

# Partner Reading

Objective: The student will read passages with improved rate and accuracy.

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## **INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT:**

Fluency: reading an instructional- or independent-level passage

## **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY:**

Partner Reading

Purpose: This activity helps students build reading fluency through repeated oral reading.

## **MATERIAL/AT:**

- Copies of reading material
- Graph paper and pencil for each student
- Timer

## **DELIVERY OF INSTRUCTION:**

Grouping: Whole class divided into student pairs

1. Pair students using the following procedure:
2. Rank all students in the class according to their reading ability.
3. Split the list in half.
4. Pair the top-ranked student in the higher performing half with the top-ranked student in the lower performing half.
5. Pair the two students who are second from the top in each half. Continue this process until all students are paired. Students in the higher performing half serve as the more advanced partners, Partner 1. Students in the lower performing half serve as the less advanced partners, Partner 2.
6. Select reading material that is at an independent level for the more advanced partner and at an instructional level for the less advanced partner. Give each student a copy of the reading passage.

7. Instruct students to read the passage for 3 minutes each, with the more advanced partner reading first as the less advanced partner follows along. When finished, have the students reverse roles. The more advanced partner helps the less advanced partner decode any unfamiliar words (error correction).
8. Tell the students to reread the passage for 1 minute ("best reading"), with the more advanced partner reading first. The partner who is not reading follows along and marks the passage where the last word was read at the 1-minute mark. The teacher provides the timing for this activity.

### **PROGRESS MONITORING:**

After the lesson, instruct the students to count the number of words read in 1 minute. Tell each student to graph the number of words read in 1 minute.

Periodically conduct a 1-minute reading using a passage that corresponds with the student's annual goal (e.g., "The student will read a fourth-grade-level passage with appropriate rate and accuracy"), and calculate each student's fluency. Monitor the growth of fluency to ensure that sufficient progress is being made.

*(adapted from Delquadri, Greenwood, Whorton, Carta, & Hall, 1986; Greenwood, Terry, Delquadri, Elliott, & Arreaga-Mayer, 1995; Mathes, Fuchs, Fuchs, Henley, & Sanders, 1994)*

# Partner Reading (adapted)

*(adaptations noted by italics)*

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## **INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY:**

Partner Reading

Purpose: This activity helps students build reading fluency through repeated oral reading.

## **MATERIAL/AT:**

- Copies of reading material
- Graph paper and pencil for each student
- Timer

## **DELIVERY OF INSTRUCTION:**

Grouping: *Small, homogeneous group of struggling readers with the teacher*

1. Select reading material that is at the students' instructional or independent level. Give each student a copy of the reading passage and keep several copies for yourself.
2. *Read the passage for 3 minutes while the students follow along.*
3. *Instruct the students to chorally read the passage for 3 minutes. As the students read, help them decode any unfamiliar words.*
4. *Read the passage for 1 minute, modeling reading quickly and accurately ("best reading").*
5. Have each student reread the passage for 1 minute, doing his or her "best reading." The other students follow along.

6. *Mark errors and where the last word was read at the 1-minute mark.*

### **PROGRESS MONITORING:**

*After the lesson, calculate the number of words read correctly in 1 minute. Have each student graph the number of words read correctly in 1 minute.*

Periodically conduct a 1-minute reading using a passage that corresponds with the student's annual goal (e.g., "The student will read a fourth-grade-level passage with appropriate rate and accuracy"), and calculate each student's fluency. Monitor the growth of fluency to ensure that sufficient progress is being made.