

K-12 BRIEF ENGLISH LEARNERS

Classroom Snapshot: The New America School, Las Cruces, NM

Students in Tony Ray's English class at The New America School have been working with **BrightFish Reading** since 2017. He's developed his own best practices for using the online tools to improve outcomes for his EL students.

Grade Levels

9-12 (most are in 9th grade).

Student Referrals

Students are referred to BrightFish Reading based on results from ACCESS testing and STAR Reading.

Lab Time

Classes of about 15 students use BrightFish Reading in the school lab. Some students use the program from home, but most access it during dedicated lab time.

Setting the Pace

Students use BrightFish Reading for 55 minutes per session, 3 days a week. One day a week, students read a self-selected novel for 40 minutes. For the remainder of the period, students work on tricky words such as homophones, whose vs. who's, and then vs. than.

Weekly "data chats"

Ray sits down with his students weekly to go over their results in the Student Progress report. They discuss the most recent stories, and zero in on areas of weakness and strength. To supplement their vocabulary practice, he assigns worksheets in areas such as root words and affixes.



What he tells students:

"Make it your goal to complete one story a week. If you're not sure why an answer is wrong, check with your teacher rather than just guessing and exhausting all of your 'tries.' Ask for help EARLY and take your time to get it right."



Did you know?



- The New America School campus in Las Cruces opened in 2012 to serve English Learners and has annual enrollment of 300+ students in grades 9-12.
- Nontraditional hours (8 a.m. to 10 p.m.), and condensed week (Monday to Thursday) provide flexibility.
- Variety of instructional models – including sheltered, scaffolded and active – help students succeed.

**Try BrightFish Reading today!
Visit brightfishlearning.com/trial
or call us at 1-855-912-3474**

