

LEE COUNTY SCHOOLS, FLORIDA: A PROFILE OF SUCCESS



District Profile:

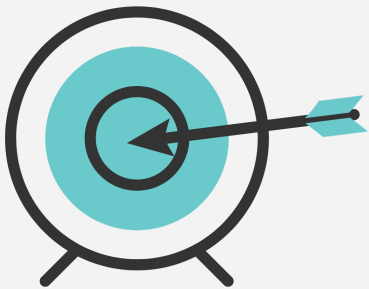
Ninth-largest school district in Florida, 32nd-largest in the USA.

- 13.9% Black
- 15.5% ELLs
- 72.8% Economically disadvantaged
- 45.3% Latino

Located in Fort Myers, Florida.

District Goal:

Improve students' outcomes in science while supporting their development of language acquisition skills.



Achieving Student Success at Lee County

GOAL: Improve Science Literacy & Communication

The Lee County Schools ELL team aimed to improve their summer program, with a focus on 4th grade and middle school students preparing for state assessments. Their goal was to improve students' conceptual science knowledge while also providing language supports and scaffolds. They saw a unique opportunity to partner with Speak Agent to provide that support and to strengthen their students' grasp on academic language.

Lee County's Implementation Journey:

Dr. Carlos Negron leads Lee County's ELL team. In the summer of 2021, he had a goal to develop students' academic language for their ELL science camp. He decided to partner with Speak Agent.

Lee County adopted STEMscopes as the science curriculum resource for its summer program. Speak Agent mapped its

Science+LanguageSM courses to fit

Lee County's content as well as NGSSS science standards. This delivered a seamless, high-fidelity implementation.

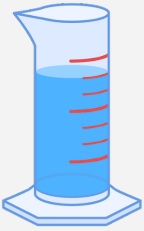
Administrators and teachers were so impressed with students' language growth after just four weeks of using Speak Agent that they decided to give all teachers the opportunity to implement the program in their classrooms during the 2021-2022 school year.



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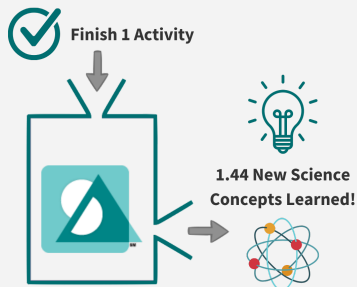
Lee County's Dosage:

9 hours of Speak Agent over the course of a 4-week summer program



Learning Outcomes:

Collectively, Lee County summer students completed 3,008 activities and mastered a total of 4,324 new science concepts!



Based on our aggregate data, for each Speak Agent activity finished, students built an comprehension of an average of 1.44 new science concepts.

Reducing Teacher Burden:

Speak Agent's *Science+Language* program helped to alleviate teacher burden by providing classroom-ready activities and resources aligned to both Florida standards and Lee County's specific scope, sequence, and pacing. This enabled teachers to easily integrate the program into their instruction.

Science Learning Outcomes:

Collectively, Lee County Summer Science Camp students mastered 4,324 new science concepts in four weeks. For each Speak Agent activity they finished, students learned an average of 1.44 new science concepts. Mr. Conticelli, an elementary teacher at Edgewood Academy, is one of our top Speak Agent users. His fourth and fifth-grade math and science class sections are now boosting their math and science vocabulary—and their confidence—all year long!



In The Words of Dr. Carlos Negron:



“We saw the need for our ELL students to develop academic language in science. Speak Agent is very well aligned with not only standards, but what we are expecting students to do. Students can practice language and build background knowledge simultaneously in science.”

“Our teachers are now seeing science not only as a content area or subject, but they are now more aware that ELLs need to learn science concepts alongside opportunities for writing, repetition, and language practice. It has brought them awareness about the importance of science language integration.”

