



## Case study: Reading Eggs and remote learning during the 2020 COVID-19 shutdown



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# Reading Eggs and remote learning during the 2020 COVID-19 shutdown



The closure of schools to minimize the spread of COVID-19 upended most traditional learning practices. One classroom practice that was maintained, indeed became essential, was the use of high-quality, engaging, and motivating online literacy programs, such as Reading Eggs.

Teachers who had been using Reading Eggs in the classroom could confidently assign lessons for students to complete independently at home. Students could work through a variety of lessons, quizzes, and online books (and impress their parents and caregivers with their new reading skills).

This case study examines the impressive grade level progress Kindergarten and First Grade students made at one elementary school when they used Reading Eggs in-class and at home.

## Case study

The case study school is in North Carolina and serves over 500 students. Minorities make up approximately half of the student population. Additionally, almost half of the students qualify for a free or discounted lunch.

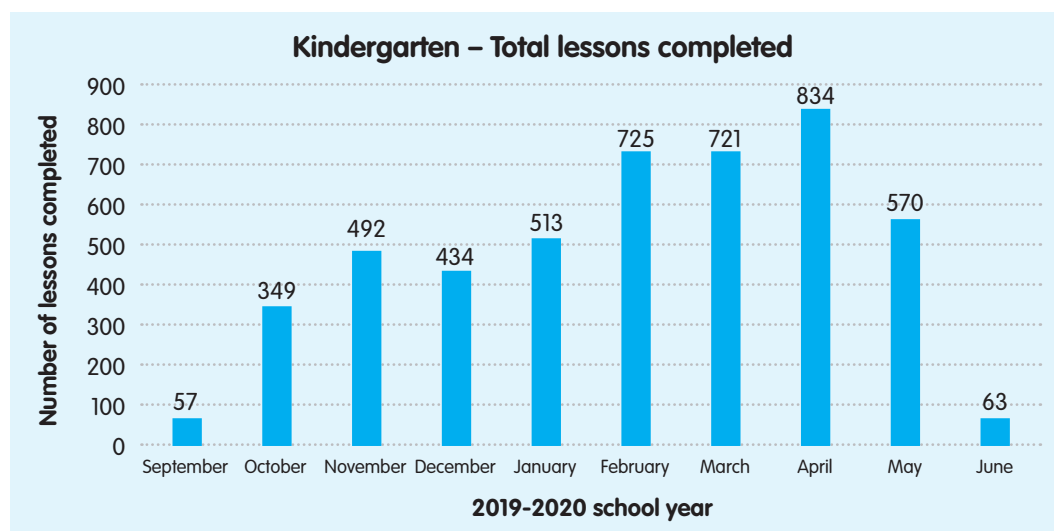
The school closed in mid-March 2020 to help minimize the spread of COVID-19. During the remote learning period from March–June 2020 students in Kindergarten and First Grade were expected to complete daily reading and writing activities.

## Kindergarten

The Reading Eggs Kindergarten lessons are sequenced to gradually build on students' literacy knowledge. At the beginning of Kindergarten, most students are emergent readers who use Reading Eggs to learn letter sounds, phonemic awareness skills, phonics skills, and high-frequency words. As students reach the First Grade lessons, they have an ever-expanding reading vocabulary, can read sentences and simple stories which include short- and long-vowel words plus the high frequency words that all students need to become fluent readers.

### Lessons completed

From September 2019–June 2020, 84\* Kindergarten students completed 4758 Reading Eggs lessons. Students completed 834 lessons—their highest number—in April 2020 during remote learning.



\* Only students who completed two or more lessons are included in this study.

## Grade level progress

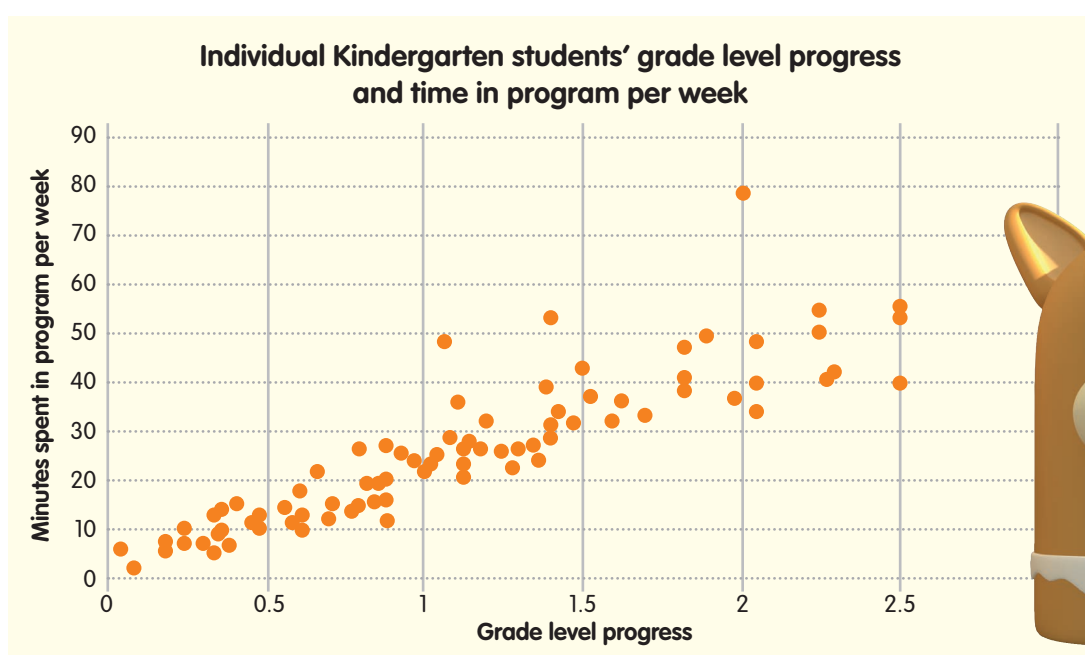
In the 2019–20 school year, Kindergarten students made substantial progress. The table below shows students' grade level progress as they spent time using Reading Eggs.

