WordFlight

GRADES 2+

Taking Fluency to New Heights

Automatic word recognition skills prepare students to become fluent readers. WordFlight identifies and attacks gaps in reading knowledge and skills in a way that directly targets the development of automatic word recognition—a key precursor to fluency.

Foundations in Learning

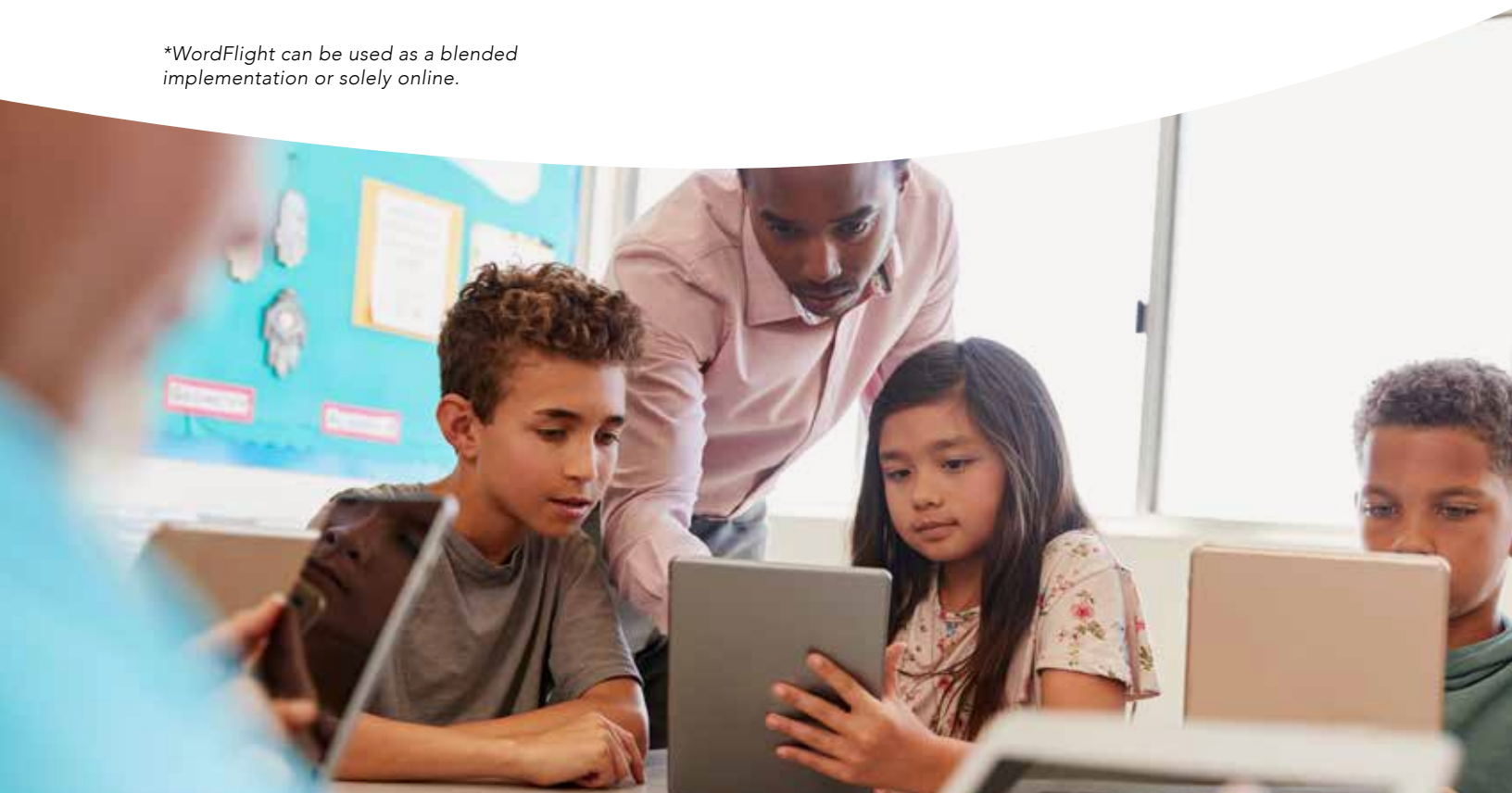# *WordFlight*: A Unique Approach to an Ongoing Reading Problem

WordFlight is a unique approach designed to attack gaps in reading knowledge and skills in a way that directly targets the development of decoding skills and automatic word recognition – key precursors to fluency. Research indicates that many students in our schools today struggle with the most basic reading skills, despite valid efforts by districts using current approaches to teaching reading. Teachers using *WordFlight* are able to better support all students in their classrooms, even those students who have been hard to reach in the past. This blended literacy solution identifies which students need more help with a level of specificity not seen before. Their needs are addressed with personalized instruction to efficiently develop foundational skills.

