





# CURRICULUM ALIGNED GAMES DELIVER SIGNIFICANT

### FIRST WIDE-RANGING GBL STUDY SHOWS STRONG ENGAGEMENT AND CO



When used as part of the curriculum, simple standards-aligned games increase lesson retention and student engagement, and improve academic performance according to Vanderbilt University's new research study on game-based learning (GBL), "Substancial Integration of Typical Educational Games into Extended Curriculum."

The study is the first of its kind to produce deep, wide-ranging, and statistically significant data across a large variety of game types. It not only validates curriculum-based games, but it does so in a large, multi-state, diverse study cohort over a significant time period.

Student





HIGH AVG./

LOW



DRAMATIC ENGAGEMENT

Teacher's reported dramatic increases in engagement amongst

students who participated in the game study.

Game Developers



With Games

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### **BLIND GRADERS**

People unaware of which students played games to learn the lessons scored the students' performance.

## PES OF SC

The study proved efficacy across a wide range of schools, both geographically and socio-economically.

### SEVEN STATES







Kentucky





Maryland





Missouri New Jersey Rhode Island



**SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS** 

Participating schools had wide-ranging school environments (based on letter grades scale by SchoolGrades.org).

A - 22%

**B-22%** 

**54%** 23% 23% Urban Suburban Rural

D - 33%

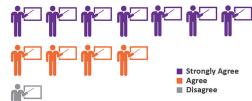
C - 22%



of the participating 56% students received a free or reduced price lunch (FRPLs).

## THE TEACHER'S POINT OF VIEW

Students normally off task became more focused.



### 3/4 OF THE TEACHERS

agree or strongly agree that it was easy to incorporate games directly into their existing class materials.

## **BLENDED CLASSROOM** IDEAL

After participating in the study, how much classroom time will you dedicate to games in the future?

Teachers found their instructional time was more effective in a blended classroom environment with games than with traditional instructional methods.

Strongly Agree or

### **IMPROVED TEST SCORES**

Students who participated in the game-based learning study increased their test scores by an equivalent of over one half a letter grade.





Students who played games understood more content than their peers taught using regular materials. The difference was the <mark>equivalent of absorbing nearly five and one half weeks of content i</mark>n three weeks. [1]

### **PERFORMANCE GAP BENEFIT**

FRPL students who played games **CLOSED THE EQUIVALENT OF A FIFTH** OF THE PERFORMANCE GAP in just three weeks. [2]



## STUDENTS RECEIVING **SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES**

Students who played games...

- WROTE SUBSTANTIALLY LONGER RESPONSES to open ended questions;
- had SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER CONFIDENCE IN THE **SUBJECT** after playing the games; and
- **ACHIEVED LARGER THAN A WHOLE STANDARD DEVIATION DIFFERENCE.\***

\*For reference, moving a student from a classroom to full-time, one-on-one tutoring (an incredibly expensive proposition) led to only 0.79 of a standard deviation change in student performance

# A MUST HAVE

## **54% OF TEACHERS STRONGLY AGREE 38% AGREE 8%** UNSURE 0% DISAGREE

agreed they would like to use curriculum-based games in the future.

## **ABOUT THE STUDY**

Vanderbilt University's study, "Substantial Integration of Typical Education Games into Extended Curriculum" was published in May, 2017 by Journal of the Learning Sciences. The study was co-authored by Legends of Learning CEO Dr. Vadim Polikov; Dr. Douglas Clark, Vanderbilt Universtiy; Dr. Emily Tanner-Smith, Vanderbilt University; Dr. Andrew Hostetler, Vanderbilt University; and Aryah Fradkin, Baltimore City Public Schools.





