



# Kinder-Camp Program Evaluation



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# Program Evaluation Process

Program evaluation is a **systematic method** for collecting, analyzing, and using information **to answer questions** about the **design, implementation, and/or effectiveness** of a project, policy or program.

## Evaluation Planning

- Develop objectives at all levels
- Develop evaluation plans, baseline data

## Data Collection

- Collect data during program implementation (*Reaction & Implementation Level*)
- Collect data after program implementation (*Implementation and Impact Level*)

## Data Analysis

- Determine effectiveness of program through impact or ROI studies

## Results

- Communicate results
- Make decisions on enhancements or longevity of program

# WHEN TO UTILIZE PROGRAM EVALUATION

Is the program/product integral for achieving strategic goals?

YES - Does the program/product use considerable resources?

No - Does the program/product use considerable resources?

YES - Will knowing if the product/program "worked" determine if it is continued?

No - Will knowing if the product/program "worked" determine if it is continued?

YES - Re-consider buying/implementing

No - Don't Evaluate

YES - Evaluate

No- Don't Evaluate

YES - Are there resources available for the evaluation?

No - Don't Evaluate

Yes - Evaluate

No - Don't Evaluate

\*Remember: Not every program needs to be evaluated\*



# Kinder Camp Objectives

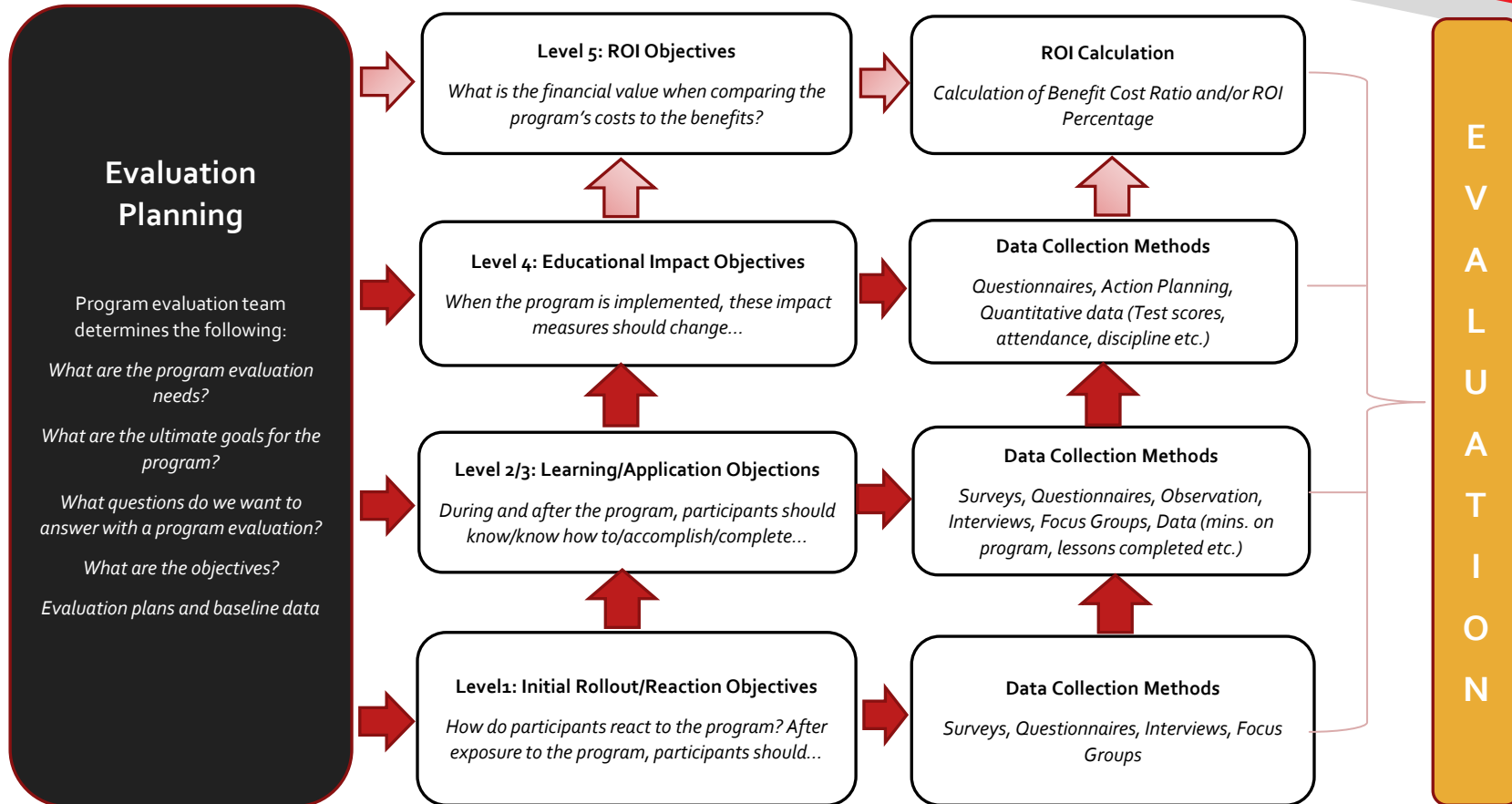
- Prepare incoming kindergarteners with the essential skills to start the upcoming school year
  - Phonics and literacy skills
  - Oral language development
  - Basic math and science concepts
  - Social Impact?



