



About the School:		About the Students:	
Grades:	PreK-5	African American:	94%
Number of Students:	554	Caucasian:	1%
Test(s):	FCAT	Hispanic:	3%
Reduced Price Lunch:	91%	Asian:	1%
		Other:	1%
		ELL	3%

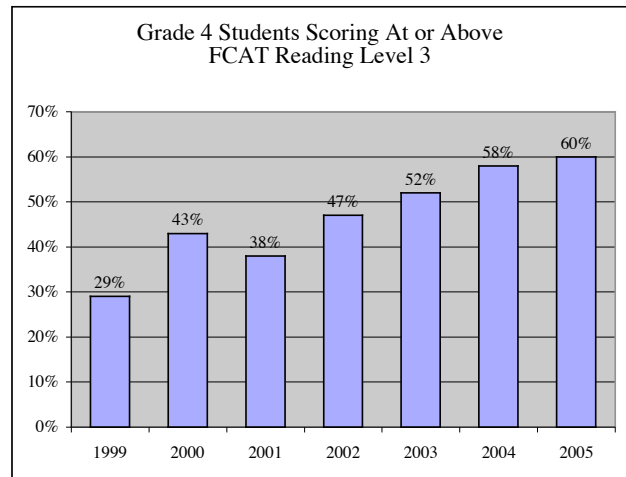


Miami Elementary School Boosts FCAT Scores with Reading Mastery

At Parkway Elementary School in Miami-Dade County, FL, the percentage of Grades 3-5 students reading at or above grade level soared from 7% to 57% between 1997 and 2005!

Principal Patricia Zell said the school scored the lowest in the region before implementing SRA/McGraw-Hill's Direct Instruction program *Reading Mastery*.

"The teaching staff decided a systematic phonics-based reading program would be the best choice for our students," Zell said. "So when the district offered to pilot *Reading Mastery* in our school, we jumped at the opportunity." Now all grades use *Reading Mastery* at Parkway Elementary School.



Zell said one of her most memorable moments occurred when a Pre-K student said the only thing she wanted for her birthday was to read to the principal. "Not only did she read to me, but I took her to practically every classroom, so she could read to other teachers as well," said Zell. "They showered her with praise and birthday treats."

Other Parkway Elementary School children also have success stories with *Reading Mastery* to share: "Almost every child at our school probably thought at one time that he or she would never read," Zell explained. "But *Reading Mastery* empowers children and gives them confidence. It also improves their self-esteem, which in turn, improves discipline school-wide. We even have Grade 5 students reading on a Grade 6-7 level."

FCAT Scores Soar

Since 1999, Florida has graded its schools based on how students score on the annual Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). The FCAT includes five achievement levels, with Level 1 being the lowest and Level 5 the highest.



In 1999, only 29% of Grade 4 students scored at or above Level 3 on FCAT reading. By 2005, that percentage more than doubled to 60%.

What Teachers Say

Parkway Elementary School teachers agree that *Reading Mastery* was the best choice for their students.

“Every teacher in this school backs the program because they can see the results,” Zell said. “We don’t teach to the FCAT. We teach reading – we teach the standards and benchmarks through *Reading Mastery*. That’s why we’ve been so successful.”

About Parkway Elementary School

Parkway Elementary School is part of the Miami-Dade School District and serves roughly 554 children in Grades Pre-K–5. The student population is 94% African American, 3% Hispanic, 1% Asian, 1% Caucasian, and 1% multicultural. Ninety-one percent of the children are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch, and 3% are English Language Learners. For more information about Parkway Elementary School, visit pwe.dadeschools.net.

For More Information

If you would like to learn more about success with Direct Instruction programs in your school or district, please contact us today at **1-888-SRA-4543**.
