



*New Zealand*

# *Computer-based learning using SuccessMaker*

# **Tuition Programme**

*A Special Board of Trustees Information Booklet*

**SPECIAL  
OFFER**

We are pleased to inform you that we are now offering before & after school tuition at a ***subsidised rate for 2012***. See inside for info.

# What is SuccessMaker?

- ❖ SuccessMaker is a special programme that we are proud to be able to offer to our students at Te Kowhai. It was initially funded through the generous support of school groups and external grants.
- ❖ SuccessMaker is a very sophisticated interactive computer-based programme designed to individually extend students in maths, reading & spelling.
- ❖ SuccessMaker evaluates each student's skill level in a wide range of areas and will **create a programme, specifically for each student**.
- ❖ The computer tracks the student's progress, and automatically adjusts each programme, customising to each student's individual needs on a daily basis.
- ❖ SuccessMaker caters equally well for remedial through to extension work.
- ❖ SuccessMaker helps individual's master topics and skills they may be having difficulty with.

# Who Can Use SuccessMaker?

- ❖ SuccessMaker is suitable for **Year 3-8 students**. \* Whilst programmes are available for younger students, due to keyboard skills required we don't recommend this.
- ❖ SuccessMaker is suitable for **all students**, as it caters for students who need extra help with the curriculum, whilst also extending those students whom are achieving at very high levels.
- ❖ **Te Kowhai students have free access to the programme during the school day**. Teachers select which students will attend on a termly basis, based on needs and school target groups. Over 130 students attended last year.

# Is SuccessMaker available for tuition?

- ❖ We are pleased to inform you that we are now offering before & after school tuition at a special rate. For 2012+, the Board of Trustees has opted to reduce the cost, in the interests of increasing attendance, and ultimately overall student achievement. Tuition costs are based on a non-profit rate & the board is happy to "break even".
- ❖ Cost - **\$6 per 30min session** (this is approximately **one-third** of the cost of some tuition based programmes offered in town, with the added convenience of the saved travel/time commitment).
- ❖ The suite is open before school (8:20am-8:50am) and after school (3.05-3.35pm) Monday to Friday (*session times are dependent on whether we can ensure group sizes of 2-4*). For tuition, we recommend that students be enrolled for a minimum of x2 30min sessions per week.

# What are the Benefits?

SuccessMaker offers many positive benefits:

- ❖ Outstanding gains in all subjects
- ❖ Independent research has shown that students show an **average gain in reading age of 1 month per hour** spent on the programme! We have also seen **significant** gains in achievement, based on school-based assessments (e.g STAR reading, asTTle maths/reading, numeracy stages etc). In many cases, the groups of students attending SuccessMaker have shown **gains well above the expected national gain**.
- ❖ Positive learning attitudes.
- ❖ Increased attention span
- ❖ Students make very pronounced gains in their learning, this success and level gains carry over in their usual classroom programme

# Courses Available

Courses are available in Mathematics, Reading, Spelling, and Science.

**Maths Concepts and Skills:** This course develops and maintains basic concepts and skills. 30,000 activities in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, decimals, equations, number concepts, geometry, measurement, problem solving strategies, science applications, probability and statistics.

**Maths Enrichment:** Provides individualised study of selected topics; Sets, Geometry, Statistics, Probability, Logic, Functions and Graphing (*older students*)

**Reading Readiness:** Prepares students to learn to read. Includes letter identification, vocabulary building and comprehension skills.

**Initial Reading:** Concentrates on vocabulary, word attack and comprehension skills. Students learn letter identification, patterns, phonics and sight words.

**Readers Workshop:** More than 12,000 activities, which promote reading and develops literacy and critical reading skills.

