

CONDUCT A LARGE PRINT EFFICACY STUDY

HOW TO GATHER TIER 3 EVIDENCE TO OBTAIN
ESSER FUNDS FOR YOUR SCHOOL

REPLICATING THE EFFICACY STUDY IN YOUR SCHOOL(S)

Per the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) guidance on the four tiers of evidence-based interventions, the defining characteristics of the Tier 3 evidence include:

- A well-designed and well-implemented correlational study
- Collect and analyze data to demonstrate relationship between the intervention and the outcomes
- Intervention has a positive effect on the outcomes
- There are no overriding negative effects from the intervention

In our 2019 published study, *Advancing Literacy with Large Print*, the intervention was student use of large print formatted reading books as a replacement for their traditionally formatted books. The outcomes identified in that study included:

- Improved reading mindsets
- Increased Lexile levels and comprehension skills

Using the 2019 study as a guide, K-12 schools could replicate the success of this study and realize the value of the Tier 3: Promising Evidence. There are multiple ways that school and district leaders can leverage this study design and the Tier 3 evidence from the study results to impact students and teachers. Here is an example of how to replicate the study with your schools.

➔ [Learn more at gale.com/thorndike/esserhowto](https://www.gale.com/thorndike/esserhowto)

REPLICATION STRATEGY: A SCHOOL-BASED CORRELATIONAL STUDY

This replication strategy could be successful with one classroom, multiple classrooms within the same school, or across multiple schools. Suggested steps include:

1. Read the findings report from our 2019 study: *Advancing Literacy with Large Print*
➔ [Download the full white paper at gale.com/thorndike/ylp-research](https://www.gale.com/thorndike/ylp-research)
2. Identify the outcome(s) desired for your school from our original study: improved reading mindsets, and/or increased Lexile levels and comprehension skills.
3. Recruit a cohort of teachers at your school (or across different schools) to participate in your study (idea: grade level team or content area team). Your principals, librarian/media specialists, and/or district ELA coordinator may be a good source for identifying the teacher cohort members.
4. With your study group, identify a literature reading book that all of your teachers will be using in an upcoming unit of study. Consult [gale.com/thorndike/ylp](https://www.gale.com/thorndike/ylp) to ensure that your teachers' titles are available in large print.

5. Procure large print classroom sets ahead of your upcoming study. Your Thorndike Press education sales consultant can support varying quantities/ shipments. For collection development or support with your order, contact them at [gale.com/thorndike/rep](https://www.gale.com/thorndike/rep). Thorndike Press titles are also available through all major wholesalers like Follett and Mackin.
6. Identify or create both a pre-intervention survey and a post-intervention survey to collect data from teachers and students about their views and values on using a large print book. You can create your own surveys or use simplified versions of the online surveys used within the Project Tomorrow study. To use the Project Tomorrow survey tools, please contact research@tomorrow.org to register your interest in conducting a replication study and to gain access to the survey tools.
7. Have students and teachers complete the pre survey prior to their start of using the large print book in the classroom.
8. After the students and teachers have completed the unit using the large print book, have them complete the post-intervention survey. It is important for study validity that your students and teachers complete both the pre and post surveys.
9. Compare your pre-intervention and post-intervention results from both students and teachers. Study the resulting data and look for relationships between the use of the large print books and student views on their reading mindsets. Are students' views different after having the intervention of the large print?
10. Additionally, examine the teacher views on the efficacy of using the large print books to improve their students' reading comprehension. What do teachers say about the impact of the large print?
11. To help with your analysis of your data around the change in reading mindsets, Project Tomorrow created a Research Analysis Guide. It provides a step-by-step process of determining if your study reveals Tier 3: Promising Evidence.
12. If appropriate, also look for quantitative results from student assessments as was done in the original 2019 study. Do your teachers see increases in Lexile scores after the students used a large print text based upon standardized assessments? Do improvements in other reading comprehension scores also correlate with the use of the large print text? Look for changes in scores and test results that cannot be ascribed to other influences beyond the intervention.
13. Identify the correlation connections between the use of the large print and the outcomes your study group of teachers observed.
14. Evaluate what you learned from this study. Discuss the data findings and your insights with your teachers—what did they learn? Talk to your students also. Create a summary of your findings to share with your principals, District ELA Coordinator, librarians and media specialists, and teachers. In your findings report, identify the Promising Evidence you uncovered through this study.
15. Now, determine how you are going to use these results to expand the impact of large print books on students' reading literacy development.

➔ [Download the Research Analysis Guide at gale.com/thorndike/analysis](https://www.gale.com/thorndike/analysis)





ABOUT US

ABOUT PROJECT TOMORROW

The mission of Project Tomorrow®, a national education nonprofit organization, is to ensure that all students are well prepared to become tomorrow's leaders, innovators, and engaged citizens of the world. For the past 18 years, the organization has focused efforts on national research projects and the design and implementation of evaluation, efficacy, and feedback studies examining the impact of innovative learning models in the classroom. Learn more about our research activities, including our globally recognized Speak Up Research Project, at tomorrow.org.

ABOUT THORNDIKE PRESS

As a leading large print publisher, Thorndike Press helps people of all ages enjoy reading. In 1999 we extended our offerings to include middle grade and young adult titles. Now our catalog consists of over 1,000 titles and grows monthly with high-interest fiction and nonfiction books, including contemporary classics, award-winners, and bestsellers. We're committed to producing high-quality, unabridged reprints, with a 100% guarantee on binding, that will support students as they develop the skills necessary to become successful, confident, lifelong readers.

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