*WordFlight can be used as a blended implementation or solely online.

WordFlight includes:

- A quick **Screener** to identify students likely struggling with basic reading skills

- A powerful **Diagnostic** to help identify exactly where strengths and problems lie

- An **Instructional Program** that provides personalized, adaptive instruction that prepares each student to develop and automatically use foundational skills resulting in fluency, and ultimately, reading comprehension*

WordFlight's combination of screening, assessment, and instruction uniquely addresses development of decoding knowledge, automatic word recognition, orthographic mapping, and the generalization of skills.

Are students prepared to become fluent readers?

WordFlight helps teachers know!

Traditional instruction typically focuses on teaching the explicit steps necessary to reach mastery of the 5 pillars. However, the key to breaking the cycle and helping all students achieve fluency and comprehension may lie in understanding how students learn to read.

WordFlight is the only solution that brings the science underlying the development of automatic skills to reading assessment and instruction and is the only measure of automatic word recognition available to determine if students are prepared to be fluent readers.

WordFlight trains the brain to recognize words automatically—an approach that has been proven to succeed for all students, but especially when other approaches have failed. *WordFlight* develops student knowledge and use of foundational skills in a way that allows them to automatically transfer those skills to fluency.

Who is it for?

Students in grades 2 and above who:

- Are developing foundational reading skills

- Struggle with comprehension and fluency because of deficits in foundational skills

- Read slowly, with great effort and difficulty

- Struggle with decoding

- Are unable to easily identify and distinguish vowels

- Do not understand how syllables work or have difficulty breaking words into syllables

- Cannot quickly and automatically apply knowledge of phonics to new words or to connected text

WordFlight is also effective for:

- English Language Learners

- Students with special learning needs (dyslexia, special education)

WordFlight's Key Components:
A Powerful Combination
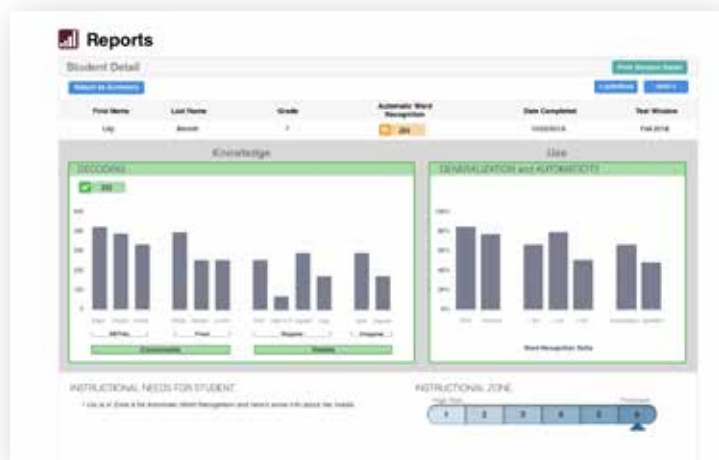
1. The *WordFlight Screener*

WordFlight's 20-minute online Screener quickly identifies likely deficits in foundational skills and identifies which students would benefit from the instructional components of the system. Right away, you will see who is proficient and prepared to become fluent, and who needs further evaluation and another approach.

The *WordFlight* Screener identifies students as proficient, some risk or high risk.

2. The *WordFlight Diagnostic*

The patented, validated *WordFlight Diagnostic* reveals important information your district might not otherwise know. In about 60 minutes, the Diagnostic uniquely identifies and illuminates gaps in the skills that are essential precursors to fluency. You'll receive immediate insight when you view student profiles, allowing you to differentiate gaps in decoding and automatic word recognition skills.

The Diagnostic is automatically administered at the beginning, midpoint and end of curriculum or school year.

The power of the *WordFlight Diagnostic* allows districts to understand the 'missing link' between phonics and fluency—automatic word recognition—and track its ongoing development.

The *WordFlight Diagnostic* examines the precursors to fluency—automatic word recognition and decoding—and specifies student needs.

3. The Instructional Program

Once the Screener and initial Diagnostic are completed, *WordFlight* pairs the individualized online learning experience with flexibly implemented, teacher-facilitated instruction in a blended learning environment.

We strongly recommend the blended implementation, however, *WordFlight* can be effective in as little as 60 minutes per week utilizing the online component only.

Through *WordFlight's* reporting tools, teachers can accurately monitor student usage and formative assessments in order to deliver targeted instruction to further meet students' instructional needs.

Teacher-facilitated instruction augments, extends, and supports the online instruction and flows from *WordFlight's* online teacher resources, which include curriculum guides, daily lesson plans, project-based learning guides, and poems and passages.

The online management system provides teachers with robust reporting and serves as a hub for the teacher-led instructional components.

