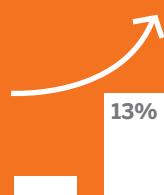




Introducing Amplify's Start Strong, virtual coaching to help close the achievement gap in Kindergarten, Grade 1, and Grade 2 foundational literacy skills with targeted data-driven instruction.

With **Start Strong**: Amplify coaches meet virtually with K-2 educators and school leaders to focus on: (1) data literacy, (2) data-driven instruction, (3) content knowledge and pedagogy, (4) support to lead data and planning meetings, and (5) optimizing school schedules to build capacity.



DIBELS results from a 2- year engagement show that after the first year, 13% more Kindergarten students ended the year at Above Benchmark as compared to the previous year.

## How it works



Bi-weekly virtual meetings are scheduled to discuss planning and implementation with each teacher team. Monthly school lead meetings are also scheduled. Between meetings, the school lead conducts walk-throughs and monitors the planned implementation.

Our coaches attack literacy misconceptions and struggles at the granular level with teachers; they build relationships with teachers and provide them with specific activities and tools agnostic of curriculum to teach foundational literacy skills to the students in front of them every day.

## Benefits of Start Strong Include:

- 1 Increased teacher confidence and competence
- 2 Increased understanding of data analysis and data-driven instruction
- 3 Increased K - 2 student reading achievement as measured by DIBELS

*“This has been my most successful year of getting high student achievement in my six years of teaching. I know this is because of Start Strong.”*

*~ Educator*

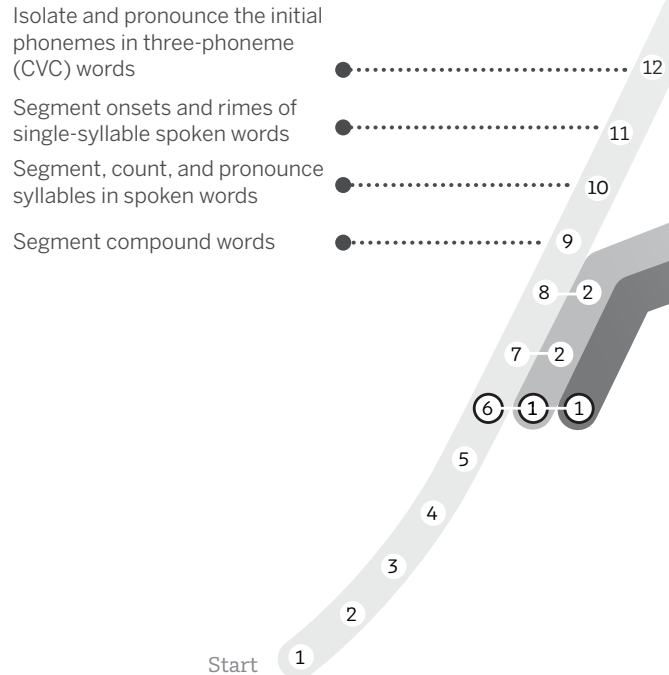


## The Remote Coaching Overview

Start Strong coaches remotely meet with the Kindergarten teacher team, First Grade team, and Second Grade team for 45-60 minutes each bi-weekly during their planning times. The coaching sessions are focused on their specific student needs based on the DIBELS assessment, and instructional next steps are discussed including specific activities that are to be used during Whole Group and Small Group instruction. Teachers learn how to analyze DIBELS probes and plan data-driven instruction while building their content knowledge of foundational early literacy skills. Coaches also have 2 Coaching Visits throughout the year to model activities and collaborate with teachers. Coaching Visits are either in-person or remote depending on the instructional environment.

Additionally, Start Strong coaches virtually meet with a designated school-based Start Strong Lead monthly. The Lead supports the implementation of next steps identified in the Grade Level Team coaching sessions and visits classes to identify trends and needs. The Start Strong Lead also have support through one Strategic Observation with the Start Strong coach.

## K Skills Map and Resources



## The Results

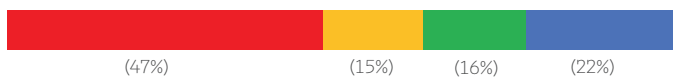
8 schools in a large urban district implemented Start Strong during School Year 2019-2020. Kindergarten students At or Above Benchmark in DIBELS 8th Edition Composite Scores from Beginning of the Year SY19-20 to Middle of the Year SY19-20 showed an **18% increase**. First Grade students showed a **14% increase** in Composite Scores, and Second Grade students showed a **15% increase** in Composite Scores. All grades also showed a decrease in students scoring Well Below Benchmark.

During School Year 2018-2019, 6 schools participated in Start Strong. At that time, the large urban district assessed with DIBELS Next Edition, which made year-over-year comparisons possible. At the End of the Year 2018-2019, the percentage of Kindergarten and First Grade students achieving At/Above Benchmark on Composite Scores and TRC increased compared to pre-Start Strong during School Year 2017-2018. Additionally, First Grade Nonsense Word Fluency Whole Words Read showed **8% increase** in At/Above Benchmark and **6% decrease** in Well Below Benchmark compared to pre-Start Strong School Year 2017-2018.

**For more information, call us at 800-823-1969 or email Dr. Lindsay Sullivan, Ed.D at [lsullivan@amplify.com](mailto:lsullivan@amplify.com).**

## Kindergarten Composite Scores

Start Strong KBOY SY19-20



Start Strong KMOY SY19-20



## Year Over Year Start Strong Comparison: Grade 1 DIBELS Next Nonsense Word Fluency - Whole Words Read

