

# 2022 Fall Report

## Northtowne Elementary

This fall, F3 launched a 10-week Soccer & Literacy afterschool program for students at Northtowne Elementary. The program consisted of 45 minutes of soccer play and 30 minutes of reading that provided opportunities for students to read, write, and engage in conversations to build academic skills and peer relationships. On average 18 students participated each week.

Northtowne Elementary students participated in small-group reading with the Born to Play soccer novel series and engaged in discussions about leadership, bullying, empathy, and respecting others.

In addition, F3 Program Managers highlighted the following to facilitate reading fluency and comprehension:

- Using the text to support claims and build background knowledge
- Repeated readings to increase exposure to and comfort with text
- Foster a supportive learning environment to build confidence

### Program Snapshot

**750**

Minutes each of soccer and reading

**180**

Adult-student interactions

**12.5**

Hours to build peer relationships outside of the school day



# Number of words read

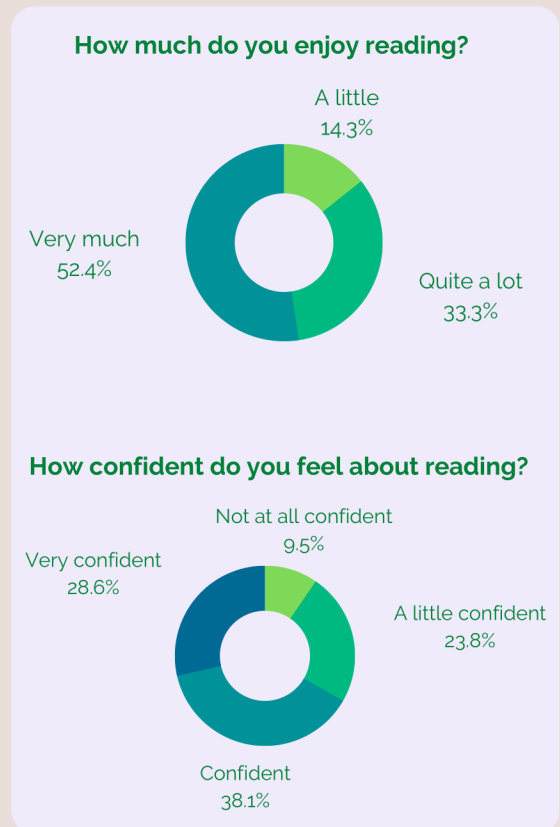
# 12,740

## Reader Engagement and Self-Efficacy Survey (n = 21)

Table 1

Item	M	SD	Min	Max
I think reading is cool	3.20	0.55	0	4
I have fun reading books	3.45	0.54	0	4
I think reading is hard	3.14	0.59	1	4
I am proud that I can read	3.84	0.55	1	4
I can't find interesting things to read	2.70	0.48	0	3
I like to encourage my friends to read	2.55	0.57	0	4
It's easy to find books that aren't too hard to read	3.36	0.55	1	4

Figure 1



Before and after the 10-week program, we collected surveys to examine students' attitudes toward reading. The survey consisted of reader engagement (i.e., How much do you enjoy reading?) and self-efficacy (i.e., How confident do you feel about reading?) items to capture students' motivations for reading. Findings from the post-survey above indicate that students who participated in the Soccer and Literacy afterschool program tended to enjoy reading and felt proud of their ability. Students also perceived reading as challenging yet reported increasingly high levels of self-esteem when asked if they were confident in their reading ability. Compared to their responses before the program, students were 12% more confident in their reading and 29% more likely to select 'strongly agree' when asked if they were proud of their reading ability.

In Spring 2023, F3 Program Managers will highlight students' interests and experiences to bolster an enjoyment of reading. F3 will also work with students to develop social-emotional skills through discussions about characters in *Born to Play*. Lastly, F3 hopes to collect administrative data in collaboration with the school to better understand the students we serve and conduct surveys to examine student perceptions about reading before and after the program.



"This is a real-life experience that is going to help them become better individuals. Whether it's through athletics or academics, those two avenues are going to push them to do positive things, and that's what we want our graduates to be."

-Austin Taylor, Principal



Thank you  
Northtowne  
Elementary and  
American Outlaws  
Columbus!



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