

Technology Prepares students for Standardized Testing

Children who spend more time interacting with computers and Internet content perform better on standardized tests and show an increase in *GPA*, according to a recent study by Michigan State University psychology professor and child technology researcher, Linda Jackson.

By researching and looking up information on the Internet, children increase the amount of time they spend learning outside of schoolwork. Using computers enhances a child's everyday thought process and encourages children to absorb information in a variety of different styles, helpful for standardized testing.

"Technology is definitely going to help the future of standardized testing," says Bruce Bertan, M.Ed., a *COMPUTER EXPLORERS* franchisee. "At *COMPUTER EXPLORERS*, we're taking the opportunity to teach technology in a way that enhances the test taking skills of the students.

"*COMPUTER EXPLORERS* helps students by integrating content commonly found on standardized tests into projects," says Bertan. "By enhancing and enriching the way our students learn the information presented in standardized tests, we reinforce classroom skills and encourage learning at all speeds."

The effect of technology carries over into computer use in the home as well. Children who spent more time online were reading text based Web pages, and therefore, spending more time reading compared with their unconnected peers, according to Jackson's research.

For many students, taking a standardized test is often difficult and stressful. However, as technology use and understanding grows, testing becomes easier and produces better results for students — while teachers focus on developing the best education practices for their classrooms.

