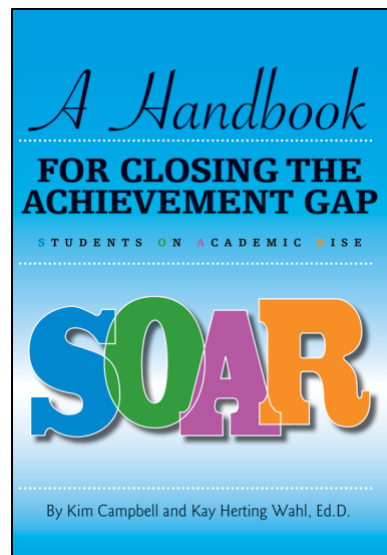


SOAR: A Handbook for Closing the Achievement Gap

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Key Learning Area: Cross-Curricular



Summary

Kim Campbell struggled to help disadvantaged students in her school. When a few students began to stop by her room after school for help with their homework, something happened. They showed amazing growth – and the SOAR program found its wings.

Students began to rise in a number of ways:

- Their attendance improved.
- Their self-confidence grew.
- Their grades rose.
- They did their homework (and turned it in)!
- Their attitudes toward school became more positive.
- Understanding of their work increased.
- They had fewer discipline and behaviour problems.
- They began to think it was cool to be good students.

SOAR is more than just an after-school tutoring program. Its purposeful components help students gain social, cultural and behavioural skills that complement targeted academic skills.

This handbook outlines steps and techniques that any teacher, group of teachers or school can follow to replicate the program with their students. It gives plans, tips and specific strategies that will help you design your own program to meet your goals.

Other Resources

- *Who Moved My Standards? Joyful Teaching in an Age of Change: A SOAR-ing Tale* (LSM1253)
- *SOAR Quick Reference Guide* (LSM1246)