Grade level progress range	Number of students	Average minutes per week using Reading Eggs
2.01–2.5	10	46
1.51–2.0	10	43
1.01–1.5	24	31
0.51–1.0	22	17
0–0.5	18	9

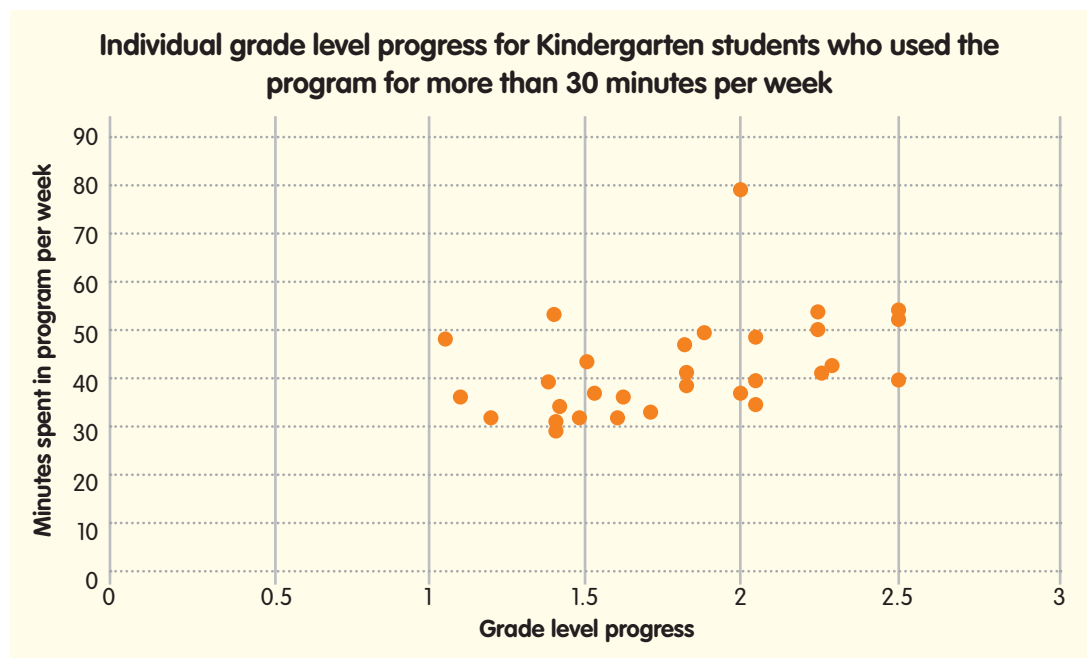
All except one Kindergarten student started the year at grade level. By the end of the year, over half the students were working above grade level.

	Start of the school year	End of the school year
Above grade level	1	46
At grade level	83	38
Below grade level		

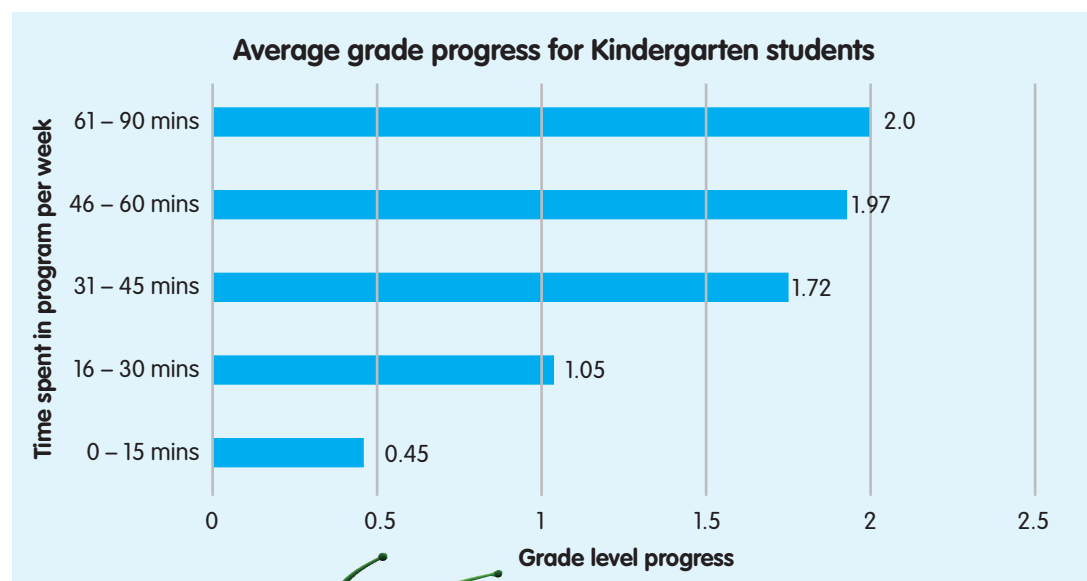
On average, Kindergarten students spent **26 minutes per week**—that is only a little over 5 minutes per school day—using Reading Eggs and **progressed 1.11 grade levels** during the 2019–20 school year.



Thirty Kindergarten students spent longer in the program—and progressed significantly further. These students spent more than 30 minutes using Reading Eggs each week (average 42 minutes) and **progressed 1.79 grade levels** during the school year.



Grade level progress increased with time spent using Reading Eggs.

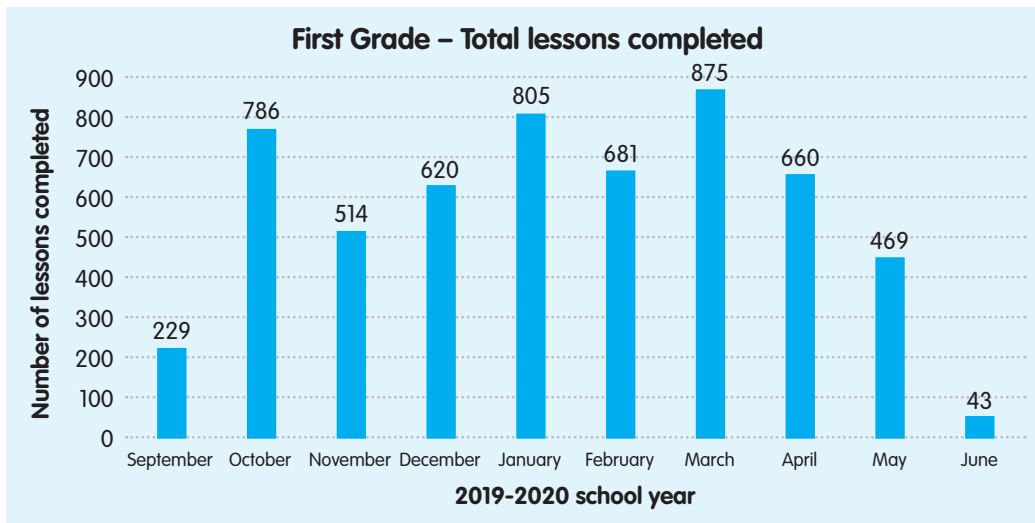


## First Grade

First Grade lessons build upon students’ literacy knowledge. As students’ progress through the First Grade maps, they are introduced to more challenging phonics sounds, decodable words, and high frequency words. Students also access a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction texts. After Lesson 60, students can visit Storylands, a separate set of 20 lessons that contain 140 activities that cover emergent and early reading levels 1–10 and build reading, vocabulary, and comprehension skills.

