

#### 4. Study on the Profile of English Language Education in Elementary Schools

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##### (1) Purpose and Aim of Study

This study involved using pilot schools as subjects for analysis of basic data on elementary school English education, together with numerous teaching methods and contents, and thereby furnishing materials for reference in developing English language education at elementary schools into the future.

##### (2) Outline of Research Results

- Gathered data from a total of 53 pilot schools.

Content:

- Detailed data on implementation, curriculum, etc.
- Actual instructional materials
- Goal-specific survey data
- Questionnaire surveys of schoolchildren, etc.
- Visited all 53 pilot schools, observed classes, and conducted interviews, etc. with principals and teachers in charge of English language programs.
- Held a research briefing session in February 2009, and produced a report on findings in March of the same year.
- Content of the report on findings
- Outline of results of the goal-specific survey

##### Listening skills survey

- In most cases the percentage of correct answers increased as the number of class hours per year increased.
- The more positive students' attitude towards English was, the easier it tended to be to respond correctly to the listening quiz.

##### Speaking skills survey

- The percentage of correct answers to the same problem was higher for sixth-year students than for fifth-year students; the proportion of non-responses was also lower.

##### Alphabet skills survey

- Students feel that reading and writing the alphabet is "important," but the number of negative opinions concerning the "enjoyment" in this activity also grew as the degree of study experience increased.