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**STUDY FINDS STUDENTS USING NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL PUBLISHING'S
'INSIDE' PROGRAM MAKE SIGNIFICANT GAINS IN READING, LANGUAGE**

WASHINGTON (Feb. 25, 2010)—“Inside Language, Literacy, and Content,” an innovative Reading/Language Arts program, helped students improve their reading and language skills significantly within a year, a research study by the independent SEG Research Group has found. “Inside,” published by National Geographic School Publishing, provides comprehensive instruction and accessible content for middle school students who have not mastered essential reading, writing and language skills and who are typically reading two or more years below grade level.

More than 2,000 students from 30 schools and 15 districts, representing a wide range of student demographics and school communities from across the United States, participated in this study during the 2008-2009 school year. Results reveal that “Inside” students made about twice as much progress as norms would predict, and when matched with control group students using other intervention programs, students who used “Inside” performed well above their peers and gained significantly more in both reading and language on a standardized measure.

“Inside” equips students with the skills they need to succeed in an academic environment. The innovative program motivates early adolescent readers through engaging, high-interest, multicultural literature and compelling nonfiction selections, presented in thematic units organized around big ideas that are relevant to students. “Inside” sparks the desire to learn and reaches the diverse interests of students at just the right reading level. Additionally, it comprehensively covers national standards with a spiraling curriculum and overlapping readabilities to quickly and effectively move students to grade-level achievement.

“We understand the importance of effectiveness research and have integrated it into our publishing program,” said Alison Wagner, president, National Geographic School Publishing. “The ‘Inside’ study illustrates how National Geographic School Publishing materials can make a significant difference. I look forward to partnering with educators who are using the ‘Inside’ program to engage their students and unlock their true potential.”

(OVER)

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“It is really up to us, as educators, to provide the reading intervention students need to reach proficiency. ‘Inside’ meets the needs of our English-language learners, Special Education students and English-only students who are two or more years behind in reading,” said Wendy Pospichal, principal of a California middle school participating in the “Inside” study. “One of the greatest things about ‘Inside’ is that students have been given the opportunity to experience success and are motivated. They love the materials — the richness of the visuals, the variety of modalities, the wealth of resources — and they feel confident they’ve mastered core content and improved their reading skills.”

“I was and still am incredibly proud of the progress my students made in just one school year and know that ‘Inside’ ensures a positive educational experience that is desperately needed in order for students to become productive citizens of this world. ‘Inside’ really works!” remarked Kellito Forbes, an Oklahoma middle school teacher and “Inside” study participant.

National Geographic School Publishing

National Geographic School Publishing provides quality PreK-12 instructional materials, including resources for emergent and early literacy, reading/language arts, ESL/ELD, science, social studies and content literacy development. The National Geographic and Hampton-Brown brands include award-winning educational programs that deliver the high-interest content for which National Geographic is known. For more information, visit www.ngsp.com.

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