

Report: Yale University Includes Big6 in Triarchic Instruction Study

Attention Grant Writers/Educators:

Yale University's PACE Center conducted a controlled study to evaluate the affect of instruction that contains Analytic, Creative, and Practical (triarchic) elements in Sternberg's Theory of Intelligence ([Sternberg, 1985](#)).

The Standards based-curriculum developed by Yale includes the Big6 framework for information problem solving. We'd like to share the "True Wonders Teacher's Guide" and "True Wonders Student Workbook" used in Yale's PACE Center study. We hope you'll also review the Final Report.

"Data collected from thousands of students showed that students who were taught informative nonfiction using the Big6 approach with a combination of analytical, creative, and practical activities, outperformed students who were taught two alternative approaches." – Linda Jarvin, Ph.D., Associate Director, PACE Center, Yale University

True Wonders – Students learn library research skills and are expected to develop an understanding of research methods, understand the difference between fiction and nonfiction, and learn to use reading strategies to synthesize information from nonfiction sources.

[Yale's Final report 2004: Triarchic Instruction](#)

[True Wonders Teacher guide](#)

[True Wonders Student Workbook](#)

School Districts in Yale PACE Study

The aim was to recruit schools representing a wide range of (1) geographical locations, (2) urban vs suburban vs rural status, (3) ethnic makeup, and (4) socioeconomic makeup.

Researchers recruited schools from 11 counties in 9 states across the United States. A total of 3,270 school districts were contacted and informed about the program.

"However, the increased benefit of triarchic instruction becomes evident in the *True Wonders* unit, the second unit taught. In *True Wonders*, the triarchic instruction resulted in consistently better gain than the memory instruction, and marginally better gain than critical thinking instruction (*total* score and the *creative-practical* score). The benefit of the triarchic instruction appears to increase as teachers and students gain a better understanding of the pedagogy, and possibly, become less entrenched in traditional ways of teaching and learning."