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former teacher, points out.

Potential Read Right students must be struggling, but

"This program is different," Mrs. Harper, herself a

have not yet been put in special education.

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Specially trained tutors work with small groups of students for one period each day, and they continue with the program until their reading problem is remediated.

Comprehension, fluency and phonics make up the basics of the reading program, which essentially retrains the brain how to read successfully.

Read Right was developed by Dee Tadlock, who holds a PhD in reading. In 1978 her own son had reading problems, and Dr. Tadlock began a search for a style of teaching that would lead to better reading skills.

In 1988, a sawmill complex in Washington adopted Dr. Tadlock's new teaching method with great success and expanded it across the country, where it was adopted by other major companies, and eventually moved into education based programs.

Read Right research says that once a student has "graduated" from its program, the students continue to improve.

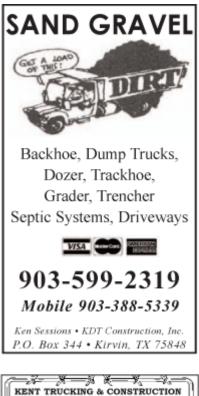
"Our numbers prove that," Mrs. Harper says.

According to their records, students who completed the Bi-County Coop program three years ago have a 100 percent passing rate with the TAKS test. Two year graduates have an 89 percent rate, and last year's students have an 85 percent rate.

"That is very exciting to us," she states. "All the students are progressing, some faster than others."

Bi-County Coop has helped 598 students read better in the last three years, and has 23 tutors working on the program, as well as co-op supervisor of instruction Bill Capers. They serve 10 school dis- tricts in Freestone and Navarro counties. Begun in 1975, the coop is funded from each district, using a percentage based on enrollment. They also receive federal special education money.

Co-op officials moved into a new office last year, located at the corner of Reunion and Bateman Streets in Fairfield.







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