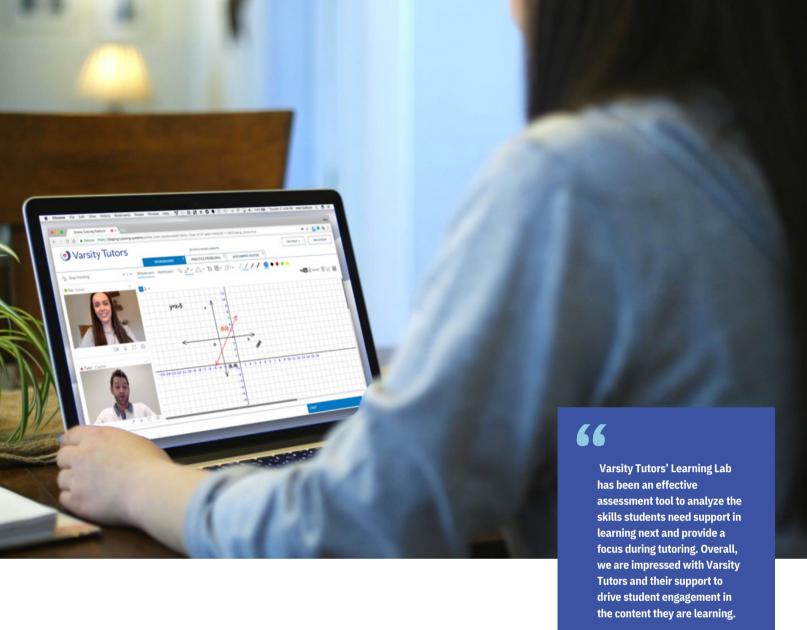


# Varsity Tutors Case Study

Our latest research with over 14,800 students demonstrates that Varsity Tutors' academic support program helped 91% of students accelerate learning and achieve skill mastery in areas where they had learning skill gaps.





## THE OPPORTUNITY

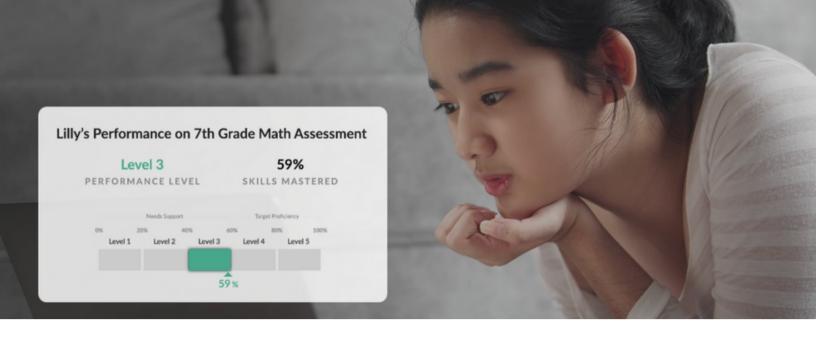
Academic support that leads to substantial learning gains.

COVID-19 has significantly impacted students, parents, and educators nationwide. Ongoing school disruptions and closures caused students to miss learning opportunities and fall behind where they would be after a normal school year. As the largest and most scalable Live Learning Platform, Varsity Tutors effectively helps students by diagnosing learning needs and providing the necessary academic support to accelerate learning and close learning gaps.

This case study looks at the performance improvements of students nationwide who sought academic support from Varsity Tutors in a variety of K-12 subjects. Through adaptive diagnostics, live online instruction, and personalized learning plans, Varsity Tutors helped these students get back on track and bridged their skills gaps.



- Dr. Nimisha Bhatt, Peoria Public Schools



# THE SOLUTION

#### Personal approach for every student.

We believe every student is unique, and that the "one size fits all" approach to learning does not equitably meet the needs of every students. To properly diagnose each student, we start with an adaptive assessment that measures subject mastery based on learning standards. Using the latest advances in learning science, our adaptive assessments can measure a student's proficiency, including foundational skill gaps across multiple grade levels in any subject, in just 20-30 minutes. Our approach provides a clear understanding of a student's baseline and reduces the risk of assessment fatigue.

After a student completes the assessment, we generate a detailed diagnostic report that outlines overall performance, strengths, and areas for improvement, all broken down by subject-specific skills. This serves as the basis for delivering a personalized learning plan that pinpoints the exact skills the student needs to work on and in what order. Each student's learning plan is accessible in our Learning Lab, which includes a full suite of practice problems and instructional videos to master the skills they need. Tutors use the learning plan to inform tutoring sessions to ensure personalized support from the very first session.

### Accelerated learning with high-dosage tutoring.

A strong student-tutor relationship delivers better outcomes. To ensure every tutor meets the highest standards, we rigorously vet each applicant through tutoring simulations, academic and personal background checks, and interviews. We've also developed a proprietary matching process with over 100 variables to identify the perfect tutor for each student.

Tutoring sessions take place on our Live Learning Platform. With 2-way video, interactive tools, and shared workspaces, tutors and students can interact and collaborate as if they're in the same room. Every 1-on-1 tutoring session that takes place on the Live Learning Platform is recorded, so students can go back, rewatch their session and catch anything they missed or can't recall. Students can join a tutoring session from the comfort of home, the library, or just about anywhere using mobile and tablet apps.

## Our approach at a glance

- Varsity Tutors sets a baseline of student skills gaps and mastery using our adaptive diagnostic assessment.
- We then generate a learning plan and match students to a tutor.
- Tutors conduct sessions and utilize the learning plan to personalize instruction.
- Tutoring sessions are accompanied by assignments.
- Assignments are completed by students in between tutoring sessions in the Learning Lab, which uses Bayesian Knowledge Tracing Algorithm to measure student mastery.
- We measure student performance improvement by percent of unmastered skills from the baseline that become mastered after tutoring occurs.

### Varsity Tutors Case Study

## THE RESULTS

Varsity Tutors helped students achieve substantial learning gains with 91% of students (n > 14,800) turning learning gaps into subject skill mastery.

Students who choose Varsity Tutors require just-in-time results to support very near-term interventions; therefore, instead of pre-test - tutoring - post-test sequence, we use a baseline plus mastery quotient approach to measure outcomes.

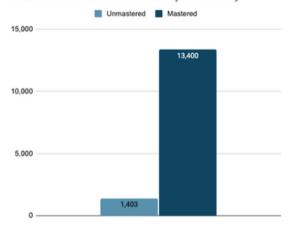
We measure mastery of students at a skill level. Mastery is defined as the probability that a student has learned that skill given the student's responses to specific questions targeted to assess that skill (80% or higher is classified as mastering a skill).

Overall, we found that our academic support, which included assessment, one-on-one tutoring, and asynchronous assignments, resulted in substantial gains in skill mastery and improved learning outcomes. 91% of students (n > 14,800) turned unmastered skills based on baseline assessments into a mastered state.

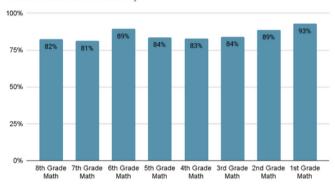
With Varsity Tutors' academic support program, 86% of students in first through eighth grade, who lacked significant requisite Math skills and were classified as behind grade level, reached grade level benchmark mastery in Math.

We saw similar results for students whose English Language Arts skills were below grade level. 84% reached ELA mastery with Varsity Tutors.

#### 91% of Students Achieved Subject Mastery



#### Math Grade Level Mastery



**ELA Grade Level Mastery** 

