

See what our customers are saying about us...

Bilingual / ESL Department
Victoria ISD, Victoria, TX



“When Brainchild asked me if I wanted to be a part of their Webinar I jumped at the opportunity. I had just conducted a survey at my October Fall meeting of my ESL itinerant teachers and know that “The Study Buddies” are being accepted and most importantly, they’re being utilized by the students to enhance their learning and practice their lessons at their own pace with instant feedback. I needed to make certain that my investment was well worth it. The following are five questions which I posed to my staff after distributing 100 study buddies within the district at the elementary, middle and high school levels.” Dr. Martha A. Zúñiga.

DO YOUR STUDENTS LIKE THE HAND-HELD STUDY BUDDY?

- Yes, they do. They like the immediate feedback and the visuals. They enjoy working with them.
- Yes, they do because of the way it feels like a control for a video game. They also like the feedback it gives them.
- The students love them. They like it because it is like a game, they are reading and they are engaged in their learning.
- Yes, very much. The Limited English Proficient students like how it feels like a game - it is a reward to them.
- Yes, they like the “Study Buddy” because they get immediate feedback, and the lessons are short. They’re using technology, it’s game-like and they can compete against each other.
- Yes, because they are having fun and learning at the same time.
- Yes, I think they enjoy using the “Study Buddy”, because they can work independently and at their own pace.
- The high school students seem to like them!

DO YOU LIKE THE HAND-HELD STUDY BUDDY?

- I do like it. I just wish the students could take it home.
- Yes, I like their engagement. I also like that the cartridges have several levels within each subject area.
- I like the tests. The students are able to repeat a question over and over until they get it correct.
- Yes, hands on. Can work individually or with a partner. The students are being engaged in the lessons.
- Yes, because it is easy to use, plus it is a differentiated way of instruction.
- Yes, because it allows the students to practice their reading and listening skills, which are two of the TELPAS domains tested.
- Yes, I do. They were good for my beginner students in high school.

HOW OFTEN ARE STUDENTS USING STUDY BUDDIES?

- Power Reading uses them 3 x’s a week.
- These are great for one group of kids that has gotten ahead of my lesson plans, or when a child finishes a project early and I still want to devote time to other kids. Instead of sending the early birds back to class, I can give them a study buddy for about ten or fifteen minutes.
- Two or three times a week, during advisory time.
- I use them every third time I see them.

WHICH CARTRIDGES WOULD BE MOST BENEFICIAL TO YOUR STUDENTS?

- The teachers indicated they want 56 more cartridges in different subjects to target the different content areas. This indicates to me that they are useful tools for the English Language Learners.

See what our customers are saying about us...

**Bilingual / ESL Department
Victoria ISD, Victoria, TX
Page 2**

SHOULD THE BILINGUAL / ESL DEPARTMENT INVEST MORE MONEY ON STUDY BUDDIES FOR MORE STUDENTS?

- Yes, I think they will add to the curriculum!
- Yes, definitely, I want more cartridges in different subjects.
- Yes, they are more mobile than computers.
- Yes, because it is a wonderful learning tool for students who are struggling and the students enjoy it.
- Our newly immigrant students would benefit and it would change up their type of instruction and add to their learning mode, not having to speak, but using their skills in the different core content areas.



My Personal Comment:

“Back in the Spring of 2010, I was looking for something which would improve the scores of my English Language Learners, and at the same time keep them engaged in their learning. Attendance is also an issue with this student population, so I was looking for a form of technology that would peak students’ interest enough to make them want to come to school.

I personally like them because the “Study Buddy” has eight different levels for Math, Reading and Writing and they are adding more in Science which is one of the areas in which many of our Limited English Proficient students are struggling. Study Buddies’ keeps up with the trends, and is a perfect form of differentiated instruction for our English Language Learners.

I recommend that your Bilingual/ESL department purchase these “Study Buddies” for your students. They are a form of technology and also an instructional tool by which students don’t even realize that learning is taking place. That’s the best part about it!

I am very pleased that I found and purchased Brainchild’s Study Buddies. The representatives are also very eager to assist you, even after you make the purchase.”

**Dr. Martha A. Zúñiga
Bilingual / ESL District Coordinator
Victoria ISD
Victoria, TX**