

EXHIBIT K

ODYSSEY MATH® FACT SHEET



Mid-Atlantic Facts

REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL LABORATORY

MISSION OF REL MID-ATLANTIC

The Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Mid-Atlantic was established as a research entity of the Institute of Education Sciences to assist education stakeholders in the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia. Responsive to regional priorities and needs, REL Mid-Atlantic conducts high-quality research, reports summaries of research on topics important to the region, and assists practitioners and policymakers in understanding and applying scientifically based research.



Studies of Effectiveness of Math Curriculum

Feature study: **Odyssey® Math**

Description of the intervention

CompassLearning's Odyssey Math program is a computer-based supplemental curriculum designed to offer students opportunities to engage in challenging mathematics based on practical activities. The curriculum is structured on the assumption that not all students build new knowledge and understanding in the same way. Thus, the Odyssey Math program approach assists students with learning fundamental skills by providing sequential instruction and meaningful context for applying ideas and tools.

Target population

Odyssey Math has been studied previously and showed promise in raising student achievement, but a more rigorous study using random assignment is needed to draw a definitive conclusion about Odyssey Math's effectiveness. For this study, fourth grade classrooms will be assigned randomly to either intervention classrooms offering Odyssey Math or control classrooms; all schools will have both types of classrooms. In intervention classrooms, teachers will integrate Odyssey Math into the standard math curriculum for 60 minutes per week. In control classrooms, teachers will provide math instruction from the standard curriculum adopted by the school.

Eligibility criteria

Each school must meet the following criteria to participate in the study:

- Is not currently using, nor has ever used, Odyssey Math in the third or fourth grade but would like to do so;
- Is able to provide access to a computer lab with Internet connection for fourth grade students for 60 minutes of Odyssey Math instruction per week; students will work individually at the computer using their own user names and passwords;
- Is willing to have classrooms randomly assigned to use or not use Odyssey Math;
- Permits pre- and post-assessment of fourth grade students;
- Agrees to host three site visits by the research team during the year of implementation;



- Is able to send teachers of intervention classes to 2 days of summer professional development activities (stipend is provided); control classroom teachers can receive the professional development in the second year, if Odyssey Math is found to be effective; and,
- Agrees to accommodate 4 additional days of on-site or job-embedded professional development for teachers of intervention classes during the year of implementation.

Participation incentives

Free Access to Software. The primary incentive for participation in the study is free access to Odyssey Math software. Access to Odyssey Math curriculum materials or software will be limited to intervention teachers and classrooms during the study implementation year, with access provided to control teachers in the subsequent year, if Odyssey Math is found to be effective.

Professional Development. Odyssey Math teachers will have the opportunity to participate in Odyssey Math professional development during the summer of 2007 and

the 2007-2008 school year. School curriculum coordinators also will receive professional development during the summer of 2007 so they may assist the teachers. If Odyssey Math is found to be effective, professional development will be provided to control classroom teachers during the summer of 2008 and the 2008-2009 school year so they may use the software in their classrooms during the 2008-2009 school year.

Stipends. Participating teachers will receive a small monetary incentive for completing the 10-minute teacher survey. In addition, intervention teachers will receive the customary stipend for completing 2 days of professional development during the summer.

Substitutes. School districts will be reimbursed for the cost of substitutes, if necessary, for intervention teachers participating in professional development during the 2007-2008 school year.



CONTACT INFORMATION FOR ODYSSEY MATH STUDY

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Linking Research to Policy and Practice



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