## Lessons completed

From September 2019–June 2020, 95 First Grade students completed 5682 Reading Eggs lessons. These students completed 875 lessons—their highest number—in March 2020 during remote learning.



## Grade level progress

During the 2019–20 school year, First Grade students made substantial progress. The table below shows students' grade level progress as they spent time using Reading Eggs.

Grade level progress range	Number of students	Average minutes per week using Reading Eggs
2.01–2.5	4	45
1.51–2.0	19	41
1.01–1.5	35	30
0.51–1.0	29	21
0–0.5	8	11

Over 80% of First Grade students started the year below grade level. By the end of the year, almost 80% of students were working at or above grade level.

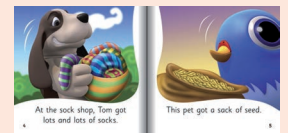
	Start of the school year	End of the school year
Above grade level	1	36
At grade level	15	41
Below grade level	79	18

Students read a variety of books as they progress through Reading Eggs. Below are sample pages from Reading Eggs books.

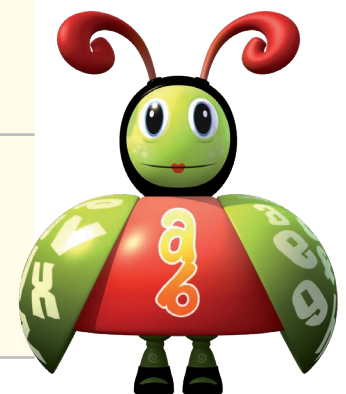
Students read 'Sam can bat' during Lesson 16. This book combines phonetically decodable words with taught high-frequency words, simple sentences, and engaging illustrations.



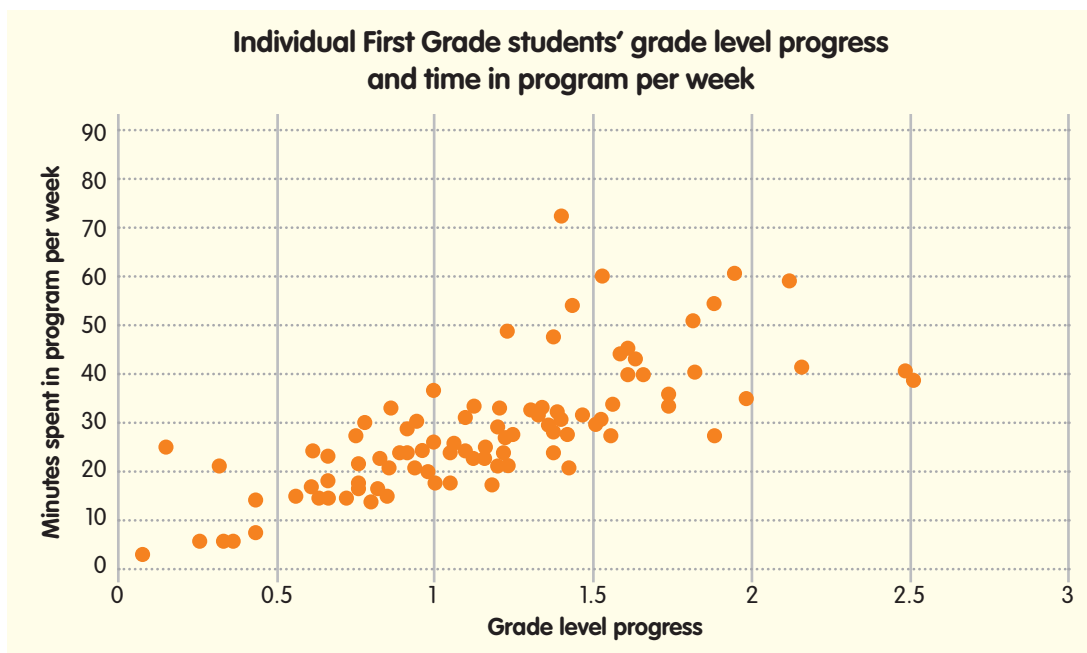
Students read 'Tom the dog' in Lesson 53. In keeping with students' increased reading skills, this book has more complex words and sentence structures.



