

# HIGH-IMPACT TUTORING

## A Step Beyond Traditional Tutors



### WHO WE ARE

Cignition is a K-12 tutoring program, led by experienced educators who **produce proven, repeatable** results in student success.

### WHAT WE DO

Our research-based approach focuses on data-informed instruction and collaborative learning, encouraging **student-to-student interaction** to build **deep conceptual understanding**.

### WHERE TO FIND US

We're in school districts throughout the country, making **math** and **reading** classrooms a little less stressful.



Transforming  
Virtual  
Tutoring



Giving  
Students That  
"I get it!"  
Moment



Helping Educators  
Get Students Back  
**ON Track and ON**  
Grade Level

### RESEARCH VALIDATED

An [independent evaluation](#) of Cignition's virtual one-to-one tutoring model by Digital Promise showed significant gains in math achievement.

From January to December 2021, Digital Promise partnered with Cignition to conduct research in collaborative learning-based virtual tutoring. A follow-up [randomized controlled trial](#), focused on four-to-one student-to-tutor ratios, was supervised by Mathematica. The nine-week intervention (Feb-May 2022) resulted in similar significant gains in math achievement to the earlier one-to-one model.

# WHO SHOULD ENROLL IN CIGNITION TUTORING?

Tutoring is effective for Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 learners as well as students with special needs and students who are learning English as a second language. For teachers, tutoring can be a tool to provide more individualized attention to students during their school day.

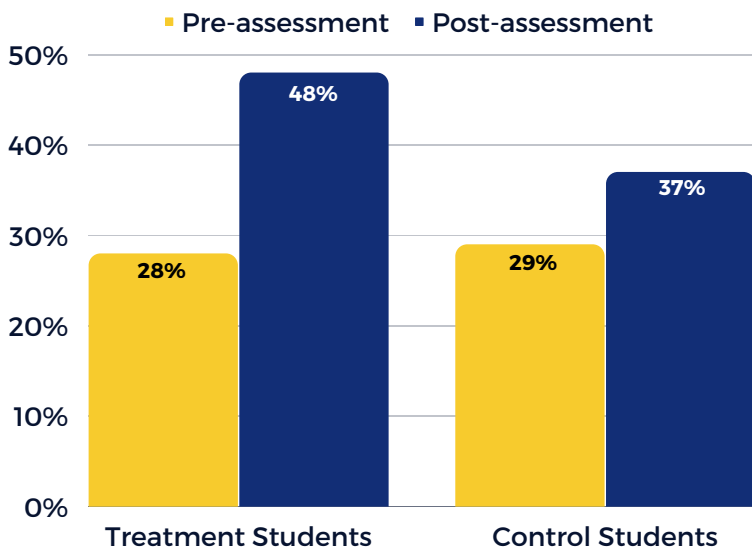
Tutoring can be implemented as part of core instruction, an intervention block, or as a before- or after-school program, although we have found better attendance when tutoring takes place during the school day.

## THE GROUP MODEL

In a recent Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT), we found that students who received Cognition group tutoring learned significantly more math than students who did not.

Students in the treatment condition gained confidence and enjoyment of math and valued their relationship with their tutor.

- Effect size (Hedge's g) for [4:1 tutoring RCT](#): **0.44\*\***
- Prior effect size for [1:1 tutoring RCT](#): **0.46\*\***



## QUALITY OF OUR TUTORS

Our tutors come from a rich background of educational experiences, many of them holding current or previous certifications and having a wealth of classroom exposure.

They go through a rigorous interview process to ensure that **only the best, most qualified candidates are hired** to be part of our team. All candidates are pre-screened and evaluated based on their teaching experience and responses to questions about their pedagogical practices. Each candidate must perform a mock tutoring session as well.

Additionally, each candidate must also pass an assessment of grade-level appropriate Mathematical Content knowledge and/or a test of English Language Arts pedagogical knowledge.

**TUTOR PROFILE**

"MY GOAL IS FOR EVERY STUDENT TO FEEL FULFILLED AND CAPABLE OF CREATING AND SUCCEEDING IN THEIR OWN GOALS. EVERY STUDENT HAS AN IDEA OF WHAT THEY WANT TO ACHIEVE, AND MY SUCCESS IS IN THEIR SUCCESS."

- Preferred Grade Levels/Content Areas:
  - K-8 Math
  - K-12 ELA
- Special Needs Teaching Experience:
  - AD(H)D
  - Autism Spectrum Disorder
  - Cognitive Difficulties
  - Dyslexia/Dyscalculia
  - IEP/504
- Experience with ACT/SAT/HSPT/ISEE/SSAT Prep

**Amber Sherer**

9 Years of Teaching Experience

Bachelor's Degree

## INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES

At Cognition, instruction is the balanced pursuit of conceptual understanding, procedural skills, fluency, problem-solving, vocabulary, and comprehension. Each of these elements is taught through open-ended inquiry tasks that have specific features for inciting student thinking and productive struggle.

