

Measuring the Impact of *WordBlaze*!

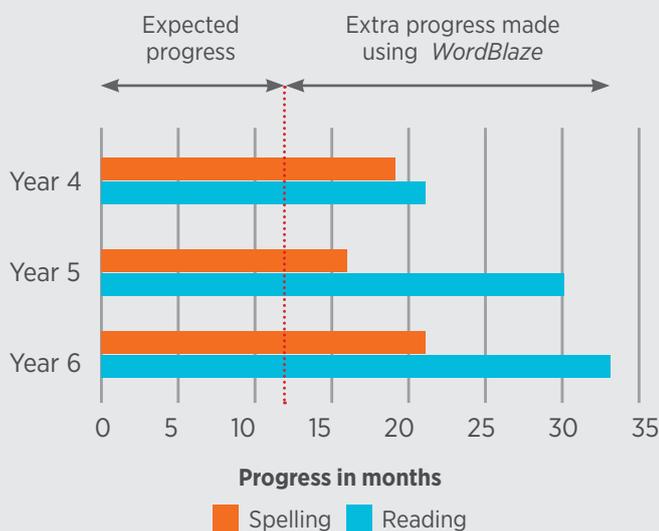
***WordBlaze* is a fast-paced reading and spelling intervention resource that is proven to raise standards in reading and spelling across Key Stage 2.**

Cothill School has been using the *WordBlaze* approach for the past two years and has seen significant improvements in their intervention group results.

Using standardised tests, the school tested both the reading and spelling ages of their intervention groups over one academic year and found that on average:

- Children progressed 2 times faster than expected in reading
- Children progressed 1.5 times faster than expected in spelling

Average number of months' progress in one academic year



Summary Findings

The Year 6 children in particular progressed quickly using *WordBlaze*. Some children increased their reading age by three years and spelling age by two years over the course of just one academic year!

Take a look at Craig's *WordBlaze* journey!

Craig joined the school in Year 5, aged 9, with a reading age of 7.00 and a spelling age of 7.11.

He was given one-to-one and group literacy intervention lessons using the *WordBlaze* approach and responded exceptionally well. He enjoyed the memory hook phrases, pictures and stories, and found this approach helped him remember which spelling pattern he needed for a particular word. He also loved illustrating the stories making his Challenge booklet personal.

The strategies Craig was taught for decoding, when reading the word banks, gave him concrete tools for tackling difficult words. He was always keen to read the columns again to increase his scores in the 'One Minute Wonders' Challenge and reach Red Hot Reader status. His sight vocabulary improved with this repetition.

He is an inquisitive and enthusiastic boy and so was fascinated by the world challenges of each booklet. Charting his progress by putting a sticker on each stepping stone of the expedition really added to his overall motivation.

By the end of Year 5, Craig's scores had risen to 9.09 for reading and 10.06 for spelling – over two years' progress in reading and almost three in spelling!