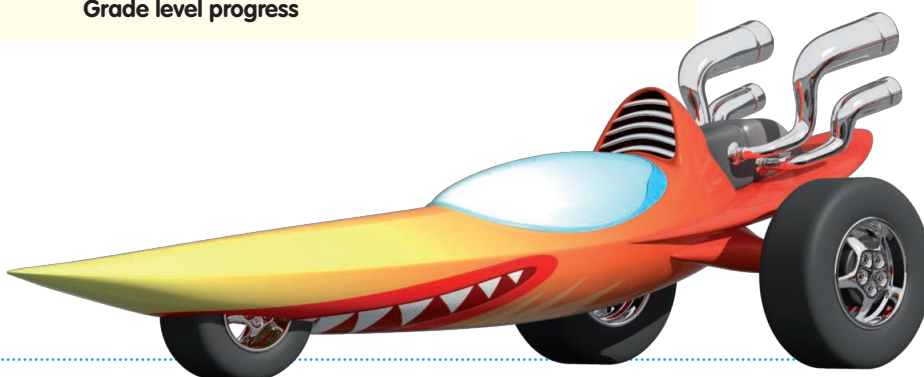
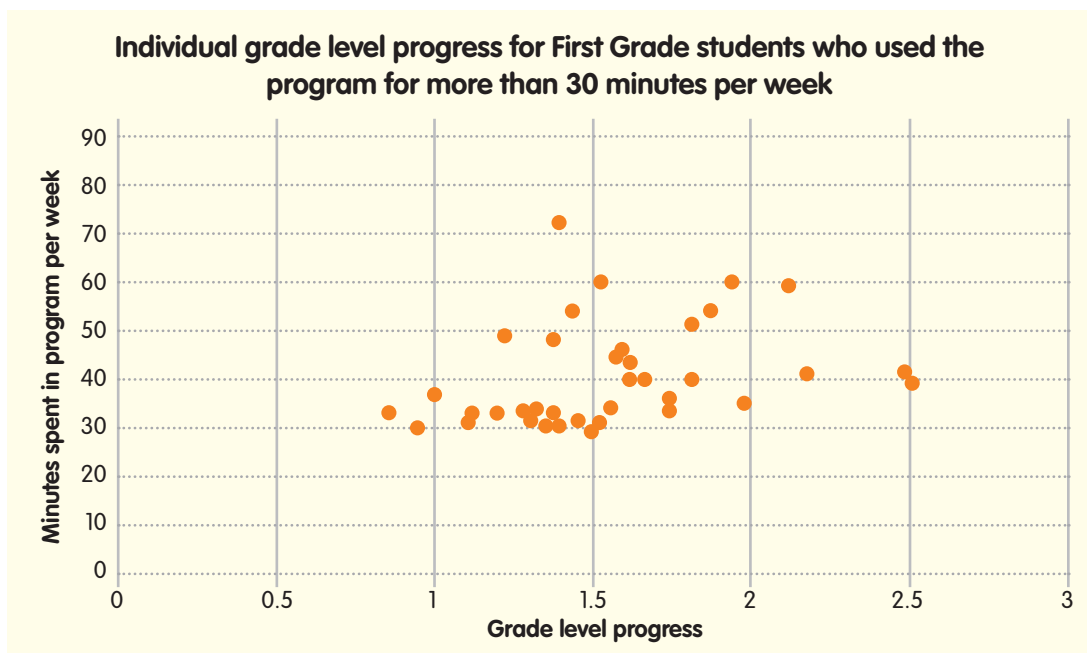
Students read 'A Deep Dark Hole' in Lesson 103. The text is increasingly challenging to meet students' improved reading skills.



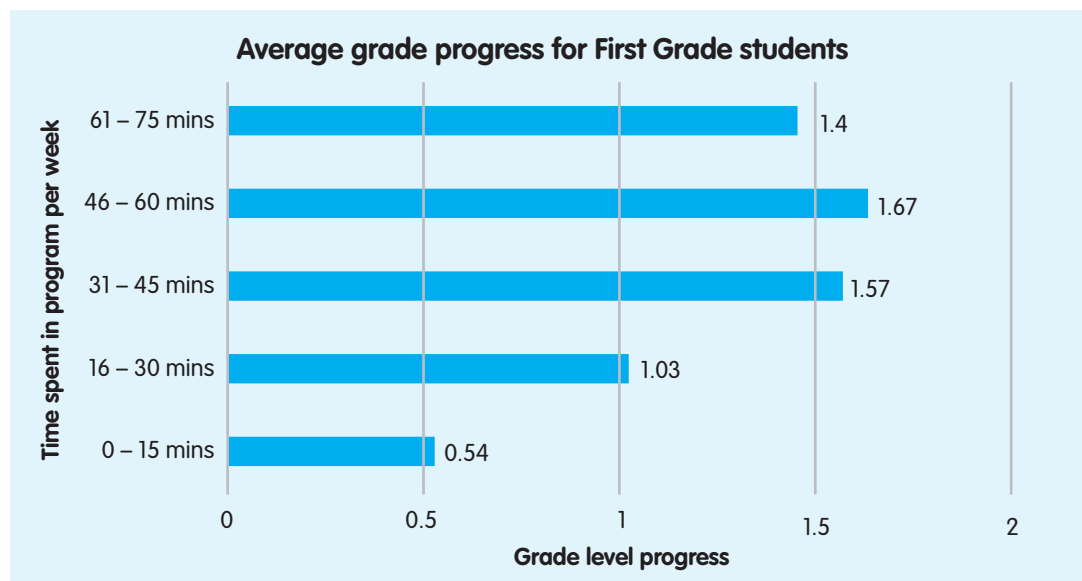
On average, First Grade students spent **29 minutes per week** using Reading Eggs and **progressed 1.18 grade levels** during the 2019–20 school year.



Over 40% per cent of First Grade students spent longer in the program—and progressed significantly further. Forty students spent more than 30 minutes using Reading Eggs each week (average 40 minutes) and **progressed 1.56 grade levels** during the school year.



Grade level progress increased with time spent using Reading Eggs

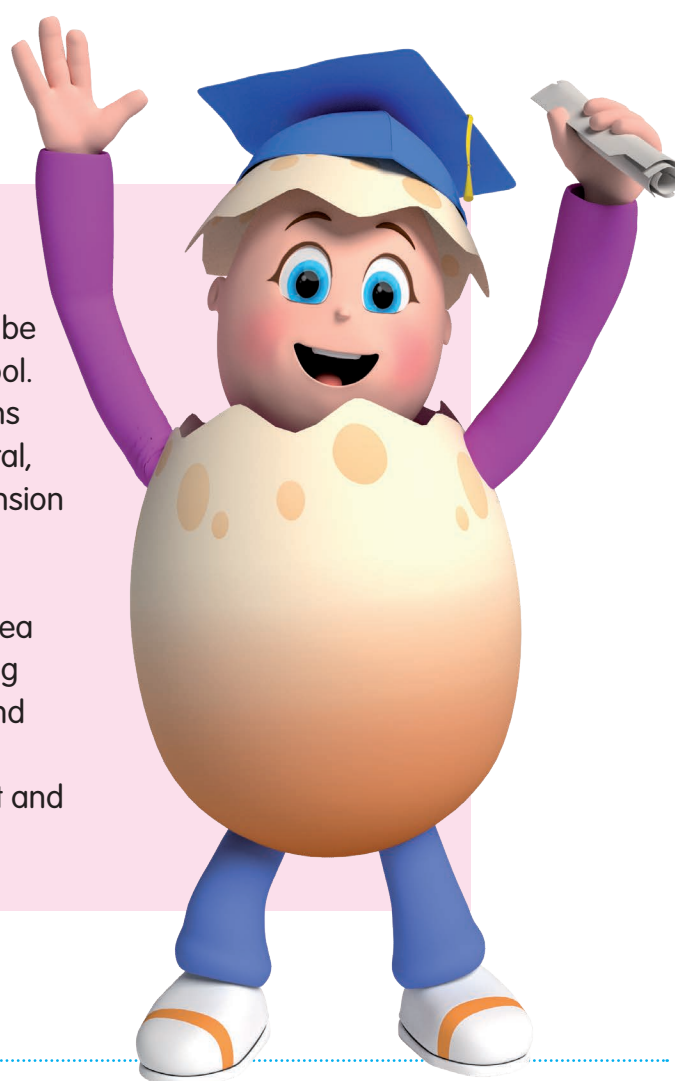


## Students who progressed to Reading Eggspress

During the remote learning period, several First Grade students completed the Reading Eggs program. Some of these students went on to make significant progress using Reading Eggspress.

