



# A bilArabi story For the Love of Arabic

## Key Findings

Overall, the staff at one of the leading private schools in Saudi Arabia had a very positive experience in implementing bilArabi. There were many aspects of the programme they appreciated and found beneficial including:

- How it made **the teachers' job easier** due to the **ample amount of resources** offered as part of the programme.
- The introduction of **technology into the classroom** and helping teachers better understand its use.
- Getting the chance to try **new and innovative approaches**.
- The support it provided to **students with mixed abilities**.
- The **ease of lesson planning** with the Teacher's Guide.
- **Engaging students** with fun activities and colorful designs.

## bilArabi: Supporting Teaching and Learning

After implementing bilArabi at the school, the coordinator felt there were 3 goals bilArabi helped them to address, which were:

- Making the teachers' jobs easier.
- Helping teachers better understand the role of technology in their instruction.
- Having the chance to try new and innovative things.

### “ helpful with (lesson) planning

The coordinator believed bilArabi helped teachers with better lesson planning and better resources for instructing. Further, the coordinator found the top 3 most helpful components were the digital lesson planning, extra digital resources, and the Teacher's Book, which they found was especially “**helpful with (lesson) planning.**”

### “ teacher is very confident in using the Teacher's Guide

One teacher felt bilArabi helped most with providing teacher guides and support, while the other teacher felt it helped most with managing students of mixed ability. Both teachers agreed bilArabi training helped them to get started using the print materials, they enjoyed using bilArabi and wanted to continue to use it. According to

an observer, the “**teacher is very confident in using the Teacher's Guide. She told me the details, different ideas and activities are very helpful. She loves the way it supports her.**” Furthermore, the observer reported the teacher felt the lesson planning and activities were especially useful.

90%

of students were engaged and actively participating

During a classroom observation session, the observer noted that about 90% of students were engaged and actively participating, demonstrated by how they were “**happy to watch the video, listen to the song, listen to the story the teacher read aloud and all other activities done in class. They seemed to be engaged most of the time.**” In addition, they noted that learners enjoyed using the Student's Book and found the designs to be colourful and often asked the teacher to use it.

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## About bilArabi

**bilArabi is a new and innovative Arabic language programme for schools from Pearson, the world's learning company.**

It aims to transform the way students learn Arabic with fun and engaging course content, and an inquiry-based approach that makes learning student-centred.

bilArabi is a programme that offers much more than just language learning, with content that aims to develop a passion for Arabic history and culture and inspire trust in a bright future for the language. The course also includes higher-order thinking skills, as part of developing 21st-century skills to prepare students for high-stakes exams and the workplace.

## Overview

**The school is located in Riyadh, Saudia Arabia.**

Starting in October of 2018, they piloted bilArabi with several goals in mind including gaining a better reputation through the use of innovative approaches, ensuring students learned more Arabic and also providing them with more culturally relevant instruction. The coordinator

was very satisfied with the digital resources, as well as the Teacher's Book as the digital and print components combined were especially useful for providing smooth lesson planning for teachers.

Educators appreciated the teacher's resources and bilArabi's focus on helping students with mixed abilities. Further, students appeared to be very engaged with the programme and asked the teacher to use it in class.

## Background of the School

**IB**

Primary Years Programme

**24**

weeks of bilArabi piloted

**2**

KG2 teachers, 1 coordinator

**36**

students

“ ensuring students learn more Arabic

The top 3 reasons the coordinator wanted to take part in the bilArabi programme included:

- Gaining a better reputation for the school through the use of innovative approaches.
- Ensuring students learn more Arabic.
- Providing students with more culturally relevant instruction.

One teacher hoped bilArabi would help provide more opportunities for students to work and learn independently, while the other teacher hoped it would help manage students of mixed abilities.

## Programme Implementation

**bilArabi was used as an enrichment programme alongside the Ministry of Education (MoE) plan already in place at the school.**

They implemented bilArabi to teach Arabic for 2.5 hours per week, 30 minutes a day, for about 24 weeks. Both print materials and the digital platform were utilised, mainly for in-class activities. Specifically, the components utilised were:



Write-in Student's Book (two volumes)



Student's e-Book



Teacher's Guide



Teacher's Guide e-book



bilArabi Digital Platform



Product Activation Training

In addition, a training session with 1 teacher was conducted. She was happy with the training and felt that it led to a much better understanding of the bilArabi digital platform and helped prepare her to instruct students using the print and digital materials.

## Conclusion

Overall, the implementation of the bilArabi programme was found to be beneficial for the coordinator and teaching staff.

Educators at the school felt it helped most with providing teacher resources and support and helping to manage students with mixed abilities. They both really enjoyed using bilArabi and hope to continue using it in the future.

The coordinator believed that bilArabi allowed them the chance to try innovative approaches to learning the Arabic language in the classroom, made teachers' jobs easier and introduced them to effective technology utilisation in the classroom. They appreciated the Teacher's Book, in particular, because it helped teachers with effective lesson planning. In addition, students appeared to be highly engaged with bilArabi due to the presentation of the Student's Book and were continuously asking the teachers to use it.

