



PALS: A Reading Strategy for High School

Module Home

- **Module Description:** This Module outlines the benefits of implementing PALS for high school, 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 three PALS activities as well as printable PALS materials (est. completion time: 1 hour).
- *STAR Legacy Cycle*
- **Related to This Module**
 - [Link: Module Outline](#)
 - [Video: Navigating an IRIS *STAR Legacy* Module](#)
 - [Link: IRIS and Adult Learning Theory](#)
 - [Wrap-Around Concept Map](#)

Challenge

- **Video:** Mrs. Garcia has become concerned that many of the students in her remedial reading class aren't able to answer "big picture" questions about the materials they've read: Who is the main character? What is the main idea? She'd like to find a reading strategy to help her students improve these skills, but isn't sure where to begin.

Initial Thoughts

- What characteristics might Mrs. Garcia look for in a reading approach?
- What types of activities can Mrs. Garcia use to increase her students' reading skills?
- How can Mrs. Garcia implement these activities?

Perspectives & Resources

Module Objectives

- After completing the entire Perspectives & Resources section and reviewing the accompanying activities, you should be able to:
 - Recognize the instructional and social implications of peer tutoring
 - Be able to implement PALS

Page 1: Overview of PALS

- [Link: ClassWide Peer Tutoring \[definition\]](#)
- [Characteristics of PALS \[bullet points\]](#)
- [Audio: Doug Fuchs discusses the development of PALS](#)
- [Audio: Karin Prentice highlights PALS purpose for high-school students who are struggling with reading](#)



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- The reading skills addressed by each grade grouping and the activities that are used to improve those skills
- For Your Information

❖ Page 2: The Benefits of PALS

- Additional characteristics of the PALS approach [bullet points]
- Research Shows
- Audio: Lynn Fuchs highlights the main features of the PALS approach
- PALS boasts a number of additional benefits for teachers and for students [bullet points]
- For Your Information
 - Link: best practice [definition]

❖ Page 3: PALS Activities

- Teachers offer feedback as to how well students are... [checked list]
- Overview of PALS activities

❖ Page 4: Partner Reading with Retell

- Partner Reading with Retell (box with numbered list)
- Corrective Feedback
 - Link: Partner Reading
 - Link: The Coach's process for correcting word recognition errors
- Retell
- Video: Students participate in Partner Reading

❖ Page 5: Paragraph Shrinking

- Mrs. Garcia learns that Paragraph Shrinking will help students to... [bullet points]
- Paragraph Shrinking
- Corrective feedback [bullet points]
 - Link: The Coach's process for correcting summarization errors [numbered list]
- Video: Students participate in Paragraph Shrinking

❖ Page 6: Prediction Relay

- Prediction Relay
- Corrective Feedback
 - Link: The Coach's process for providing Prediction Relay help
- Video: Students participate in a Prediction Relay activity

❖ Page 7: Pair Students

- Link: Mrs. Nash ranks her students based on their reading skills



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- It is recommended that high school students change partners as often as every day [bullet points]
- Reasons that student pairings might require modification
 - Link: Recommendations for dealing with student absenteeism [bullet points]
- For Your Information

❖ Page 8: Prepare Materials

- Materials for students' PALS folders (box with links)
 - Procedures
 - Link: Partner Reading
 - Link: Pairs Assignment Chart
 - Link: PALS Responsibilities
 - Link: When You Need Help/ When You Give Help
 - Activities
 - Link: Partner Reading
 - Link: Paragraph Shrinking
 - Link: Prediction Relay
 - Link: Word Recognition Correction Procedures
 - Recognition
 - Link: On-the-Job Behaviors
 - Link: Highest-Earning Pair Chart
 - Link: Employee of the Month Criterion
 - Link: Employee of the Month Award
- More PALS Materials
 - Link: Question Cards
 - Link: Record of Earnings Card
 - Link: Check and Checkbook Register
- Mrs. Garcia ponders the types of books she will choose for her students [bullet points]

❖ Page 9: Train Students

- Six weeks of PALS training
- Once the students have mastered the main activities... [bullet points]
- Training procedures [numbered items with bullet points]
 - Link: Discuss the PALS approach
 - Link: PALS rules
 - Link: Model PALS activities
 - Link: PALS set-up procedures
 - Link: Allow time for guided practice
 - Link: Moving to partners



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- Link: Provide opportunities for independent practice

❖ Page 10: Implement with Class

- Breakdown of a 35-minute PALS session
- Keep in Mind
- Audio: Devin Kearns encourages teachers to keep an enthusiastic attitude when implementing PALS
- Audio: Karin Prentice discusses the importance of teacher monitoring
- For Your Information
 - Link: curriculum-based measurement [definition]
- Activity: Watch each video and determine whether the students are following the correct procedures
 - Video: Scenario A
 - Video: Scenario B
 - Link: Feedback

❖ Page 11: Encourage and Maintain Student Interest

- The teacher awards PALS dollars to student pairs who demonstrate On-the-Job Behaviors [bullet points]
- Link: Order form
- Audio: Karin Prentice discusses the reaction of students who have used PALS and their response to the reinforcement system
- Employee of the Month [bullet points]

❖ Page 12: References & Additional Resources

- References
- Additional Resources

❖ Page 13: Credits

- Content Experts
- Module Developers
- Module Production Team
- Media Production Team
- Media
- Expert Interviews

Wrap Up

- Audio: Devin Kearns summarizes PALS for high school
- Revisiting Initial Thoughts



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Assessment

- Complete the numbered questions

You Have Completed This Module

- Give Us Your Feedback
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 - Link: [IRIS PD Hours Shop](#)
- Related Resources [[links](#)]