

Bug Club Research

What did we do?



Who? Over 2,000 Y1 and Y2 pupils and 115 teachers



Where? 36 primary schools across the UK



How? Progress tests, attitudes measures, teacher diaries, surveys and interviews

What did we find?

Ability



More reading progress:

Pupils using BC made more progress in the first 12 months than those who did not. After 18 months, BC pupils were 11 months ahead on their expected InCAS reading score, relative to their age.



Engagement

More positive attitudes to reading and school:

After 12 to 18 months of BC use, pupils liked to read and go to school more. In the first few months, pupils were already reading more and for longer. Teachers noted that BC motivated reluctant readers.



Use

Bug Club supports teachers:

Materials were reported easy to follow and supported teachers through the structure of the text resources, evidenced particularly for NQTs.



More improvement among pupils on Pupil Premium:

In the first 12 months, BC pupils who received Pupil Premium made even more reading progress than the BC pupils without PP.



Enjoyment of BC products:

Pupils enjoyed the non-fiction topics, story content and illustrative style. Online Reading World was seen as motivating, mainly due to its use of avatars. BC materials were attractive to all pupils, irrespective of gender, ability and age group.



The teacher's role is crucial:

Effective use through professional decision making and whole school strategy was more important than frequency of use. Pupils improved most when teachers adapted the materials to fit pupils' needs.

What are the next steps?



Improve and tailor support:

We will be working on improving professional development courses to see how they can be better targeted to demonstrate the uses of Bug Club for independent reading and guided reading.



Technical product improvements:

We are working on improving the capacity of the learning platform's myclass page so that teachers can have a better view of their class' interactions. There will also be continuous service improvements to the site.