Chess-Playing Students Have Higher Benchmark Scores

Data shows that Chess-playing students improve more than non-playing chess students on their Benchmark scores.
Data was used to compare test scores.

- At William Lipscomb Elementary in 2005, research was done to compare Chess-playing 3rd grade students with non-Chess playing 3rd grade students.
Benchmark Results

• The October Benchmark scores were examined to see what the average scores were for both groups of students in Math, Reading, Science and Social Studies.

• November Benchmark scores were also examined on both test groups in the four subjects.
Lipscomb Elem. Scores

Oct. Chess Players Avg
Nov. Chess Players Avg
Oct Non-chess Players Avg
Nov Non-chess Players Avg
Comparing the Data

• The data was compared to see if improvement occurred in the November Benchmark of the chess-playing students.
• On average, the chess-playing students scored 7 points higher than the non-chess playing students on their total benchmark scores.
Comparing the Data

Increase in Scores

- Increase: Chess Players
- Increase: Non-chess Players

Bar chart showing a significant increase in scores for Chess Players compared to Non-chess Players.
More Research Was Done

• At H. B. Gonzalez Elementary, in the Fall of 2010, test scores were again compared between chess-playing students and non-chess playing students.
October Benchmark Scores

• Chess Club Students scores were compared to the Class Average.

• For most of these students their scores were higher than the Class Average.
November 2010 Benchmark Summary
November 2010 Benchmark Summary

![Bar chart showing Class Avg % All Subjects and Chess Playing Students Avg % All Subjects for November 2010 Benchmarks. The Chess Playing Students Avg % All Subjects is significantly higher than the Class Avg % All Subjects.]
Why the Improvement?

• There is conjecture on why chess students do better on their test scores than non-chess playing students.

• Some think that chess-playing students are already more motivated to be better students and therefore score higher than non-chess playing students.

• Some think that the game of chess itself helps brain functions in students and therefore improves test scores.
Conclusion

• Regardless of why chess-playing students score better on their standardized test scores, data shows that this improvement does occur.
Organizing a Chess Club
Chess Club Inspires Students
Chess Builds Self-esteem