PALS:
A Reading Strategy for Grades 2-6

Use this outline to follow along with the module's main features. The blank "Notes" panels below each section are interactive and can be filled in using Adobe Acrobat. Otherwise, print this document and record your notes by hand.

Module Home

- Module Description: This module outlines the benefits of implementing PALS for Grades 2–6, 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 Content Map

Challenge

- Video: Mrs. Nash believes that she needs to find a research-validated approach that she can implement to improve her students' reading skills. Reviewing their files, she notes that her students have demonstrated a wide range of ability levels and that several of them are English Learners.

Notes

Initial Thoughts

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

Notes

Perspectives & Resources

❖ **Module Objectives**

- After completing the entire Perspectives & Resources section and reviewing the accompanying activities, you should:
  ◦ Recognize the instructional and social implications of peer tutoring
  ◦ Be able to implement PALS
- This IRIS Module aligns with the following licensure and program standards and topic areas…

Notes

❖ **Page 1: Overview of PALS**

- Characteristics of PALS [bullet points]
- Audio: Doug Fuchs discusses the development of PALS
- Audio: Lynn Fuchs highlights the main features of the PALS approach
- The reading skills addressed by each grade grouping and the activities that are used to improve those skills

Notes

❖ **Page 2: The Benefits of PALS**

- Additional characteristics of the PALS approach [bullet points]
- Research Shows
- Audio: Devin Kearns discusses the benefits of PALS for grades 2–6
- PALS boasts a number of additional benefits for teachers and for students [bullet points]
- Audio: Devin Kearns explains why PALS is beneficial for English learners
- Audio: Patti Kremer discusses her experience using PALS with ELs
- For Your Information
  ◦ Link: best practice [definition]

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Notes

❖ Page 3: Strategies

- Three PALS activities
  - Teacher feedback [bullet points]
- Overview of PALS activities

Notes

❖ Page 4: Partner Reading with Retell

- Partner Reading with Retell
  - Link: Retell procedures [numbered list]
    - Link: Printable Partner Reading and Retell Question Card
  - Link: Printable Partner Reading and Retell Question Card
  - Link: Printable Coaching Tips for Partner Reading and Retell Card
- Word recognition errors (bulleted list)
  - Link: The Coach's process for correcting word recognition errors
    - Link: Printable Partner Reading Correction Card
- Video: Students participate in Partner Reading
- Video: Students participate in Retell

Notes

❖ Page 5: Paragraph Shrinking

- Mrs. Nash learns that Paragraph Shrinking will help students to… [bullet points]
- Paragraph Shrinking
  - Link: Printable Paragraph Shrinking Question Card
  - Link: Printable Paragraph Shrinking Coaching Tips Card
  - Link: Printable Coaching Tips for Partner Reading and Retell Card
- Corrective feedback [bullet points]
  - Link: The Coach's process for correcting summarization errors [numbered lists]
    - Link: Printable Paragraph Shrinking Correction Card
- Video: Students participate in Paragraph Shrinking

Notes

❖ Page 6: Prediction Relay

- Prediction Relay
  - Link: Printable Prediction Relay Question Card
    - Link: Printable Paragraph Shrinking Question Card
- Video: Students participate in a Prediction Relay activity

Notes

❖ Page 7: Pair Students

- Link: Mrs. Nash ranks her students based on their reading skills
- For Your Information
- Reasons that student pairings might require modification
  - Link: Recommendations for dealing with student absenteeism [bullet points]
- For Your Information
- Activity: Imagine that you are a third-grade teacher

◦ Link: Table Drag [game]

Notes

❖ Page 8: Prepare Materials

- Link: Commercially available PALS materials
- Bulletin board
  - ◦ Link: Printable Pairs and Teams Assignment Chart
  - ◦ Link: Printable Score Board
  - ◦ Link: Printable PALS Rules Card
  - ◦ Link: Printable Moving Rules Card
  - ◦ Link: Printable Question Cards (Prediction Relay, Paragraph Shrinking, and Retell)
  - ◦ Link: Printable Correction Cards
  - ◦ Link: Printable Coaching Tips for Partner Reading Card
  - ◦ Link: Printable Coaching Tips for Retell Card
  - ◦ Link: Printable Coaching Tips for Paragraph Shrinking Card
- Selecting texts to use with PALS activities [bullet points]
  - ◦ Link: Sample text, "Fritz and the Beautiful Horses"
- Materials for students' PALS folders
  - ◦ Link: Printable Question Cards (Prediction Relay, Paragraph Shrinking, and Retell)
  - ◦ Link: Printable Correction Cards
  - ◦ Link: Printable PALS Point Sheet

Notes

❖ Page 9: Train Students

- What will students learn during each session?
- Training procedures
  - ◦ Discuss PALS
  - ◦ Model PALS Activity

- ○ Allow Time for Guided Practice
- ○ Allow Time for Independent Practice

Notes

❖ Page 10: Implement with Class

- Breakdown of a 35-minute PALS session
- Mini-lesson characteristics
- Keep in Mind
- For Your Information
  - ○ Link: curriculum-based measurement [definition]
  - ○ Link: Classroom Assessment (Part 1): An Introduction to Monitoring Academic Achievement in the Classroom [IRIS Module]
  - ○ Link: Classroom Assessment (Part 2): Evaluating Reading Progress [IRIS Module]

Notes

❖ Page 11: Assign Pairs to Teams

- If there is an uneven number of pairs on the teams, the teacher can… [bullet points]
- Link: Awarding points
- For Your Information
- Materials for student pairs
  - ○ Link: Printable Pairs and Teams Assignment Chart
  - ○ Link: Printable PALS Point Sheet
  - ○ Link: Printable Score Board

Notes

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❖ Page 12: References & Additional Resources

- Suggested module citation
- References
- Additional Resources

❖ Page 13: Credits

- Suggested module citation
- Content Experts
- Module Developers
- Module Production Team
- Media Production Team
- Media
- Expert Interviews

Wrap Up

- Summary of the module
- Revisit your Initial Thoughts responses

Notes

Assessment

- Complete the numbered questions. Please note that the IRIS Center does not collect your Assessment responses. If this is a course assignment, you should turn them in to your professor using whatever method he or she requires.

Notes

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Notes

You Have Completed This Module

- Give Us Your Feedback
  - ◦ Link: Module feedback survey form
- Professional Development Hours
  - ◦ Link: IRIS PD Options
- Related Resources [links]