

Lindsay Anderjaska

Action Research

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### Action Plan

This study allowed me to stop seeing my students as successful or lacking and showed me that they are all growing. The newfound focus on growth has really changed my perspective for the better and I have an appreciation for the efforts I receive in my classroom because I see that hitting a certain mark shouldn't be the concern, it is achieving growth that should be a priority. I spent so much time calculating and figuring data that I see how broad the concept of growth can be and why I shouldn't be too specific regarding what is considered adequate growth. Calculations that didn't fit into my study, like a student that managed to grow 0.5% while going through a terrible time at home or the student that grew 5% in a year but still remains below proficient, these growths are more than adequate but if not studied in the correct context could be overlooked as successes.

I will continue to calculate these figures from future NWEA tests. I will not focus on comparing year to year though, I will focus on showing students what they have accomplished throughout their time in my class and encourage continued growth. I also found resources within NWEA that will highlight specific needs for students and give us specific content to use to set individual goals. The entire district will be using NWEA in new ways next year because this study has shown areas in which we were not utilizing the database appropriately, as a matter of fact only 2 teachers in the whole

district had access to data and this was a misunderstanding that was leading to much tension between department heads and the principal. This study helped air those concerns and fix the problem.

My classroom will seem much the same next year with the exception of more technology integration. I held back from introducing new digital lessons because I wanted to keep as much the same as possible so that comparing 5-day weeks to 4-day weeks would be as fair as possible. The work that I do behind the scenes, however, will be much different than previous years. I intend to use the NWEA database to help shape my lesson choices, rather than just using the state standards. I intend to show students more data regarding their performance and ask for more input about what lessons seemed to be the most impactful, so I can move forward with using the 4-day week to its maximum potential.