



HOLT, RINEHART AND WINSTON

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Second Year of Longitudinal Study of *Holt Middle School Math* Shows Significant Achievement Gains and Increased Math Skills

ORLANDO, Florida – January 27, 2005 – Researchers from the Educational Research Institute of America published a report today showing that students using the *Holt Middle School Math* curriculum from Holt, Rinehart and Winston and representing diverse socio-economic backgrounds showed statistically significant gains in mathematics test scores on the SAT 10 national standardized test for the second year in a row and that those scores exceeded the norm population expected gains.

The study was conducted by Educational Research Institute of America (ERIA), which found that *Holt Middle School Math (Holt MSM)* fosters significant skill development in critical areas of mathematics and that continued use of *Holt MSM* may lead to increased achievement. ERIA concluded that students using the curriculum can be expected to perform well on state and standardized tests, such as the Stanford Achievement Test, that contain items related to numeration, algebraic skills, and problem solving. The study was conducted in 11 different schools in seven different states including Illinois, Kansas, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Texas, and South Dakota and represented a mix of urban, suburban, and rural locations as well as a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds in students.

Of particular interest to the researchers was the performance of self-identified minority students as compared to the national norm group. As the study began and before *Holt MSM* had been implemented, the students in the study scored slightly below the national norm group. In the spring 2003 testing period, after five months of instruction with *Holt MSM*, these students had increased more than expected according to national norms, and by the end of the second year, the students' scores exceeded the gains experienced by the national norm group.

Holt Middle School Math (www.hrw.com/math) was first made available to schools for the 2002/03 school year. The curriculum is based on research theories that include strategies for differentiated instruction, strategic problem solving, accessibility for all learners, formative and summative assessment, and the transition to advanced mathematics. *Holt MSM* also offers supplemental resources, intervention strategies, and educational tools and is available in an online version—*Holt Middle School Mathematics Premier Online Student Edition*—which offers a highly interactive curriculum with enhanced features made possible by the online environment.

About Holt, Rinehart and Winston

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Holt, Rinehart and Winston is a leading publisher of textbooks and educational materials for grades six through 12 and is part of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in PreK through grade 12, adult learners, and readers of all ages. The Harcourt companies are Harcourt School Publishers; Holt, Rinehart and Winston; Harcourt Achieve (including the Rigby, Steck-Vaughn, and Saxon imprints); Harcourt Assessment; Classroom Connect; Harcourt Canada; and Harcourt Trade Publishers. For further information, please call (800) 992-1627 or visit www.hrw.com or www.harcourt.com.

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