Neuroscience-based Programs Comparison Chart

This is a brief summary of these programs, more information can be found on their websites.

Component	Arrowsmith	Cogmed	Fast ForWord	Feuerstein
Main focus	Improving cognitive deficits such as memory, visual/verbal recognition, non-verbal communication, fine motor skills	Working memory, attention	Building student learning capacity by improving cognitive skills (memory, attention, processing speed, ability to sequence) and language skills	Identify and enhance an individual's learning potential through mediated instrument-based cognitive exercises.
Program Duration	2-4 years	5 - 8 weeks	3-6 months +	2 years +
Program load per day	4 hours	1 hour	30, 40 or 50 minute protocols	1 hour
Student Delivery Medium	Computer, auditory, pen & paper	Computers & iPads	Computers & iPads	Pen & Paper
Teacher to student	1:10	1: Whole class	1: Whole class	1:5
Teacher training	Onsite human instruction in scheduled sessions in Canada	Onsite human instruction in scheduled sessions	Online, anywhere, anytime,	Onsite human instruction in scheduled sessions
Training Time	3 weeks	1 day	5 hours	3 + weeks
Training Cost	3 week course cost + travel cost to Toronto, Canada	$2,000+ (Cogmed specialists come to the school)	No extra charge	$900+ per teacher, per course (minimum 3 courses) + travel costs
Ongoing support/ contact	Program Coordinator assigned to each school	Support from Cogmed	Weekly communication & individual/group reports, 24hr online Help Centre.	Program conducted by Feuerstein-trained professional

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Reports for teacher/ coach/ supervisor	(Manually compiled) • Initial assessment • Monthly online data record and report • End of year assessment	(Automatically generated) • Instant online results • End of program summary	(Automatically generated) • Real time online reports. • Weekly achievements • Participation rate • Percent complete • Daily error reports • Reading Progress Indicator report pre and post program usage to display progress	(Manually compiled)
Special needs students	Yes	Specific cases	Yes	Yes
Gifted Students	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
General students	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
ESL	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Auditory processing	No	No	Yes	No
Home access	No	Yes	Yes	No
Total implementation cost (training and relief teachers etc.) in addition to the per student cost	• Teacher training + travel costs • Computers • 1 MP3 player for each student • Exercise materials + Miscellaneous supplies ($300-$400 +$100 per student per year) • Annual Professional Development Training	• Teacher training • Computers • Internet	• Computers • Internet	• Teacher training (+ possible travel costs) • Purchase of Instruments (14) • Creation of a conducive learning environment

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