



Elm Street Elementary School

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Mr. James E. Dezell, Chairman
OpenBook Learning, Inc.
3700 Mansell Rd.
Suite 550
Alpharetta, GA 30022

Dear Mr. Dezell:

From the first time I became introduced to OpenBook until now, over a year later, I have continued to be amazed at the numerous ways OpenBook can be used with my ELL students. The program is limited only by a teacher's imagination. The feature that first got my attention and I still feel makes this program superior is when the students practice phonemes, phoneme blending, and word pronunciation, the students are able to record and hear their own voices matched with a speech professional's vocalizations. The program's continuous prompting encourages even the most insecure learners. The flexibility of the programming allows the teacher to easily customize the program to meet the needs of the varying abilities of the students. The guided practice that includes phonics, whole language, vocabulary, pronunciation, spelling, keyboarding, and grammar allows students to naturally progress into the writing process. The feature that allows the students to hear back what they have written is an invaluable tool in becoming proficient writers. Reluctant writers will become prolific writers and I have witnessed. The reports and charts that gather information about each student help in evaluating the students and give a clear picture showing their strengths and weaknesses. It is obvious that the program designers are in touch with the real life needs of the ELL teacher and students making the program such a delight to use. It has made such a positive difference in my students' progress. What teacher would not be thrilled when a first grade ELL student proclaims for the first time, "I can read"! I thank you for a product that has incorporated so many important elements for successful teaching and learning.

Sincerely,
Sally Caesar, ELL teacher
Elm Street Elementary
Rome City Schools
Rome, Georgia