Module Home



**Outline­**

**PALS**:

A Reading Strategy for Grades K–1

* Module Description: This module outlines the benefits of implementing PALS for Grades K–1, a peer tutoring strategy in which students work in pairs to strengthen their reading skills. Also included are step-by-step instructions for each of the PALS activities as well as printable PALS materials (est. completion time: 1 hour).

Challenge

* Video: This year, the staff of Washington Elementary is looking for a…

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Initial Thoughts

* What characteristics might Mrs. Doris and Ms. Chandler look for in a reading approach?
* What types of activities can Mrs. Doris and Ms. Chandler use to increase their students’ reading skills?
* How can Mrs. Doris and Ms. Chandler implement these activities?

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Perspectives & Resources

* Module Objectives
* Recognize the instructional benefits of peer tutoring
* Implement K-PALS and first-grade PALS

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* Page 1: Overview of PALS
* As they search for an approach capable of both meeting the needs of…
* Link: ClassWide Peer Tutoring (CWPT) [definition]
* PALS also incorporates… [bullet points]
  + Link: reciprocal peer tutoring [definition]
* Audio: Lynn Fuchs discusses the peer meditation component…
* Audio: Doug Fuchs highlights some of the reading activities…
* For Your Information
* Link: PALS: A Reading Strategy for Grades 2–6 (IRIS Module]
* Link: PALS: A Reading Strategy for High School [IRIS Module]

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* Page 2: The Benefits of PALS
* Because Washington Elementary has an academically diverse student…
* Unlike whole-group instruction—in which teachers have… [bullet points]
* Research Shows
* Specifically, the approach… [bullet points]
* Audio: Nichole Lawson describes her own experience with the…
* Audio: Stephanie Johnson describes her own experience with the…
* For Your Information
  + Link: best practice [definition]

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* Page 3: PALS Activities for Kindergarten Students
* Although the teachers at Washington Elementary have always set…
* Research Shows
* Audio: Devin Kearns emphasizes that students as young as…
* Audio: Stephanie Johnson emphasizes that students as young as…
* Audio: Nichole Lawson also explains how PALS helped her to meet…
* K–PALS Activities
  + Activity/Skill/Games and Tasks [table]
    - Link: First Sound Game [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Last Sound Game [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Rhyming Game [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Clap the Syllables [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Guess My Word Game [drop-down menu]
    - Link: What Sounds? [drop-down menu]
    - Link: What Word? [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Sound Boxes [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Reading Sentences and Books [drop-down menu]
  + K–PALS sessions are highly structured and follow… [bullet points]

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* Page 4: PALS Activities for First-Grade Students
* The first-grade teachers at Washington Elementary are excited to…
* More specifically, PALS for first grade helps students to… [bullet points]
* Research Shows
* First-Grade PALS Activities
  + Link: rock words [definition]
  + Activities/Skills/Games and Tasks [table]
    - Link: Saying Sounds [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Sounding Out [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Sight Words [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Stories [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Speed Game [drop-down menu]
    - Link: Reading Books? [drop-down menu]
  + Audio: Devin Kearns explains that the first-grade PALS program…

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* Page 5: Pair Students
* The teachers at Washington Elementary have learned that PALS…
* Link: Click for an illustration of how Mrs. Doris uses… [drop-down menu]
* Link: Click to see an illustration of how Ms. Chandler… [drop-down menu]
* Reason/Example [table]
  + Link: Click to learn about ways to adjust pairs when… [bullet points]
* Audio: Devin Kearns discusses considerations when pairing…

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* Page 6: Prepare Materials
* Before they train their students to use PALS, the teachers at…
* Link: The Fuchs Research Group [website]
* Kindergarten Materials
  + Link: K–PALS rules poster [PDF]
  + Link: student assignment chart [PDF]
  + Link: point sheet [PDF]
  + Aside from the materials in the manual, Mrs. Doris… [bullet points]
* First-Grade Materials
  + Link: Speed Game Star Chart [PDF]
  + Link: point sheet [PDF]
  + Link: PALS Rules [PDF]
  + Link: Score Board [PDF]
  + Link: Assignment Chart [PDF]
  + She now knows that… [bullet points]

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* Page 7: Train Students
* Before they can effectively implement PALS, the kindergarten and…
* K–PALS Training
  + Video: View the video below to observe a teacher introducing…
* First-Grade PALS Training
* Training Procedures
  + 1. Discuss the PALS Approach
    - Link: Rules that apply during… [drop-down menu]
  + 2. Model PALS Activities
    - Link: set-up procedures [definition]
  + 3. Allow Time for Guided Practice
    - Link: moving to partners [drop-down menu]
  + 4. Provide Opportunities for Independent Practice
  + Audio: Stephanie Johnson describes how she conducts PALS…

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* Page 8: Implement with Class
* After they’ve been trained, students should be ready to independently…
* Link: K–PALS Implementation [drop-down menu]
* Link: First-Grade PALS Implementation [drop-down menu]
* Audio: Nichole Lawson emphasizes that consistency is a key to…
* Activity
  + Video: Watch this video of two students engaged in a PALS…
* Monitoring
  + Audio: Devin Kearns discusses considerations for teachers who…
  + Audio: Stephanie Johnson describes how she monitors her…
  + Research Shows

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* Page 9: Motivate Students and Maintain Interest
* The primary-grade teachers at Washington Elementary know that…
* Kindergarten
  + As the teacher monitors the students performing… [bullet points]
* First-Grade
  + Awarding Bonus Points to Peer Pairs
  + Assigning Students to Teams
    - If there is an uneven number of pairs on… [bullet points]
    - Audio: Stephanie Johnson describes how she uses a…

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* Page 10: References & Additional Resources
* Suggested module citation
* References
* Additional Resources
* Page 11: Credits
* Content Collaborators
* Module Developer
* Module Production Team
* Media

Wrap Up

* Summary of the module
* Audio: Stephanie Johnson witnessed this enthusiasm with her…
* Revise Initial Thoughts

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Assessment

* Take some time now to answer the following questions.

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You Have Completed This Module

* Give Us Your Feedback
  + Link: Module Feedback Form
* Professional Development Hours
  + Link: IRIS PD Options
* Related Resources [link]