rated as average or above to be considered "ready for school". Seventy Kindergarten teachers from four school districts in North, West and Central Texas representing rural, urban, and suburban communities were asked to participate. Results the Kindergarten Teacher Survey were then compared to this benchmark. As a result we are able to determine with more statistical power, the number of HIPPY students who enter Kindergarten "ready for school".

Method

In the Spring of 2006, the Kindergarten Teacher Survey (2 page, 20 questions) was mailed to the Kindergarten teachers of HIPPY students. The survey consists of three sections: Classroom Adaptability, Classroom Behavior, and Parental Involvement. Teachers are not aware of the student's HIPPY involvement and were asked to rate the student as "below average", "average", or "above average" compared to other children in her class. Of the 414 surveys mailed, 211 were returned completed.

For More Information Please Contact:

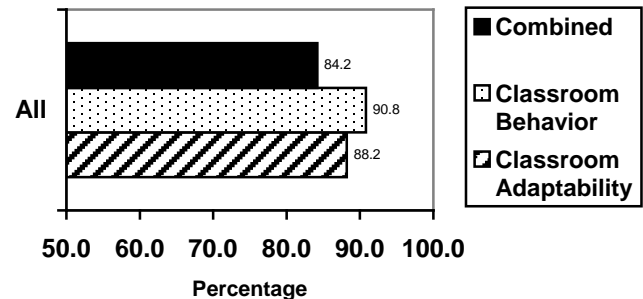
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Results

Do HIPPY children enter Kindergarten "ready to learn"?

- 93.5% of HIPPY children were reported as "average" or "above average" in classroom adaptability by their Kindergarten teachers.
- 91.4% of HIPPY children were reported as "average" or "above average" in classroom behavior by their Kindergarten teachers.
- According to Benchmark results, 84.2% of HIPPY children in Texas were reported as "ready for kindergarten."

Percentage of Kindergarteners Rated as "Ready for School" by Teachers - Texas



ABOUT TEXAS HIPPY

Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) is a home based parent involvement program designed to help parents provide educational enrichment for their preschool children. HIPPY Programs served over 1,800 families in 2006-2007 in ten Texas Communities:

Austin 🖐 Dallas 🖐 Fort Bend
Fort Worth 🖐 Grand Prairie 🖐 Houston
Irving 🖐 Richardson 🖐 Snyder 🖐 Laredo

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