

Introduction to Astrid for Teachers and Schools

Thank you for your interest in Astrid! We look forward to working with you.

This document can help you decide if Astrid is right for your students. It describes how you can use Astrid with your class, and how to try it out.

You can also watch our [Introduction Video](#) to see how Astrid works for teachers and students.

Please reach out to me directly at rachel@astrideducation.com if you have any questions or feedback about your experience with Astrid. I'd love to hear your thoughts.

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What is Astrid?

Astrid for students

The [Astrid Magical Schoolbook](#) Mobile App gives students a fun way to practice English speaking, listening, and reading. It is designed for young learners, aged 8 to 12. They can use Astrid at home or at school, on tablets or smartphones.

Stories and activities

Astrid uses engaging stories to expose learners to natural and level-appropriate English. These stories also provide insights into the lives of English-speaking people, teaching students about the cultures in which the language is used.

Students practice reading and pronunciation by reading stories aloud. They get immediate feedback on their pronunciation through state-of-the-art speech recognition technology. Students practice listening skills by listening to stories read by a native English speaker. Every story includes comprehension questions to help students check their understanding. Students can practice vocabulary from the stories with stand-alone vocabulary activities.

Personalization

Astrid gives each new student a placement test to assess their English ability, and recommends stories at the appropriate level. At the end of each story, students have the chance to practice the words they had the most difficulty pronouncing. This personalized approach makes learning more effective and efficient.

Emotional support

Astrid gives students the chance to practice their English, make mistakes, get feedback, and try again, all in a private setting. This can help build confidence and encourage students to challenge themselves without fear of judgement.

Astrid for teachers

The [Astrid Teacher Web App](#) helps you guide and support your students.

Library

You can see all of Astrid's stories, grouped by CEFR English level, in your **Library**. Read or listen to a story to see what your students will experience in Astrid.

Insights

On the **Insights** page, you can monitor student effort and performance at the individual and group levels. We aim to provide actionable insights so you can offer support and remediation, and adjust lesson plans to meet student needs.

My Classes

In **My Classes**, you can create a class, and add your students' names to create their accounts. You can share logins with your students through handouts or email.

How teachers use Astrid

Teachers use Astrid as a supplemental learning tool to support students' independent study and practice. There are several ways you can use Astrid with your classes.

Homework

Some teachers ask students to spend a certain amount of time working on Astrid per day or week—either at home, or during free periods at school. They can be confident that Astrid will automatically select stories and exercises at the right level for each student.

In-class independent study

Some teachers ask students to study with Astrid during class. This can give teachers a chance to work with particular students individually while the rest of the class is working with Astrid independently. Teachers can also ask students to work on Astrid if they're waiting for other students to complete a task, to keep fast-finishers focused on learning. It can be useful for students to use headphones in class, to control noise levels.

Group study

Some teachers use Astrid stories as part of larger reading and listening lessons. Teachers can ask all the students to read or listen to the same story in Astrid. They then lead a class discussion or activities around the themes or language in the story. Some stories, including Astrid Classics, are available at multiple levels, so students can have a group discussion about a story even if they have different English levels.

Technical information

The **Astrid Student Mobile App** is available for all **smartphones and tablets**. For best performance, make sure to have the latest version of iOS or Android installed on the device.

The **Astrid Teacher Web App** can be accessed at <https://teach.withastrid.com> on any **computer**.

For best performance, use Google Chrome to access the teacher web app.

How to try Astrid

Demo Teacher Account

To see what Astrid looks like to teachers with students, try our demo teacher account:

- URL: <https://teach.withastrid.com>
- Username: teacherdemo@astrideducation.com
- Password: teacher123

You can check out our stories in the **Library**, or go to **Insights** to see what you could learn about your students.

Demo Student Account

Download the Astrid student app from the **App Store** or **Google Play** (search for "Astrid English"), and log in with our demo student account:

- Email: evac
- Password: EC9816

You can click on a story cover in the **Read** section to read the story out loud and get pronunciation feedback, or scroll down to the **Listen** section to listen to a story and answer questions.



アストリッド効果研究調査

<https://www.astrideducation.com/>

はじめに

現在、若者にとって、英語は非常に重要なスキルです。言語学習アプリは、レベルに応じた英語教材やアクティビティ、スピーキングの機会や英語に対する効果的なフィードバックなどにより、生徒をサポートします。したがって、英語学習アプリが若年層の言語学習者の英語スキルにどのような影響を与えるかを理解することが重要です。

本研究は、「アストリッドマジカルスクールブック」アプリが若年層の英語学習者に与える下記の能力への影響を検証するものです。:

- 読解力
- リスニング力
- 発音の正確さ
- 流ちょうさ
- スピーキングに対する自信

私達たちは、アストリッドで3ヶ月間学習した生徒は、そうでない生徒に比べて、これらの指標に大きな改善が見られるのではないか、という仮説を立てています。

参加者

各参加校では、同学年で同レベルの英語力で、できれば同じ先生が担当する英語クラスを少なくとも1組作っていただきます。

これらのクラスの生徒は、以下の条件を満たしている必要があります。

- 8歳から12歳までの方
- 学校で外国語として英語を学んでいること
- 英語レベルがA1からB2(初級から中級上)であること
- 英語の読み書きができること
- アストリッドと一緒に学習できるモバイル機器(タブレットまたはスマートフォン)をお持ちの方

そのうちの1つのクラスが実験を行い、調査研究期間中にアストリッドを使用します。もう1つのクラスは、調査研究期間中にアストリッドを使用しない対照クラスとします。

調査研究に参加したいが条件を満たすクラスが1つしかないという学校は、ほかの選択肢を相談させていただきますので、rachel@astrideducation.com、ご連絡ください。



