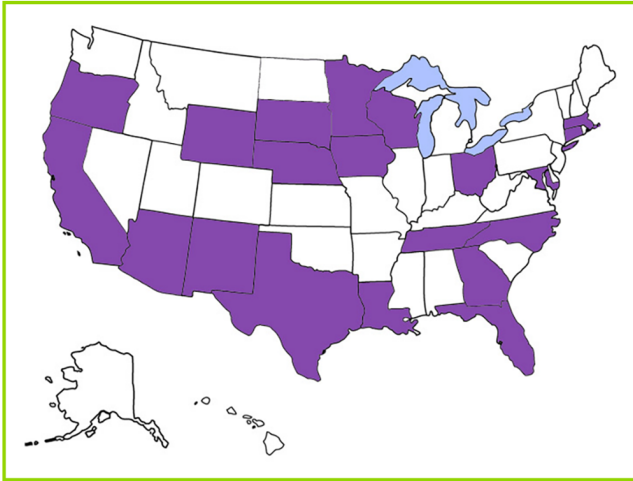


# HERO ELEMENTARY RESEARCH BRIEF: EDUCATIONAL IMPACT



## HERO ELEMENTARY IMPLEMENTS WITH 32 PARTNERS IN 22 STATES!



Purple states indicate locations of Hero Elementary partners.

The Sparks' Crew has been hard at work, undertaking their latest and greatest mission:

- igniting children's natural curiosity
- broadening their understanding of how the world works
- empowering them to make a positive difference in their communities!

The Hero Elementary program has been steadily growing nationwide since its launch in 2019. Over 20 after-school programs, museums, and youth develop organizations have implemented the program. Using a Train-the-trainer model, we are reaching communities far and wide, including partnerships with the Beacons Network, Boys & Girls Club, Freedom Schools, YMCA, and many more!

**10**  
PLAYLISTS

**470**  
STUDENTS

**32**  
PARTNERS

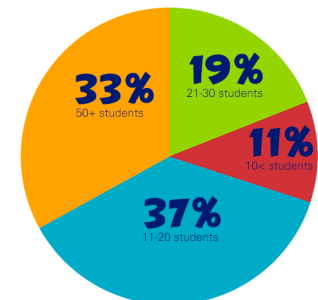
*"It provided individual children the opportunity to document their understanding, questions and interpretation of the lessons. Intuitive and fun for the kids to use."*

*– Hero Elementary Afterschool Educator*

## EXTERNAL EVALUATORS STUDIED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST COHORT OF HERO ELEMENTARY.\*

Findings from the study indicated:

- The Hero Elementary program was implemented in small, medium, and large organizations, ranging from groups of 5 students to 50 students.
- Similarly, while some sites had one classroom of 20 students participating in the program, other sites served 250 students across multiple classrooms.
- Educators who implemented the program found it to be very engaging and navigable.
- The Hands-on Activities make the Hero Elementary program more robust by providing hands-on experiences outside of the digital platform that reinforce science learning and critical thinking.



The versatility of the Hero Elementary program allows for implementation across small and large organizations.

\*WestEd conducted independent studies of children's use of the Hero Elementary program over 8 weeks.



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*"I appreciate the equity focus. I am hopeful that students will identify with the characters and that this will empower them to be confident in their curiosity and education."*

*– Hero Elementary Afterschool Educator*

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**The Hero Elementary program has also been implemented with afterschool organizations serving students with various disabilities. As the program was developed with principles from the Universal Design for Learning, educators have been able to adapt the program to meet the interests and needs of their children. With appropriate modifications, educators are able to successfully implement digital activities for students with various abilities.**

*The flexible nature of HE made it possible for the educator to make changes and adjustments on the fly based on her students' needs. – External Researcher*

*The digital game combined with the [Hero Elementary] video ... was helpful for students to learn the [science] concepts. – Afterschool Educator*



Twin cities PBS is a recipient of the Ready To Learn Initiative, supported by the U.S. Department of Education, The Initiative brings educational television and digital media resources to children, promoting early learning and school readiness, with an emphasis on supporting children from low-income, underserved communities.

The contents of this document were developed under a cooperative agreement from the U.S. Department of Education Award Number U295A150012). However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the federal government

