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## **Summer School Success**

***Edu-K and Char-L Intensive Phonics, a joint program implemented this past summer at Brimfield Public Grade School, Brimfield, IL, was funded by a Chapter One Federal Grant. The program was directed by Helen Cox, owner of Options in Health and Education Learning Center.***

The participating group, consisting of 23 students, grades one through four, had been recommended for summer school experience due to moderate or significant academic difficulties during the preceding school year. Initial testing consisted of Diagnostic Screening Tests by Slosson in Reading and Math, video filming of eight movement coordination exercises and Edu-K, muscle checking for dominance patterns. Three dimensions of brain/body movement were checked by the Edu-K X-Span procedures including laterality checks for left and right brain integration, centering checks for top and bottom integrand and focusing checks for back and front brain integrations. All Students were then repatterend. Five students did not finish the program.

The program was scheduled for three hours each morning four days a week [Monday-Thursday] for four weeks. All children attended Math class for one hour and Reading class for one hour. The third hour consisted of Energy Exercises, Cross Crawl variations, balancing of homolateral muscle groups and Thinking Skills on alternate days. Each class contained up to four students.

Dr. Al Milliren authored the reading manual combining class structure and goal balances with Brain Gym exercise, Char-L Intensive Phonics and Brain Gym homeplay. The Math and Thinking Skills manuals were similar. The teachers also included computer software in their classes.

Teacher Alberta LaFollette best summed it up: *"My disbeliefs have changed to praise for the efforts of the program and the results I have seen develop. The slumped shoulders and hung heads now walk tall with confidence; the jumping minds have calmed with self-composure as the [previously] inarticulate children communicate joyfully a wealth of new information. Parents are pleased to see their children ready for a much less frustrating school year, and I'm anxious to sue what I have learned in substituting. I feel summer school at Brimfield was a complete success."*

### **TEST RESULTS**

1. DST- Slosson, Reading Forms A & B 1.05 overall average gain in grade equivalent.
2. DST-Slosson, Math Forms A & B .73 overall average gain in grade equivalent.  
Most of these children would not have been expected by the school district to have made this kind of progress in Reading and Math following 48 hours of instruction.
3. 5.4 of 8 movement coordination skills were improved.
4. 6 of 10 children needing balancing for laterality maintained their gain.  
7 of 14 children needing balancing for centering maintained their gain.  
1 of 9 children needing balancing for focus maintained his gain.