

#### **STEP:** Strategic Teaching and Evaluation of Progress

Teaching students to read is one of the hardest jobs in education and teachers report they often do not receive enough support to ensure students are on-track to reading proficiency. STEP (Strategic Teaching and Evaluation of Progress) is a research-based formative assessment, data management, and professional learning system designed to build teacher capacity for literacy instruction and provide educators with the data necessary to improve student achievement in literacy across grades K-5.

Students using STEP have a greater likelihood of outperforming peers in state literacy standards.\*

\*Students who reach STEP 12 by the end of third grade have an 86% chance of meeting or exceeding state standards.

					STEP 12
				STEP 9	
	STEP 6			Subtlety and Flexibility: Recognizing	
		Reading Silently: What do I do when	Reading Stamina: How do I hold all of the characters and sub-plots together over time?	figurative language, genres and text structures while self-monitoring comprehension.	
	PreReading	Word Solving: What do I do when I get an unknown word?  I read silently? How do I make sense from the words, not the pictures?			
	Concepts about print				
*Source: 2005 STEP Validation Report	End of PreK	End of K	End of 1st	End of 2nd	End of 3rd

STEP has supported over 3,000 teachers and 110,000 students across the country.

#### The STEP System



# The STEP Assessment

The STEP Assessment is an online, formative literacy assessment that provides educators with the insight needed to tailor instruction to meet the literacy needs of their students. When using STEP, teachers assess students at multiple points throughout the year to determine current achievement and instructional needs. Students progress across 19 distinct developmental steps toward the level of reading proficiency expected for grades Kindergarten through 5th grade.

90% of school leadership teams agree the STEP assessment provides actionable information needed to drive literacy instruction.

UChicago Impact's 2018-19 STEP Satisfaction Survey



### The STEP Data Management System

The STEP Data Management System supports educators in using data to inform literacy instruction for all students, including those struggling to read proficiently as well as those reading at or above grade level.

Teachers use the system to administer the STEP Assessment to individual students and view results in real time. As students work through the various components of the assessment, teachers capture their responses and that information is immediately available for scoring and analysis—enabling teachers to quickly make data-informed adjustments to their literacy instruction.

STEP Assessment results can be filtered to highlight student achievement and progress toward specific reading goals and viewed at the network/district, school, grade, classroom, group, and individual student levels.



# STEP Professional Learning

STEP Professional Learning is designed to develop the knowledge base of leaders and teachers in developing the necessary skills for achieving reliable assessment data. The combination of the STEP assessment data and comprehensive professional learning build staff capacity to provide instruction that promotes strong reading outcomes. Educators also gain a deep understanding of literacy best practices that enhance their overall instruction.

92% of school leadership teams agree that, since implementing STEP, there has been an increase in teacher capacity to tailor literacy instruction to meet individual student and small group needs.

UChicago Impact's 2018-19 STEP Satisfaction Survey

Learn More: To learn more about STEP, visit uchicagoimpact.org/step or contact us at STEP@uchicago.edu.