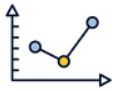
Norm 1	Norm 2	Norm 3	
Explain Why, Not Just the Right Answer	Show Active Listening	Reflect on Learning	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussing</li> <li>• Challenging</li> <li>• Arguing for or against</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreeing/disagreeing</li> <li>• Asking/noticing/wondering</li> <li>• Building on or extending</li> </ul>	<p><b>Compare &amp; Critique</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answers</li> <li>• Strategies</li> <li>• Representations</li> <li>• Similarities &amp; Differences</li> </ul>	<p><b>Summarize</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skills we can use on other problems</li> <li>• Mistakes we learned from</li> <li>• New ways of making sense</li> </ul>

# UNDERSTANDING OUR MATH & ELA APPROACHES

## MATHEMATICS

Cognition's lessons for the tutoring sessions are intended to focus on two components:

- **Implementation of collaborative/cooperative learning norms via a virtual setting** - each lesson is designed to engage students in working together and helping one another to solve problems and learn academic content.
- **Use of inquiry/open-ended tasks that promote collaboration via a virtual setting** - each lesson is designed to strengthen students' knowledge by providing an opportunity for them to think deeply about a novel/open-ended problem and justify/explain their reasoning to others as well as compare and contrast different ways of reasoning.



### Lesson Plan Examples (by grade level)



K - 5th: [More, Fewer & The Same \(K.CC.C.6\)](#).

6th - 8th: [Integer Operations with Hot Air Balloon \(7.NS.A.1d\)](#).

9th - 12th: [How Many Pennies? \(HSF.IF.C.9\)](#).

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA):

We strive to move all students toward independence in reading and language development by using **Science of Reading (SOR)** strategies within the context of inquiry-focused learning. Each student reads grade-appropriate reading material (complex or content-based texts) in every tutoring session to support reading accuracy, fluency, and comprehension.

- **Grades K-3:** Cognition's K-3 English Language Arts program integrates digital tools like Phonics Hero with our decodable readers, enhancing phonemic awareness and phonics. Our structured lessons and tutor-guided strategies ensure students systematically develop and apply their reading skills.
- **Grades 4-12:** For grades 4-12, we adopt the CommonLit curriculum. It offers "play/pause" features for in-depth reading discussions and pre-reading vocabulary lessons. Additionally, with translations in nearly 40 languages, it's inclusive of English Language Learners. CommonLit's benefits, backed by research, include fostering collaboration, boosting engagement, and aligning with English Language Arts standards. All student groups, including those with special needs, benefit equivalently, emphasizing its comprehensive efficacy.



### Lesson Plan Examples (by grade level)



K - 1st: [The Dance of Light \(RI.9\)](#).

2nd - 3rd: [Roar of the Rare Blue Whale \(RI.4\)](#).

4th - 5th: [Learning to Read \(RL.5.2\)](#).

6th - 8th: [The Four Dragons \(RL.7.3\)](#).

9th - 12th: [Excerpt from Shelly's Frankenstein \(RL.9 - 10.1\)](#).

## ENSURING STUDENT SUCCESS



Academic progress is our foremost priority, but it's vital that it's achieved within a framework of respect, understanding, and recognition of each student's unique background. Our tutors provide tailored teaching strategies to ensure personalized learning experiences. To **strengthen the bond between students and tutors**, we include activities that nurture a **supportive, collaborative learning atmosphere**. We also gather student feedback via end-of-session surveys to assess various aspects of the learning process. These insights are pivotal in continuously enhancing our personalized tutoring approach.

## OUR APPROACH TO ASSESSMENT



At Cognition, we use formative assessment processes to optimize students' learning experiences. Our lessons, **grounded in educational standards**, encourage students to articulate their understanding in various forms, enabling tutors to grasp their thought processes. Baseline assessments pinpoint students' current abilities, highlighting areas needing attention and leading to customized instruction. By comparing these with final assessments, we can gauge students' progress, assess our efficacy, and **ensure our tutors' accountability in meeting learning goals**.

## THE DATA DASHBOARD



Cognition provides reports to summarize student attendance, engagement in learning, and progress toward mastery of grade-level standards. **All data are available to school personnel 24/7 within the reporting dashboard**. The reports include data aggregated at the student, class, school, and district levels.

Cognition regularly consults with district/school leaders and teachers to evaluate the programs. During these meetings, Cognition and school staff analyze the data to determine how the stakeholders perceive the program and its impact.

Program Managers also meet with teachers or school coordinators on a weekly or bi-monthly basis to discuss how each student is engaging with the other students/tutor and progressing toward mastery of a topic.

Ready to empower your students to seize control of their learning? Click the button below to get started, or contact us at [info@cognition.com](mailto:info@cognition.com)!

