

# Empowering the next generation of readers and leaders.

## WHAT WE DO

Read to Lead helps students in high-poverty communities develop literacy and leadership skills. By creating digital learning games and curriculum set in the professional world and supporting educators in creating student-centered classrooms, we invite students to take charge of their learning.

**Students – especially those struggling with literacy – experience improvement in their reading skills, develop more positive attitudes about reading, and build important life and career skills, such as decision making, problem solving, critical thinking, leadership, and self-direction.**



## RESULTS

Read to Lead has a significant effect in closing the reading gap.

In the first school year that Read to Lead was used, students' reading gains, on average, exceeded expectations by 60%. Those who began the school year below grade level finished the year above grade level.

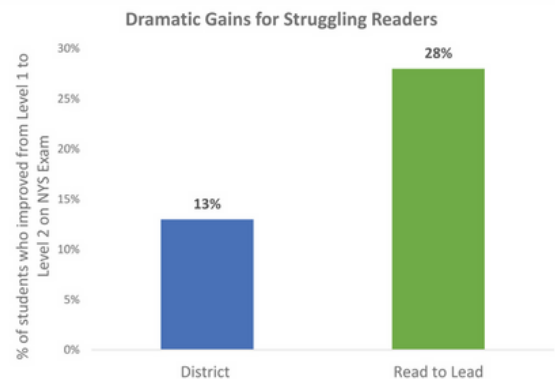
**Closing the Gap: Read to Lead students exceeded reading growth expectations by 60%.**



**Read to Lead consistently shows impressive gains among the most struggling readers.**

The New York state assessment results showed that among those who participated in Read to Lead in the Archdiocese of New York, the proportion of students scoring at level 1 (lowest proficiency) decreased by 28% in comparison to the 13% decrease among the non-program participants.

These results matter because reading has been shown to be the single most important skill necessary for happy, productive, successful life.



## Read to Lead improves students' writing skills, as demonstrated by a Gates Foundation funded study.

A study conducted by SRI International examined the effect of Read to Lead on students' writing skills. The differences between pre- and post-test scores on a writing assessment showed that students who used Read to Lead experienced gains in all aspects of writing, while their peers in regular classes experienced declines. The growth that Read to Lead students experienced was statistically significant, which is notable given the difficulty of producing measurable growth on writing over a short period of time (a school semester).

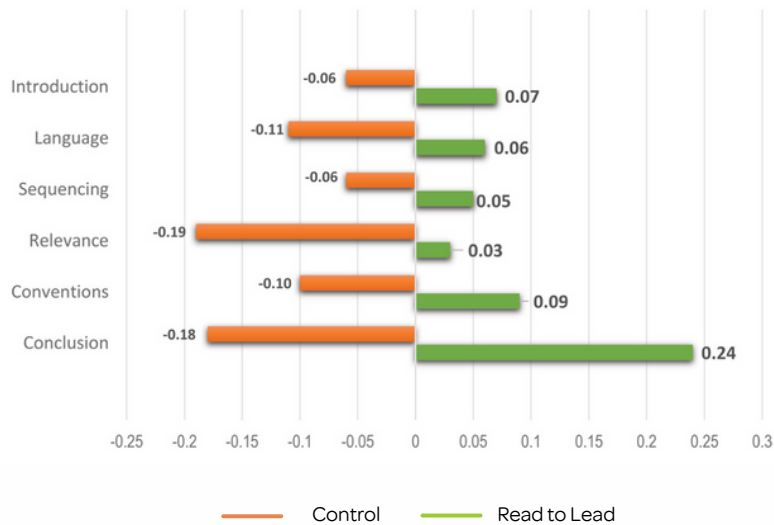
This is critical as writing is one of the most effective tools for learning any material, as it activates thinking. Being able to write clearly is a threshold skill for hiring and promotion in today's workplace.

## Read to Lead helps students develop key life and career skills critical for success in school and beyond.

In post-program surveys, students, and their educators consistently report improvements in leadership, collaboration, decision making, problem solving, critical thinking, and taking responsibility for one's own learning.

These results matter because skilled decision-making requires practice. As children grow older, their choices shape not only their futures, but also the future of their communities. Moreover, students learn more deeply when they collaborate on tasks that require sustained engagement and ownership of one's learning.

Pre-Posttest Differences in Aspects of Writing



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I learned decision making. In life, there are many decisions you have to make, and some are wrong, right, or just ok. In the game, you're the boss and in control. You have to make decisions for yourself and your company. Sometimes I would make the wrong one, and learn from that, like this is what you don't do in real life.

- 9th grader, NYC

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The most important thing students learned is responsibility, and with that, comes ownership, so owning their rights and wrongs, and knowing that you have to lead a team in order to finish the game.

- Educator, NYC