



Taking footsteps towards a brighter future,
one word at a time.



Why Footsteps2Brilliance is Amazing

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I have always been a firm believer *demographics do not determine destiny*, but experiences do. It is every teacher's mission to provide all students with the experiences they need to succeed and become successful adults.

Footsteps2Brilliance provides All students Equal access to an engaging, interactive, comprehensive literacy program at an early age. It reads them stories, improves print concepts, allows them to answer questions, develops a strong vocabulary, provides them with phonemic awareness building games, and gives them the opportunity to write and create their own books. It does this while constantly encouraging students to try again and to persevere in their learning, creating a growth mindset when it is most important to "train their brain" about *how* to learn.

People ask what is different about this program. **What's different is it works with any age.** I have personally used it with 2 year olds up to 8 year olds; all of them love it. They use it at different levels with different understandings, but I have seen 3 year olds sounding out words after being on it for just a few months. **Students love to do it.** I provide approximately 20 minutes a day for my students to use it, but they are putting in hours at home. They love the games. They like to sing the songs. They are making books with multiple sentences and pages long. And most importantly, **they love the way it encourages them.** The program encourages students to "Try again" and gives partial points even when they have an incorrect answer. Points, by the way, that go nowhere, except their internal self-worth! How many times a day do average students hear, "Good job, but try again" "You're Awesome" "You're Amazing"? With this program, they can hear it as much as they want to. I have students who were doing up to 5 hours a day during winter break, because they wanted to. One student was struggling with poor self-esteem and family issues. His academics were below average and he had a very negative attitude at school and with peers. Once we started this program, the constant praise changed him. He loves to read, he keeps trying when he is struggling, and he is a happier more confident person. His mother said, "I love this program, because it encourages my child". Not only has this program increased his skill level, it has changed his life!

I can't say enough about how this program works. It not just what it is teaching, but how it teaches that is important. To put it all down on paper seems senseless, yet it is the only way I can get a point across in a limited amount of time, because I could go on for hours! Every child, everywhere needs to have this program available to them. It works on any device, any operating system, online or offline, anytime, anywhere! It allows students who are always moving around and going from home to home to have one constant positive interaction. It is not only the future of education, where classroom walls are eliminated and growth mindsets are the norm, but the future of our children, where they feel successful and valued no matter where they are.