Overview

The American Institutes for Research (AIR) is conducting a study to better understand student engagement and learning when math instruction combines—or blends—teacher-directed instruction with a digital learning tool. AIR has partnered with LearnBop (www.learnbop.com), an award-winning math learning tool, for this project.

What is LearnBop?

LearnBop is a web-based math learning tool for Grades K–12 that

- Is designed to increase math knowledge by offering step-by-step help in areas where a student may be struggling;
- Gauges each student’s mastery level and adaptively suggests problems to remediate gaps in skills; and
- Allows teachers to track the progress of each student using the teacher dashboard, assign additional problems, and form small groups based on recommendations from LearnBop.

Why is this project important?

Schools across the United States are using innovative educational technologies to increase student learning, but there is a lot to learn about these tools. For example, what is it about the digital tool and the classroom that drives student engagement? Is it possible to develop learning tools that can create a more tailored learning experience for students? To answer these questions, this study aims to identify critical features—in both the technology system and the physical classroom—to enhance educational productivity for students and teachers.

What does the project offer districts?

Districts will receive

- 1 year of free, unlimited access to LearnBop for participating teachers and their students;
- Financial stipends (up to $300) to thank teachers for participating in study activities;
- Professional training and development opportunities for participating teachers; and
- Ongoing implementation support provided by LearnBop.

Who can join the study?

To join the study, a district agrees to

- Identify at least five Grade 6-8 math teachers who agree to use LearnBop as part of their classroom instruction for 60 minutes every 2 weeks on average for the 2019–20 school year;
- Enter into a data-sharing agreement with AIR to provide data for the study;
- Allow researchers to collect data for the study (surveys and classroom observations). Researchers will work closely with teachers to schedule data collection at convenient times.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about this opportunity, please email MathEngagementStudy@air.org, contact Dr. Peggy Clements (pclements@air.org, 202-403-5623), or visit our website (www.air.org/math-engagement-study).