The charts below highlight these students' remarkable progress. The quiz data demonstrates that the children could apply the knowledge they had gained during the lessons.

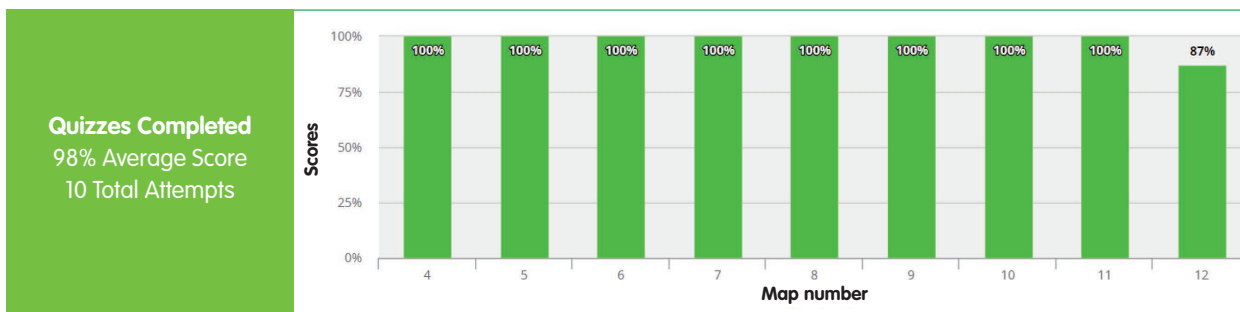
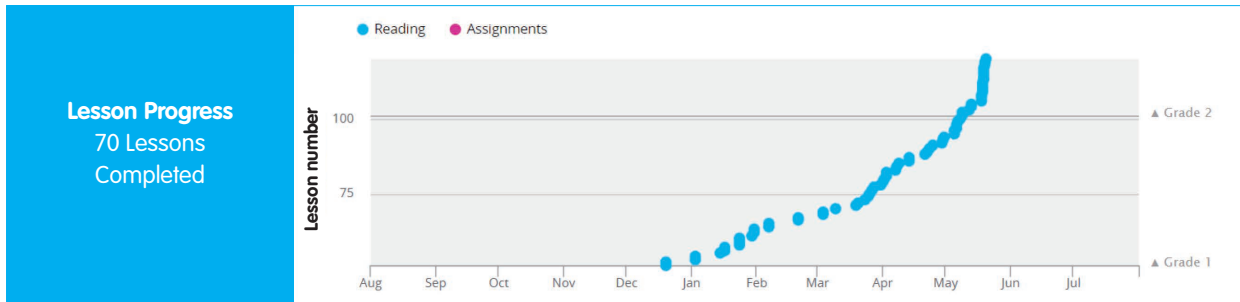
The Reading Eggspress Comprehension program is a complete strategic reading program devised by education experts to be used in-class and as a remote learning tool. The program's carefully sequenced lessons use a range of texts to build students' literal, inferential, and critical reading comprehension skills, and metacognitive understanding. Students are required to engage with comprehension concepts such as main idea and details; compare and contrast; making connections; sequencing events; cause and effect; understanding character; drawing conclusions; predicting; summarizing; fact and opinion; point of view; and word study.



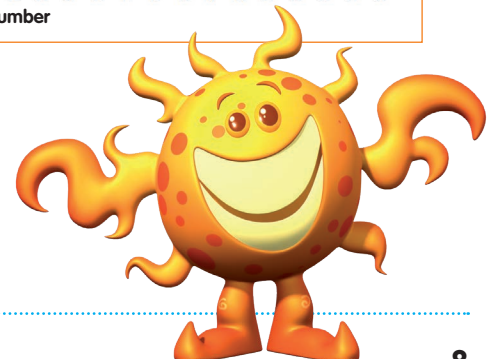
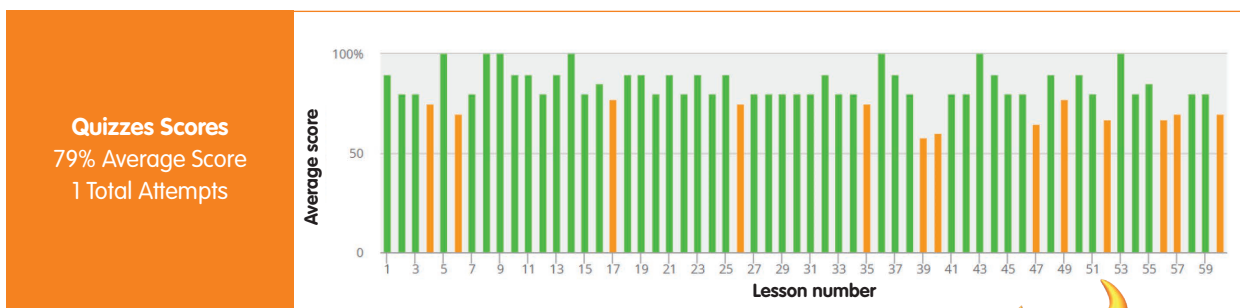
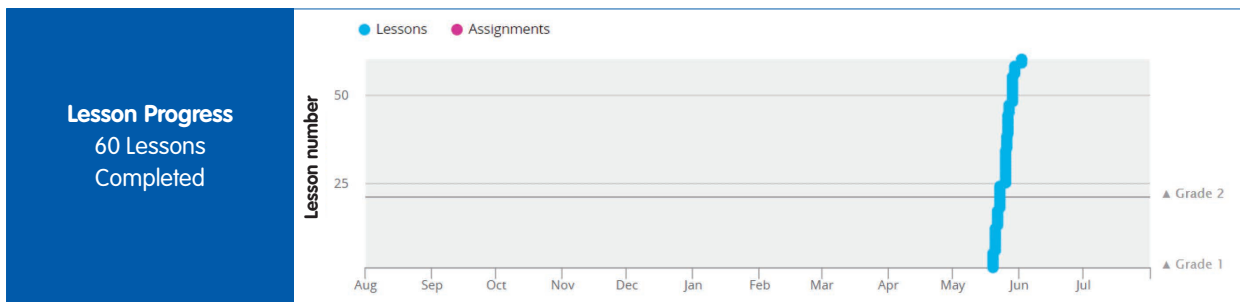
## Student A

Student A tested into Reading Eggs at grade level in December 2019. The student made significant progress during the remote learning period and completed the program in late May 2020. Student A then sat the Placement Test for Reading Eggspress and commenced the program accordingly at Lesson 1. Student A progressed 2.0 grade levels using Reading Eggspress in just a few weeks.

