

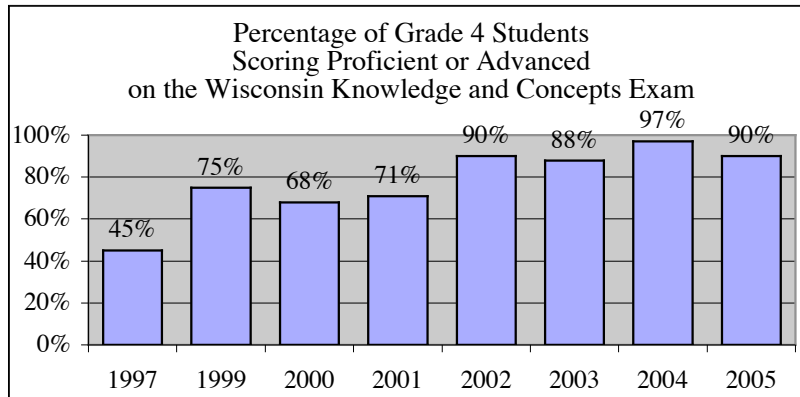


About the School:		About the Students:	
Grades:	PreK-5	African American:	8%
Number of Students:	374	Caucasian:	73%
Test(s):	WKCE	Hispanic:	15%
Reduced Price Lunch:	44%	Asian:	3%
		Native American:	1%
		ELL	-



Milwaukee Elementary Nearly Doubles Reading Scores

When less than half of Honey Creek Continuous Progress Elementary School's Grade 4 students scored proficient or advanced on the reading portion of the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE) in 1997, school educators implemented SRA/McGraw-Hill's Direct Instruction the next year. Teachers use Direct Instruction's *Language for Learning* and *Language for Thinking* in Kindergarten and continue with *Reading Mastery* in Grades 1-5.



Today, seven years after the introduction of Direct Instruction, the percentage of Grade 4 students scoring proficient or advanced on the reading portion of the WKCE doubled from 45% in 1997 to 90% in 2005.

One factor behind the students' success is the fact that Principal Santa Consiglio invested significant resources to execute the program successfully. Outside consultants helped teachers learn effective methods of delivering lessons. In addition, the school trained its own Direct Instruction coaches who provide year-round assistance to staff.

"We recognize that reading is key to learning, and SRA has built its foundation on reading," Consiglio said. "Our staff has been very supportive of Direct Instruction, and our teachers are enthusiastic and motivated about the programs because they are so well-organized."



Assistant Principal Gitanjali Chawla, who helped implement Direct Instruction, echoed Consiglio's enthusiasm. "Student success is built into every level of the Direct Instruction programs," Chawla explained. "Teachers are able to give immediate feedback to their students. Therefore, children know exactly where they stand at all times. This entire process lends itself well to boosting children's confidence because they move comfortably ahead at their own pace, achieving success on the way."

Hope for the Future

Consiglio said Honey Creek educators absolutely would continue using Direct Instruction. "The parents wouldn't have it any other way," she said. "They are pleased with the program and the success their children are achieving. Teachers also see the success of the program, and there's no reason not to continue."

About Honey Creek Continuous Progress Elementary School

Honey Creek Continuous Progress Elementary School is located on the southwest side of Milwaukee, WI, with more than 374 students in Grades Pre-K–5. The student population is 73% Caucasian, 8% African American, 15% Hispanic, 3% Asian, and 1% Native American. Forty-four percent of students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. The school's philosophy is to challenge all students at their individual rates; therefore, students are evaluated on the bases of individual progress, without grade level restrictions. For more information about Honey Creek Continuous Progress Elementary School, visit www2.milwaukee.k12.wi.us/honey_creek.

For More Information

If you would like to learn more about success with Direct Instruction programs in your school or district, please contact us today at **1-888-SRA-4543**.