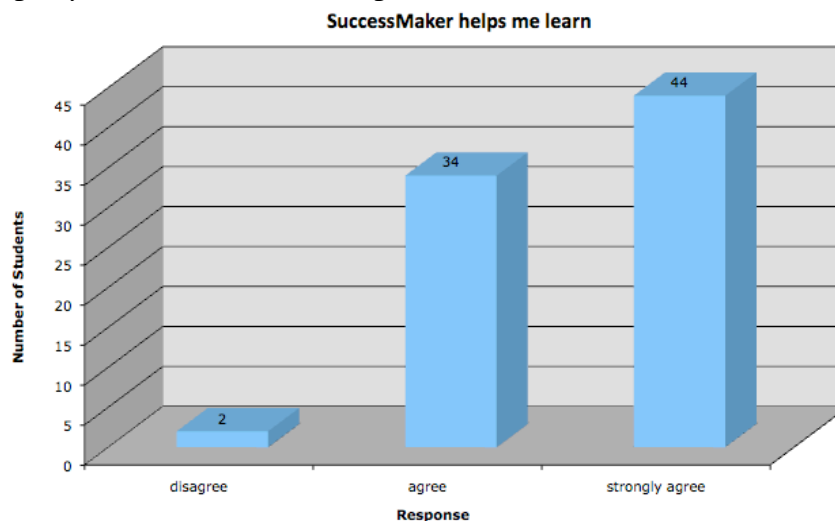
**Reading Investigation:** Guides students through challenging literature sections using fiction and non-fiction. (*older students*)

**Spelling Skills:** Combines practice, tutoring and games. Uses pictures and animations. Over 3,200 words graded by year.

**Science Discovery:** Encourages students to develop scientific ways of thinking. Students are able to perform experiments, form predictions, gather and interpret data. (*older students*)

# Endorsements

Survey Results (Sample groups of students attending SuccessMaker in 2010/2011)



## Student's Comments:

I especially enjoy reading - it's fun! I enjoy challenges and I look forward to it each day.

I am focusing more now

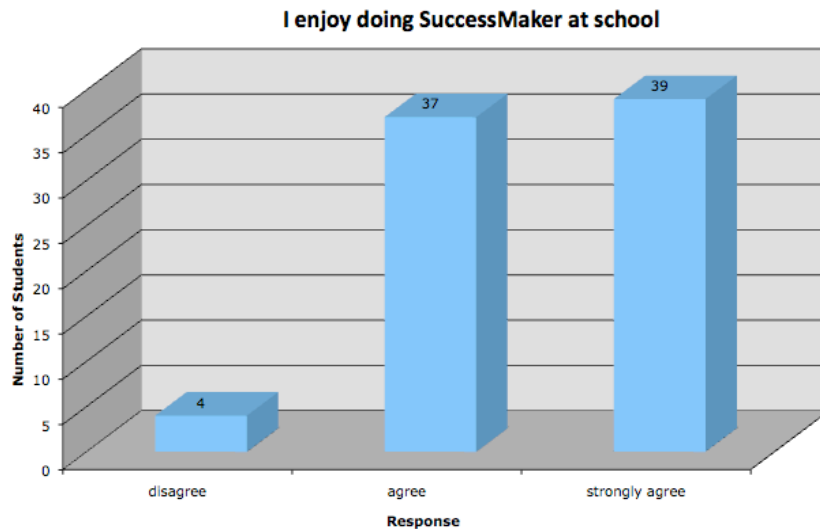
It helps me learn heaps and it's fun.

It is sooooo FUN!!

I think it was a good idea to put in our school because it helps us with our subjects

It makes you a better learner!

I enjoy learning new things & I know it has helped my learning in many ways.



**Parents' Comments:** *I was very impressed with their first session of SuccessMaker and they both thoroughly enjoyed it. They want to go every day!  
My son is telling us he thinks it is making a big difference. His confidence level is improving. I believe we are starting to see the benefits of the sessions. We are definitely noticing that reading is not the chore that it used to be...so all good.*

**Teacher's Comments:**

- Able to focus and concentrate for longer
- Improved self-confidence
- More independent in work habits
- More enthusiastic about learning

We are hugely grateful to the initial set-up financial support from the:

- First Sovereign Trust** - **\$12,000**
- Trinity Foundation** - **\$2,000**
- Te Kowhai School P.T.A** - **\$2,000**
- Top School Games Committee** - **\$2,000**



*The Board of Trustees also contributes a significant annual amount to ensure the ongoing success of this programme.*

If you are interested in looking at the Successmaker programme in action, feel free to pop in between 9am and 2:30pm each day or alternatively contact the school to make a time - 8297860

For any queries or enrolments please contact Tony Grey (Principal), [tonyg@tekowhai.school.nz](mailto:tonyg@tekowhai.school.nz)