### Reading Eggs lesson progress



### Reading Eggspress lesson progress

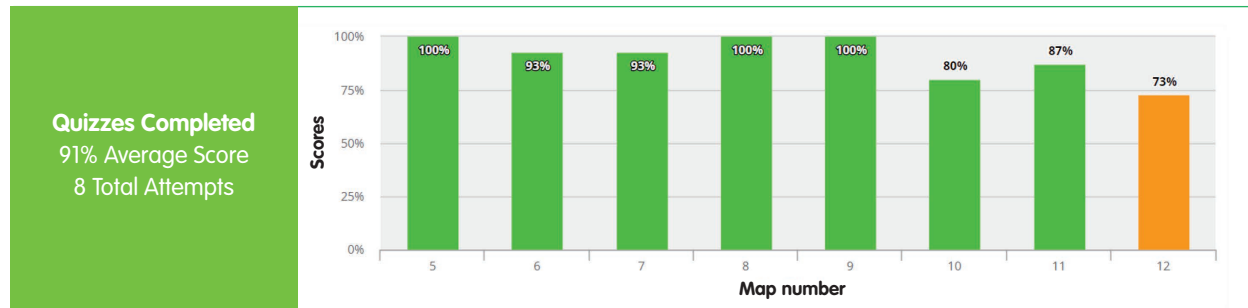
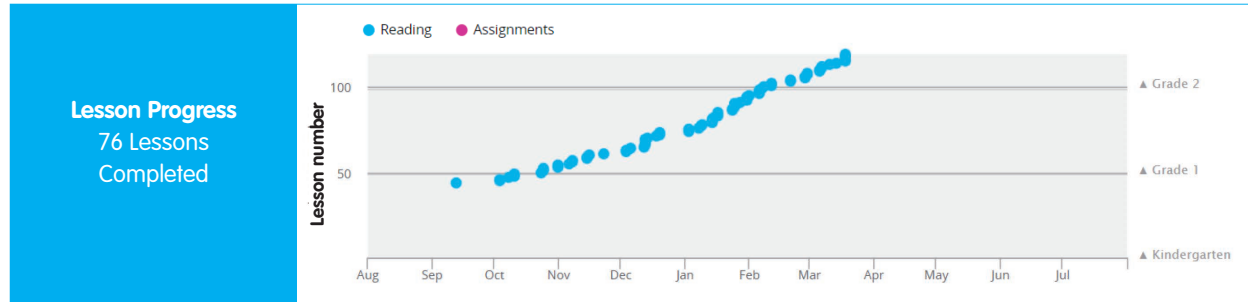




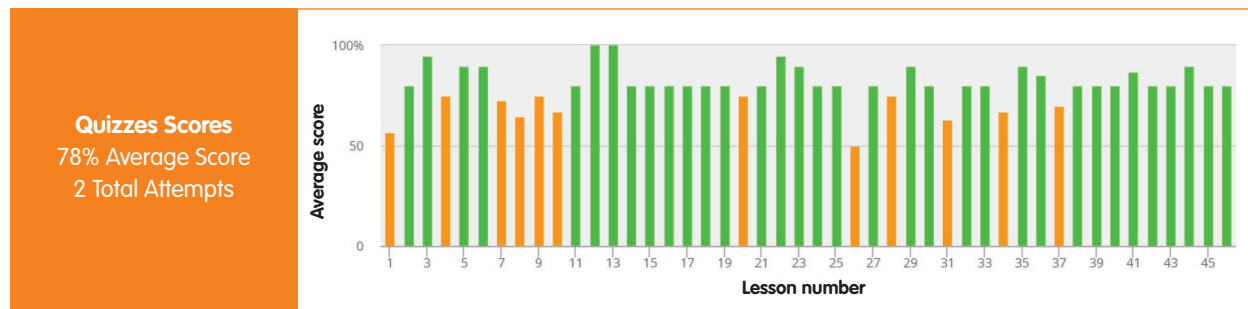
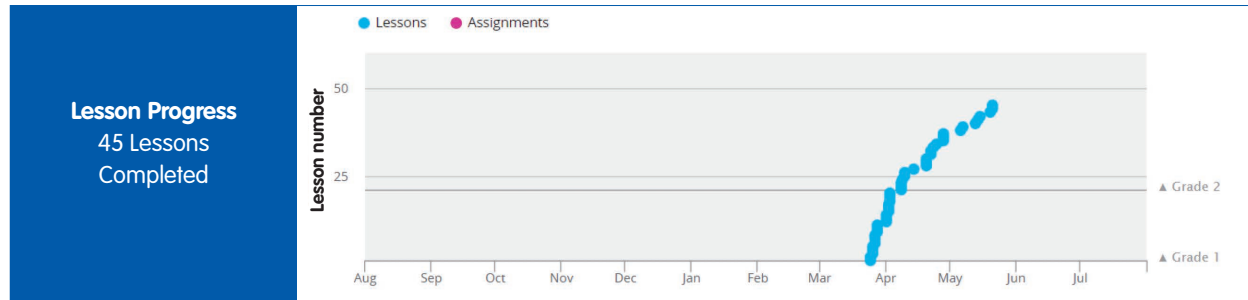
## Student B

Student B started Reading Eggs below grade level in September 2019. The student made consistent progress during the school year and completed the program in late March 2020. Student B then progressed 1.63 grade levels using Reading Eggspress by late May 2020.

