



# SUCCESS STORIES

EDUCATORS, STUDENTS, & FAMILIES SHARE THEIR READING SUCCESS!

## Frustrated English Learner to Confident Student



*"I am doing much better; last year I was struggling with reading, [but] I feel I am ready for middle school."*

Mariely  
2010 System 44 All-Star, Upper Elementary  
Moreno Valley, CA

Mariely, a fifth grader from Moreno Valley, California, is an English Language Learner who started out the school year with very little confidence in her academic abilities. When her teacher tested her reading ability at the end of the 2008–2009 school year using the *Scholastic Reading Inventory (SRI)*, her Lexile score was 186, which placed her in danger of falling even further behind her on-level classmates once school started again in the fall. Mariely's family speaks Spanish at home, and her teachers knew it was critical to enroll her in *System 44* to ensure that she was receiving the English language instruction she needed to be successful in school.

After enrolling in *System 44*, Mariely's academic achievement can only be matched by her improved self-confidence and now bubbly personality. After one semester in the program, she has gone from a reading ability that classified her as "Far Below Basic" to gaining almost 600 Lexile points, considered "Proficient" for her grade level. Her teacher Nancy Rosenblum says, "every lesson I teach, she absorbs like a sponge. She is able to read accurately, fluently and with great comprehension." Because of *System 44*, Mariely is now opening doors for herself and growing from a struggling reader to a student who sees many possibilities available to her in the future. She recognizes the change in herself and academic abilities is prepared for the next steps in her life, and says, "I am doing much better; last year I was struggling with reading, [but] I feel I am ready for middle school."

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