Digital, adaptive learning

Online or combined with flexible, teacher-facilitated instruction

WordFlight integrates the Science of Learning into the Science of Reading and:

- Targets the development of decoding and automatic word recognition -- linking phonics to fluency in a learning framework that is new to reading instruction

- Employs a novel learning framework (Varied Practice Model*) that differs from traditional approaches, resulting in better retention and generalization

- Provides an effective blended approach to reading assessment and intervention that allows quick pivots between in-person and remote learning

- Is based on more than a decade of research and development

The blended approach provides an innovative and efficient way to close the gap between those students who can automatically use the "code" to read with fluency and those who lack this critical bridge to fluency and comprehension.

Additional Features

- Online student learning sessions engineered around 20-minute daily time blocks

- Engaging online learning in a game-like instructional environment where students enjoy earning points

- Robust reporting for district administrators, school leaders and teachers to track use and progress on summative and formative assessments

> "Student engagement went up, as compared to other similar reading interventions. Students became more aware of concepts such as syllables and the role they play in developing stronger reading skills."
>
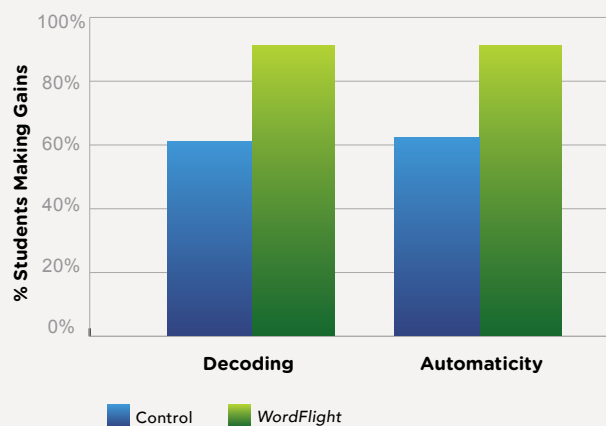> —Shayna Tipton, Teacher, Lively Middle School

Results Are Clear and Positive

Significantly more students showed improvement when they used *WordFlight*

In schools using *WordFlight*, the results indicate significant improvement for at-risk students. Here is a look at the results:
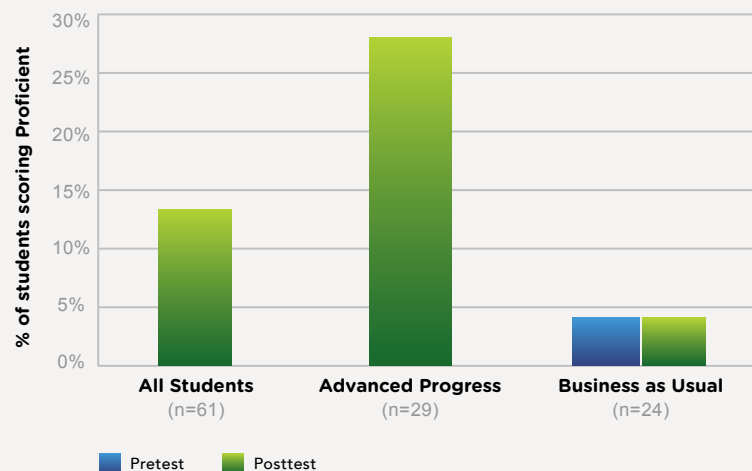
Percent of At-Risk Students Who Improved
Austin ISD Students

% Students Making Gains — Decoding, Automaticity

Legend: Control, *WordFlight*

A total of 90 percent of the students in *WordFlight* improved in decoding and 87 percent improved in automatic word recognition while only 63 percent of the students in the control group improved in each of the areas of decoding and automatic word recognition.

This figure illustrates differences in performance from pre- to mid-test of Austin ISD students in WordFlight and a control group.

Automatic Word Recognition
6th Grade Students
Cedar Rapids School District (Iowa)

% of students scoring Proficient — All Students (n=61), Advanced Progress (n=29), Business as Usual (n=24)

Legend: Pretest, Posttest

As these figures illustrate, *WordFlight* helps students build skills in automatic word recognition, and those are the students who are most likely to become fluent, proficient readers.

In this example from Cedar Rapids Community School District, IA, students using WordFlight dramatically out-performed "business as usual" in helping students achieve proficiency in automatic word recognition. In this example, the "Advanced Progress" group consisted of students who completed at least two-thirds of the system curriculum.

We Offer Professional Development Training and Support

- Customized implementation planning and review sessions
- Initial training (onsite 2.5 – 3 hours)
- Follow-up sessions (webinars) (1 – 1.5 hours)
- Customized in-depth professional learning opportunities
- Regular summary updates of student usage and progress

Schedule a Demo Today

For more information, please visit WordFlight.com or call 888-701-3009

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