### Reading Eggs lesson progress



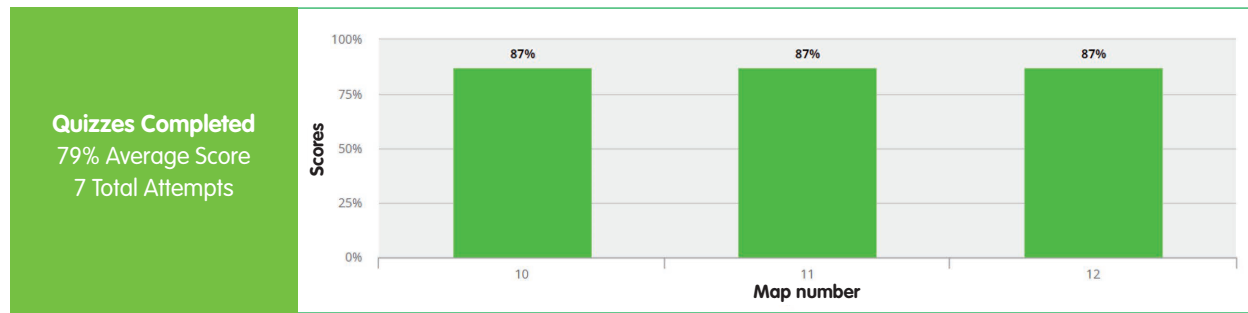
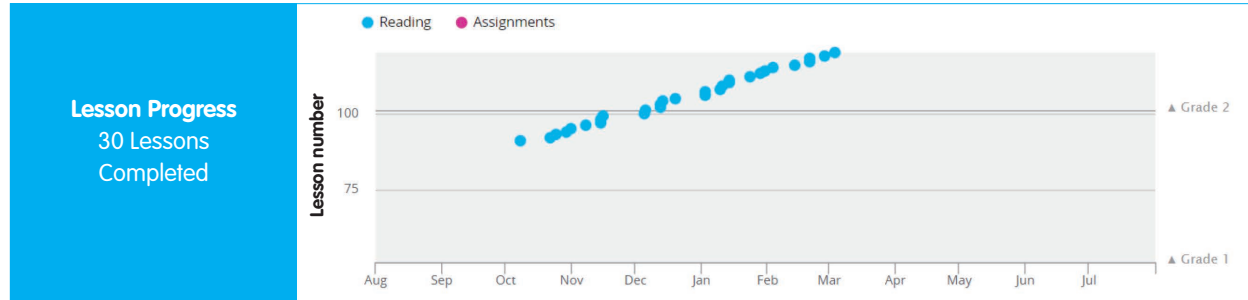
### Reading Eggspress lesson progress



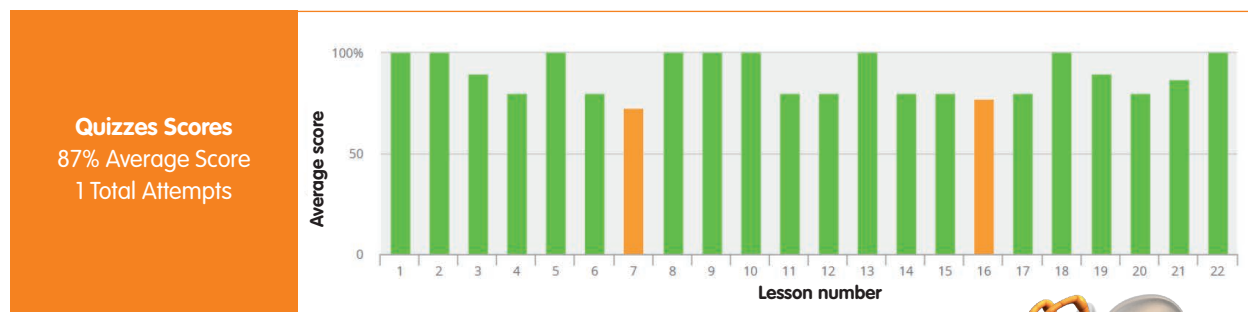
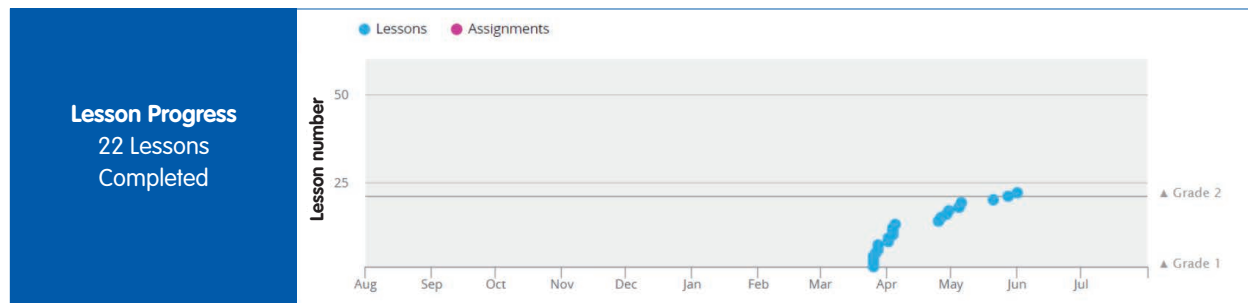
## Student C

Student C tested into Reading Eggs Lesson 91 in October 2019. The student made consistent progress during the school year and completed the program in early March 2020. Student C tested into Lesson 1 of Reading Eggspress. Student C then progressed 1.05 grade levels using Reading Eggspress by June 2020.

