EdReady for Multiple Targeted Applications

KENTUCKY ADULT EDUCATION

The Kentucky Adult Education program serves each of the Adult Ed centers in Kentucky’s 120 counties. Students in these centers are preparing for the math portions of the GED, TABE, and Kentucky Online Testing (KYOTE) exams.

Students often enter the program with a very low level of math proficiency. EdReady can support students who struggle with the most basic levels of addition and subtraction. Program administrators find it challenging to get students to complete their programs or even come to the center for assistance. Despite those challenges, by November 2016, more than 1,400 Kentucky Adult Ed students had used EdReady. Students like the video-based EdReady teaching resources, and administrators like the fact that students have unlimited access to EdReady, whether at home or on campus.

Adult Ed teachers across the state are using EdReady in several ways: as an in-class interactive whiteboard followed by individuals working in modules at their own pace, as a program for instructors to increase or refresh their own math content knowledge, as a supplement to classroom instruction, as a distance learning opportunity, as an element of GED Express plans, and as core content for developmental education boot camps. Because some adult students are not comfortable with technology, the centers are also using EdReady in a classroom setting with more emphasis on the student/teacher interaction.

EdReady as Core Curricula for Adult Ed Boot Camps

OWENSBORO TECHNICAL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE, KENTUCKY

More than 2,000 students (both traditional and Adult Ed) are active in EdReady at Owensboro Community & Technical College. They invited developmental math students (including Adult Basic Ed students) to attend a two-week math “boot camp” that used EdReady and traditional teaching to rapidly improve students’ math skills and keep them moving toward their educational goals (earning placement into a credit-bearing math course or earning a GED). After the EdReady boot camp, 81.8% of participating students increased their math placement level and 63.6% tested into college math.

“I’m a mom and a grandma. But I never finished high school, and the biggest reason for that was that I was totally intimidated by math. Here, I’ve had the opportunity to use the EdReady program. It has been a tremendous help in my life. For somebody that was intimidated by math, the EdReady program is great...I have exceeded my own expectations and overcome fears in algebra.”

—Latonia McGruder, student, Fairfield-Suisun Adult School, California
EdReady in ABE Classrooms

OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NETWORK, CALIFORNIA

Outreach and Technical Assistance Network (OTAN) is a California State Leadership Project for technology integration and distance-learning projects in the adult education classroom.

OTAN worked with three of its adult education agency partners to develop customized EdReady sites and develop goals within EdReady. These partners offered in-class instruction to students, and students had 24/7 access to EdReady at home or anywhere they had an internet connection. The agencies used the EdReady reports to learn how many students participated, how many completed assessments, and how many made gains (and to what extent). OTAN has partnered with an outside organization to aggregate the data and correlate it to math assessments outside of EdReady now that the pilots are complete. OTAN administrators “believe this pilot showed some very significant gains,” says Penny Pearson, Coordinator of Distance Learning Projects for OTAN. “Our teachers really like using EdReady;” says Pearson, “As a personalized learning system, they can easily monitor and assist struggling learners. In addition, though teachers report significant math gains, they also report a second and equally impressive improvement in learners’ digital literacy skills.”

THE LIFELONG LEARNING CENTER, MONTANA

The Lifelong Learning Center (LLC) is an adult basic literacy education service offered through the Missoula County Public Schools Adult Education Division. The LLC prepares students to pass high school equivalency exams, succeed in college classes, and re-enter the workforce by providing reading, writing, and math instruction at multiple locations throughout Missoula, Montana.

The LLC uses EdReady for the majority of their math instruction. The center previously used Plato courseware, but found that adult students preferred EdReady since it can offer instruction created for older students. Additionally, The LLC serves students with varying skill levels and educational goals, so they appreciate that the EdReady diagnostic provides a personalized learning path for each student.

“A beautiful part of EdReady is that you get to listen to presentations and worked examples. We have some ESL students who either are pursuing HiSET or are just trying to improve their English and math skills. Being able to actually practice the listening piece is vital and really helps build vocabulary. It’s really rich for ESL populations”

—Renee Benthem, Department Chair, Missoula County Public Schools Adult Education Division