

SHOOT FOR THE STARS

2006
A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR!

What do we know about struggling middle school readers?

- Limited vocabulary, content area and background knowledge – with little opportunity to develop any or all
- Decreased motivation to read
- Not enough opportunity to practice reading
- Summer reading deficit



What can we do?

- Build on the success of “Florida’s Journey into Narnia”
 - 3006 essays submitted
 - 2488 illustrations submitted
 - 52 short videos submitted
- Motivation and reward
- Team and individual competition
- Building of knowledge
- Show links between other subject areas



From Florida teachers

“My students are critiquing the trailers from the upcoming movie – comparing and contrasting characters and scenes.”

“ I have never seen my students so excited to read.”

“...the motivation and interest it aroused in reading (in older students) was well worth it. Students who already have difficulty reading and writing need to have this extra motivation to spark interest in reading.”

A year of motivation...



for years of success!

Commissioner Winn's FCAT Reading Scores Challenge

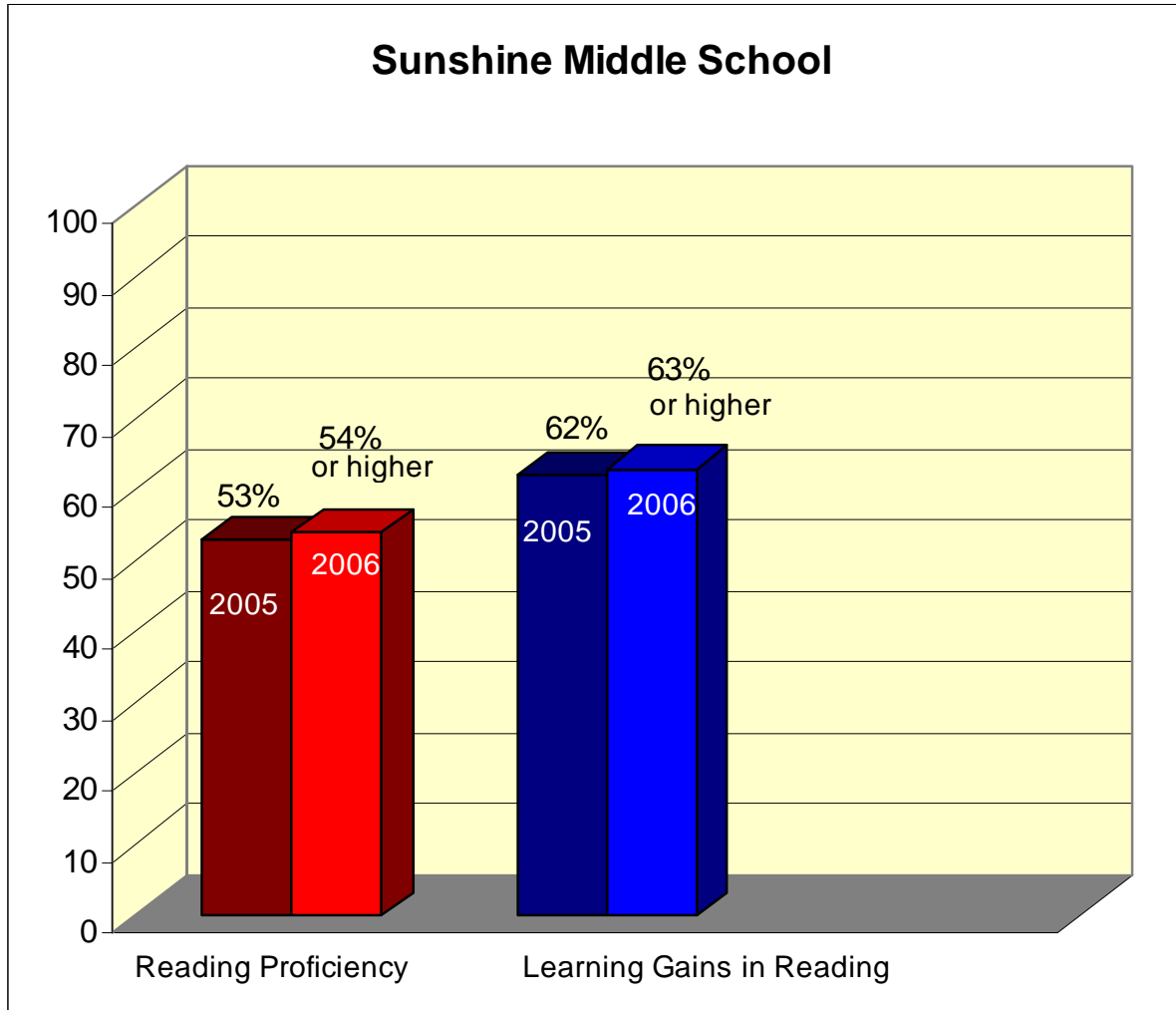
Middle Schools breaking their last year's record in ***both:***

- % meeting high standards in reading
- % making learning gains in reading

PRIZES:

- All qualifying schools receive certificates, posters, and flags
- School making most gains wins \$10,000 for the media center, courtesy of Bealls Department Stores, Inc.
- Winners announced May 2006





Chancellor Yecke's Summer Book Read Challenge

- Kickoff May 2006
- Based on US Department of Education's summer book challenge guidelines
- 6th, 7th, and 8th grader reading greatest number of books
 - Minimum of 15 books
 - Online summary note card database
- Individual and School-level prizes
- Winners announced September 2006



Governor and First Lady's Statewide Reading in the Arts contest

- Kickoff September 2006
- Building on success of Narnia
- Categories:
 - 6th grade short essay
 - 7th grade illustration
 - 8th grade short video
 - Classroom set design/installation
- Winners announced December 2006