### Reading Eggs lesson progress



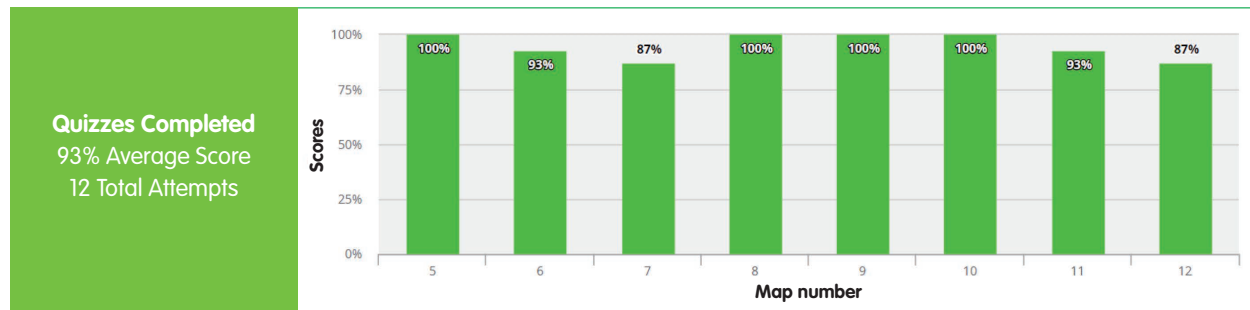
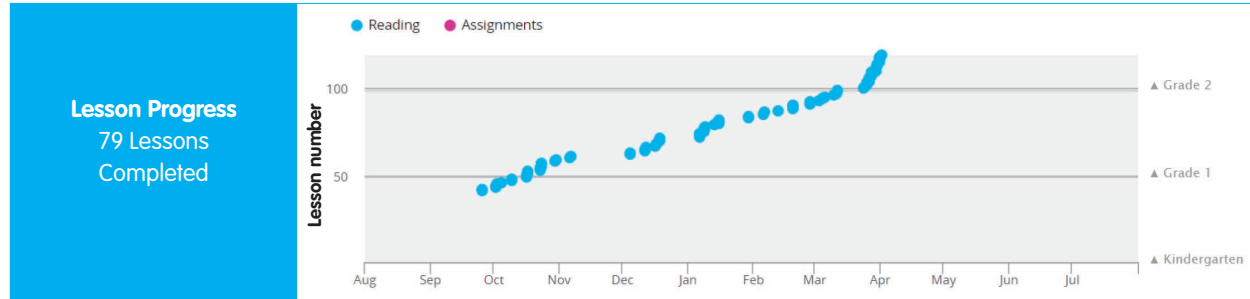
### Reading Eggspress lesson progress



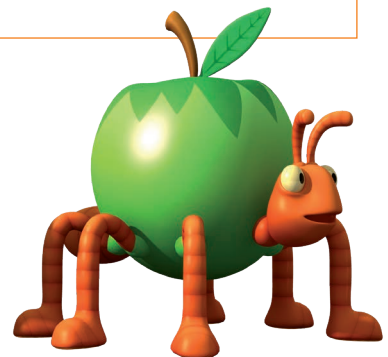
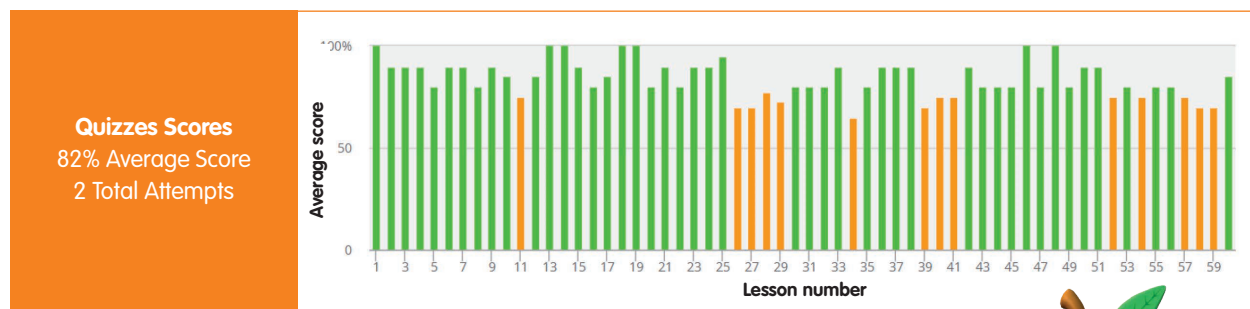
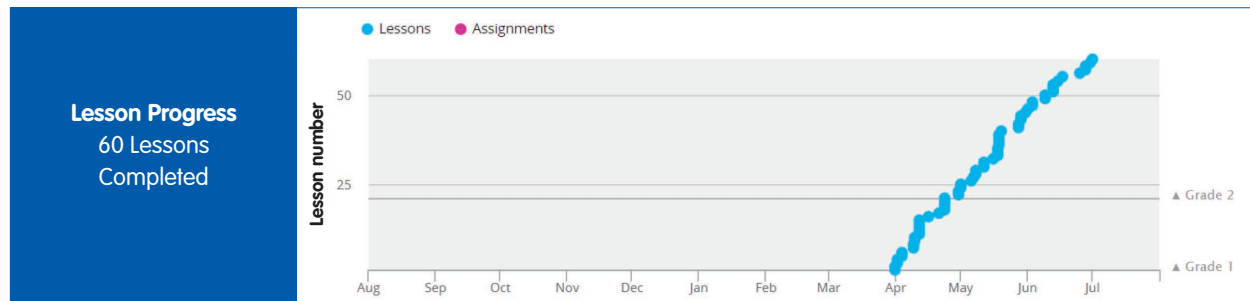
## Student D

Student D started Reading Eggs at grade level in September 2019. The student made consistent progress during the school year and completed the program in early April 2020. Student D then progressed 2.0 grade levels using Reading Eggspress by July 2020.

### Reading Eggs lesson progress



### Reading Eggspress lesson progress





## Learning to read can be fun!

The 2019-20 school year was unprecedented. Teachers, parents, and caregivers worked tirelessly to ensure there were minimal interruptions to students' learning as they transitioned from in-class lessons to remote learning. And, for their part, students showed incredible resilience and perseverance in challenging circumstances. It was inspiring to see children use Reading Eggs to maintain and even extend their grade level learning during this difficult time.


Reading Eggs has been devised by education experts to be used in-class and as a remote learning tool to achieve higher-than-average progress. The program's lesson sequence, along with its highly engaging and motivational elements, scaffold learning and support literacy development for students in elementary school.

Reading Eggs lessons are designed to build students' essential reading and phonics skills. Teachers can confidently assign lessons for students to complete independently. Each lesson includes: an animation that explains the concept being taught, interactive activities, access to online books, and an end-of-lesson quiz to consolidate and assess students' skills. Children can also access additional spelling lists and undertake Driving Tests that assess reading skills with tests that assess high-frequency sight word knowledge, phonic skills (letters and sounds), and content area vocabulary.



Teachers and parents can monitor student progress and achievement via the reporting dashboard.

Students who complete Reading Eggs progress to Reading Eggspress. This series of lessons builds students' literal, inferential, and critical reading comprehension skills, and metacognitive understanding.

Reading Eggs engages students in their learning. The program's fun motivational elements, such as golden eggs and critters, as well as the plaza with changing monthly themes, encourage children to continue working through the program.



**We hope to see students (and teachers) using Reading Eggs in class and at home in Fall 2020!**



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