研究プロセス

研究期間は3ヶ月間です。実験クラスと対照クラスの両方で参加するすべての生徒が、研究調査期間の初めに事前テストを行い、研究調査期間の終わりにテストを行います。

事前テストと事後テストは下記の内容です

- 標準化されている英語の読解力テスト
- 標準化されている英語のリスニングテスト
- 生徒が自分で英語の短文を声に出して読んでいるところを録音する

研究期間の終わりに、短いアンケートを2つお送りします。

- 自分の英語力に対する認識とアストリッドアプリの使用経験について調査する生徒へのアンケート(母国語)
- 生徒の英語力に対する認識とアストリッドアプリの使用経験について調査する教師アンケート

生徒のテストやアンケートはすべて授業中に行ってください。

3ヶ月の調査研究期間中、実験クラスの生徒には、週に60分間、アストリッドのモバイルアプリを使用させていただきます。これは先生のご希望に応じて、授業中でも、授業外でもかまいません。

参加する生徒の保護者の方には、同意書(母国語)への署名をお願いします。

研究期間が終了した後は、実験クラスと対照クラスどちらの生徒も全員は、残りの期間で、アストリッドに自由にアクセスできるようになります。



研究成果の発信と活用

調査研究の結果は、研究論文上やアストリッドに関する情報発信にて共有します。これらには、参加した生徒、先生、学校の個人情報は一切含まれません。

同様に重要なことですが、アストリッドの開発者にこの商品の効果が高くみられた箇所または、効果があまり見られなかった箇所という極めて重要な情報を提供いたし、すべてのアストリッドユーザーの役にたつように更なる改善の参考とさせていただきます。

生徒、先生、学校のメリット

この研究に参加することで、様々なメリットが得られます。

- 生徒にはアストリッドの英語のストーリーを学べ、また自分の英語に対するフィードバックを受けることができるというメリットがあります。
- 教師には、アストリッドが提供する生徒のパフォーマンスを随時情報として得られるというメリットがあります。
- 教師は、調査結果をもとに、生徒が英語や自分の能力に対しどのような気持ちをもっているかをよりしっかりと理解することができます。
- テストの結果をもとにして、生徒の英語力をより明確に理解することができることは生徒、教師双方にとってのメリットとなります。
- 教師や学校は、アストリッドが生徒の学習に与える影響を評価するのに役立つデータを得ることができます。
- 教師は専門的な開発時間が付与され、さらに研究参加証明書を取得することができます。
- 学校にはアストリッドへの無料アクセスが可能というメリットがあります。

Astrid Efficacy Research Study

Introduction

English is a crucial skill for today's young people. Language learning apps can support students with level-appropriate English language materials and activities, speaking opportunities, and effective feedback on their English. Therefore, it is important to understand how language learning apps affect the English skills of young language learners.

This study examines the impact of the Astrid Magical Schoolbook app on young English language learners':

- reading comprehension
- listening comprehension
- pronunciation accuracy
- fluency
- speaking confidence

We hypothesize that students who study with Astrid for 3 months will see a greater improvement in these measures than students who do not.

Participants

In each participating school, we ask for at least one pair of English classes that are the same grade and English level, and ideally have the same teacher.

The students in these classes should:

- be 8 to 12 years old
- study English as a foreign language at school
- have A1 to B2 (Beginner to Upper Intermediate) English levels
- be literate in English
- have access to a mobile device (tablet or smartphone) on which they can study with Astrid

One of these classes would be the Experiment class, which would use Astrid during the research period. The other would be the Control class, which would not use Astrid during the research period.

If a school is interested in participating in the research, but only has one class that meets the criteria, please contact us at rachel@astrideducation.com, to discuss other options.

Research process

The research period will last for 3 months. All participating students, in both the Experiment and the Control classes, will do a pre-test at the beginning of the research period, and a post-test at the end of the research period.

The pre-test and post-test will consist of:

- A standardized English reading comprehension test
- A standardized English listening comprehension test
- Students recording themselves reading a short passage in English out loud

At the end of the research period, we will send 2 short surveys:

- A student survey (in their native language) about their perceptions of their own English abilities and their experiences with the Astrid app
- A teacher survey about their perceptions of their students' English abilities and their experiences with the Astrid app

All student tests and surveys should be completed in class.

During the 3 month research period, we request that students in the Experiment class use the Astrid mobile app for 60 minutes a week. This could be in or outside of class, depending on the teacher's preferences.

We will ask the parents of all participating students to sign a consent form (in their native language).

After the research period is over, all students in both the Experiment and Control classes will have free access to Astrid for the rest of the year.

Communicating and using the research

We will share the results of the research study through research papers and in information about Astrid. These will not include any identifying information about the students, teachers, or schools participating.

Just as importantly, this study will provide crucial information to Astrid product developers on where the product is more or less effective, to guide further improvements that will benefit all Astrid users.

Benefits to students, teachers, and schools

Participating in this research will bring a number of benefits.

- Students benefit from Astrid's English stories, and feedback on their English
- Teachers benefit from Astrid's information on student performance over time
- Teachers benefit from a clearer understanding of students' feelings about English and their own abilities, based on the survey results
- Both students and teachers benefit from a clearer understanding of students' English abilities, based on the test results
- Teachers and schools benefit from data that will help them evaluate the impact of Astrid on their own students' learning
- Teachers benefit from professional development hours and a study participation certificate
- Schools benefit from free access to Astrid