# Kinder Camp Program Description

- Two-week long summer program
  - Monday- Thursday
  - 8:30 – 1:00
- Offered at thirteen Title I elementary schools
- Lesson preparations done by district instructional coaches
- Staff- primarily kindergarten teachers
- Twelve students per class
- Bus transportation
- Breakfast and lunch
- Family workshop

Evaluations can occur at the Impact or ROI Level

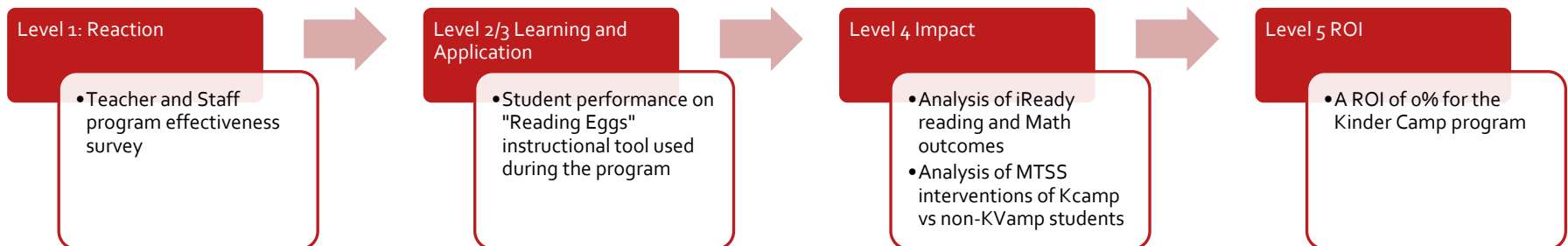


Evaluation plan utilizes the ROI Institute's Return on Investment Framework

# Evaluation Summary

## Evaluation Questions:

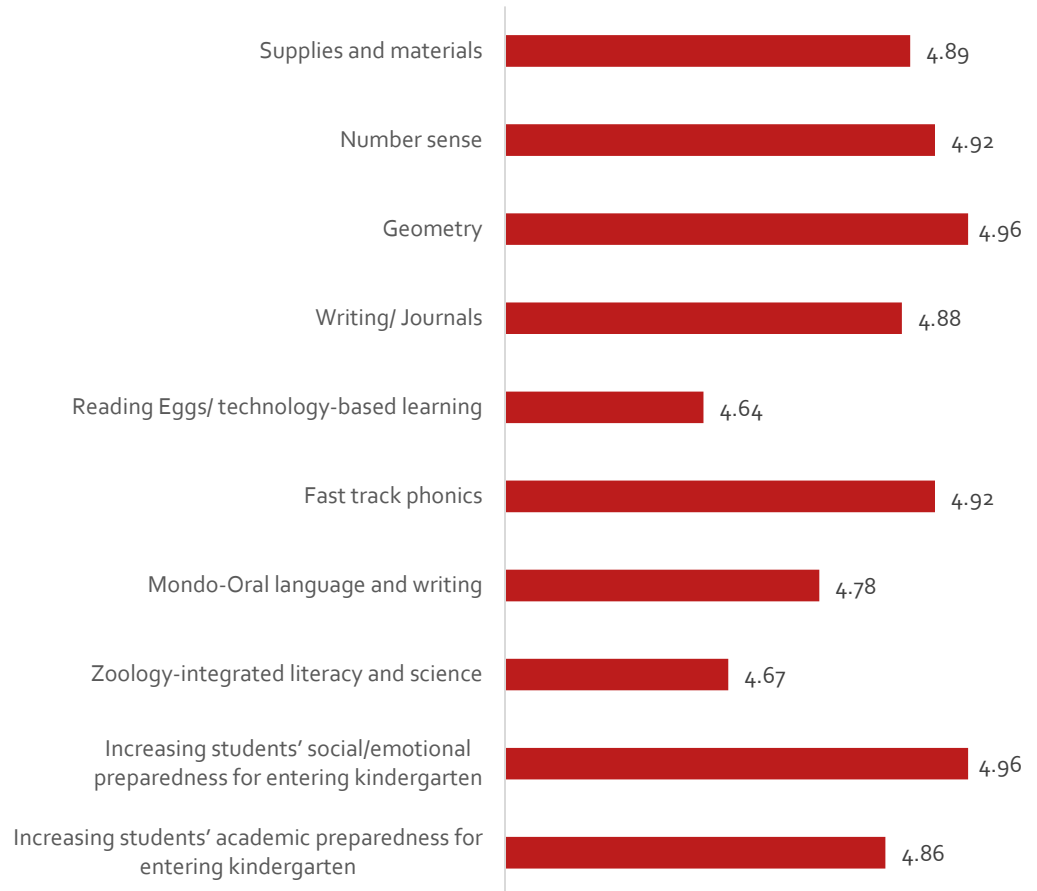
1. How does staff perceive the effectiveness of the program?
2. Did student reading performance improve using an online instructional program during camp?
3. Were there differences in performance between K camp attendees and a similar group of non-attendees during Kindergarten?
4. Did students that attended Kinder Camp receive fewer MTSS interventions compared to a similar group of non-attendees during Kindergarten?



