



Anthropologi Educational Consulting LLC

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Description of Services:

AnthropologiTutors has a three tier system that includes a Consultant, Lead Tutor, and a Tutor for each child. The program is designed to close all gaps that children may fall through. We start by identifying students' unique needs, which we determine from our intake assessment, previous standardized tests, classroom work, and interviews with students, school staff and/or parents. Then we develop a customized tutoring plan, which includes monthly student reports, regular consultations with an education consultant, and a curriculum plan directly aligned to the TAKS Objectives. As a way to measure our progress we use students' performance on state/national tests (i.e. TAKS/SAT), because that is how students are measured. In other words, it does students no good to pass Anthropologi's tests and fail state/national tests. Anthropologi's instructional methods are based on research that shows that most student performance problems in all subjects (including math) are related to reading deficits. Consequently, our teaching methods are designed to teach reading and writing processes as tools to learn subject matter across various content areas (i.e. language arts, math, science, social studies). When students are proficient readers they can master any subject.

Description of Instructor Qualifications:

Anthropologi's tutors are required to have a 4 year degree or be enrolled in a 4 year degree program, with at least 48 college credit hours, at least a 3.0 GPA, and 18 college credit hours in the subject in which they tutor. Anthropologi provides an initial intense workshop for tutors, in which tutors get student profiles and support in designing an individualized program for each child. Tutors also participate in regular on-going professional development with a consultant who works with tutors to support individualized learning. The consultant also meets with the school and/or parents on a regular basis to ensure progress. The founder of Anthropologi and president of AnthropologiTutors, Dr. Sharon Washington, since graduating from Columbia University in New York in 1993, has worked in educational research, program design and policy investigation in the United States, South Africa, Malawi, Mexico, and Cuba. She co-founded a progressive middle school in New York City; taught practicing teachers in New York and Texas; undergraduates at New School University and the University of Houston; and taught students in elementary and secondary grades.

Description of Evidence of Effectiveness:

Since the inception of our tutorial program, we have moved our students ahead academically to achieving phenomenal gains upwards of a 35 percent increase in TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) scores and more than a 50 percent increase in classroom scores. On average, more than 90% of our students pass state tests and classroom requirements. By helping students achieve success on school and state exams, we not only help them move to the next grade level, but, more importantly, we help build students' confidence in their ability to be successful. An example of our effectiveness is a fifth grade student who had not passed the state exam and had been retained in 5th grade for two years before we worked with her. We discovered that the student was distressed by reading silently. This information was reported to the principal, who arranged for the student to use a device that is linked from the mouth to the ear, allowing the student to read quietly into it and hear it in a normal tone in the ear. The student not only, for the first time, completed the exam, but she passed it! In a large classroom this 5th grader, who acted out when instructed to read silently, had been considered to be a "behavioral problem". In contrast, in the small-setting environment that we create we are able to understand why our students are not making progress.