# Reaction

- Teachers (22 out of 29) and staff (7 out of 13 paraprofessionals) rated the effectiveness of elements of the program on a scale of 1 (Not Effective) to 5 (Effective)
- Overall, teachers and staff rated the program highly, especially in terms of student social and emotional and academic preparation

Teacher and Staff Program Effectiveness Survey







# Learning and Implementation

- Students utilized the “Reading Eggs” online program during the eight days of camp. Reading Eggs is an online instructional reading program that teaches reading skills through games and activities. While the implementation varied, students used the program for 30-45 minutes with the goal of completing one lesson.
- However, due to the limitations of the Reading Eggs platform, we were not able to collect the pre- and post- data from the system.



# Impact Analysis

Model: Propensity Score Analysis (Nearest Neighbor with Replacement). Kinder Camp students were matched using the variables below with students who did not attend the camp. (198 students included)

	K Camp	Non K Camp	Difference	Standard Error	T-Stat
iReady Reading	347.66	338.34	9.32	3.23	2.89
iReady Math	340.68	334.83	5.85	2.58	2.27

### Match Variables:

- Gender
- Race/Ethnicity
- Age
- Free/Reduced Lunch
- ELL
- SWD Status
- Title I School
- Must attend VPK

Summary: Overall, students that attended Kinder Camp had higher scale scores in both reading and math than non-attendees. However, the scale score ranges fell below grade level for both groups.

Additionally, the lack of a prior assessment score in the model, may inflate the differences between the groups because assessment data can often better control for differences in student performance than demographic variable alone.

## ROI

If Kinder Camp better prepares students for Kindergarten, it is likely that students will require fewer Tier 2/3 interventions than similar group of non-attendees.

- Using the same grouping as the propensity score analysis, the prevalence of MTSS Tier 2/3 interventions were compared between the Kinder Camp attendees and Non-Attendees.
- The MTSS Interventions were converted to a monetary value and compared with the cost of the Kinder Camp program. The outcome of the ROI, estimates the cost avoided by having students participate in Kinder Camp

# Kinder Camp Costs

Category	Cost
Salary & Benefits	\$90,935.38
Material & Supplies	\$13,937.42
Transportation	\$17,392.50
Planning/prep team	\$9,100.22
Total	\$131,365.52

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# MTSS Cost Avoidance

- Tier 2 average cost per student \$407.28
- Tier 3 average cost per student \$593.82

## Methodology:

Intervention cost = teacher/interventionist hourly salary x times per week received x number of weeks

- If it was a small group teachers salary was divided by 3
- If it was a "tech" intervention salary was divided by 18, assuming student received the same level of attention as any other student in class

We also included 10 mins per week of additional planning time for a Tier 2 and 20 mins per week for a Tier 3

- Tried to include administrative planning time (meetings, parent communication, and data entry) but could not reach consensus with experts for an average time
- Considered adding a materials/program cost but cost was low and time needed to calculate was high

# Total Benefit

Benefit (Cost Avoidance) =

(Number of Tiered Non-Camp students x Average Tier Cost) - (Number of Tiered K-Camp students x Average Tier Cost)

K Camp	Number of Students*	Cost
Tier 2	9	\$3,665.52
Tier 3	2	\$1,187.64
Total		\$4,853.16

Non Camp	Number of Students*	Cost
Tier 2	29	\$11,811.12
Tier 3	7	\$4,156.74
Total		\$15,967.86

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \$15,967.86 - \$4,853.16 = \\
 & \quad \quad \quad \$11,114.70 \text{ Benefit}
 \end{aligned}$$

The district avoided spending \$11,114.70 on MTSS interventions by students attending Kinder Camp

\*Students can receive Tier 2 AND Tier 3 interventions



## ROI Calculation

$$ROI (\%) = \frac{\text{Net Program Benefits}}{\text{Program Costs}} \times 100$$

$$ROI (\%) = \frac{\$11,114.70 - \$131,365.52}{\$131,365.52} \times 100$$

$$ROI = -92\%$$

For every dollar invested in Kinder Camp, 92¢ is lost



# Intangibles

- Confidence
- Social preparedness
- Smoother transition/ adjustment to kindergarten
- Familiarity
  - School
  - Routines/rules
  - Teachers





## Conclusion

While the ROI is negative, there are positive outcomes for the Kinder Camp program.

There appears to be some academic improvement for Kinder Camp students, as well as a lower rate of interventions needed during Kindergarten.

Additionally, teachers highly rate the program for preparing students for Kindergarten. Most of these benefits include intangibles, such as confidence, social preparedness and smooth transition to Kindergarten.

### Decision Point:

Do the intangible benefits and relatively low cost of the program outweigh the negative Return On Investment?