



Buddies Skills Training

Agenda

- Introductions
- Program Purpose & Philosophy
- Finding the “Sweet Spot”
- Confidence Research and Link to Skill Building
- 5 Components of Literacy
- Phonics Scope & Sequence
- Ideas, Games, and Strategies
- Q&A

**If you take away one thing from
this workshop...**

Focus on what your students
CAN do, and use that as a
springboard for where to go
next!

The Role of Reading Buddies

- To help students see themselves as Readers.
- To boost students' reading skills, confidence, and love of reading.
- To set students up for **success!**



The Role of Buddies

- Many of our students already have been identified as having reading difficulties and may already receive interventions.
- Buddies is not school.
- **It is a safe, fun environment to have fun with reading, practice skills, and feel successful.**



Finding the “Sweet Spot”

- **Independent Level:** Relatively easy for student to read. 95–100% accuracy.
- **Instructional Level:** Challenging but manageable for the reader. 90-95% accuracy.
- **Frustrational Level:** Difficult for student to read. Less than 90% accuracy.

Instructional Level is the “sweet spot” for Buddies!

This also pertains to Skill Building!

Confidence Research

- Confidence overcomes fear; fear prevents us from trying.
- Research has revealed that students reporting higher levels of self-efficacy and perceived competence obtained higher reading comprehension scores than students reporting lower levels of perceived competence.
- ARTICLE: *Reading - Encouraging Positive Attitudes: Strategies for Parents and Teachers*

Skill-Building as it Pertains to Confidence

- Hobby Analogy
- Meet kids where they are.
- Use the “Sweet Spot” to find opportunities to celebrate success.
- **Focus on what your students CAN do, not what they can't.**

5 Components of Literacy

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension
- Fluency



What is Phonemic Awareness?

- **Phonemic Awareness** is the ability to hear and manipulate sounds in spoken words.
- **Phoneme** = smallest unit of language; the sounds in words. (How many sounds in the word *cat*? How about in the word *sheep*?)
- There are 26 letters in the English language, but there are 40 phonemes, and 250 spellings of those sounds!

Phonemic Awareness Exercises

- **Phoneme Discrimination**: Which word doesn't belong: *bat, bug, car, bed*?
- **Rhyming**: What word rhymes with *cat*?
- **Phoneme Blending**: Put these sounds together: /b/ /u/ /g/. What word do you hear?
- **Phoneme Isolation**: What is the first sound in the word *dog*? What is the last sound in the word *eat*?
- **Phoneme Substitution**: Say the word *cat*. Let's change the /t/ to /n/. What word do you have?

Phonemic Awareness

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3uQSlrbDpo>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yuMzzREsUU&list=PLCBAE7A19D1DC7EA2>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rvo4QUNgQU&index=2&list=PLCBAE7A19D1DC7EA2>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5HYPUeFSyA>

What is Phonics?

- **Phonics** is the relationship between letters and sounds.
 - **Decodable Words** = words that can be broken down by phoneme and “decoded” easily. ie, *cat, pig, man*
 - **Irregular Words** = words that cannot be “sounded out”, need to become sight words and automatically recognized. ie, *the, could, some*

Phonics Sequence

To learn to read, you must master the following concepts:

- **Letter-sound correspondence:** *b* says /b/, *c* says /k/
- **VC/CVC words:** *at, cat, bat*
- **Consonant Blends:** *bl, cl, tr, fr, st...*
- **Digraphs:** *sh, ph, ch, th, wh*
- **Silent e:** *late, joke, bike*
- **Vowel Digraphs (Vowel Teams):** *beat, beet, boat, rain*
- **R-Controlled Vowels:** *art, fur, flower, her*
- **Other Complex Patterns:** schwa, double o, complex consonants...

Activity Time!



Phonics Activities

In Packet

- Using Bananagrams to Build Phonics Skills
 - Letter Swap
 - Word Families
 - Silent e Game
- Word Blender: Onset-Rime Activity
- Roll-a-Word: Onset-Rime Activity
- Word Sorts
- Word Pattern Scavenger Hunt

Fluency Assessments

C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Grade	Fall Fluency		Spring Fluency	Growth			
2	38	2					
2	27	1					
						Key: 2nd Grade	
2	30	1				Recommended Benchmark	Cut Point for Risk
2	52	1/2			Beginning	80	55
2	42	2/3			Middle	100	72
2	42	1/2			End	111	83
2	14	1					
2	35	1					
2	71	3					
2	58	1/2					
2	77	3/4					
2	67	5					
2	69	5, slow down					
2	64	4/5					
2	98	4/5					
2	72	2/3			1	site words- not decodable	
2	74	2/3- reviewing to build confidence			2	short vowels	
2	70	2/3			3	long vowels	
						more complex words/multi syllabic words	
2		3			4		
2		4					
2		2/3					

Classify Your Students

- Phonemic Awareness and Site Words
- Short Vowels
- Long Vowels
- Complex Words/Multisyllabic Words
- Comprehension

Buddies Resources

- Florida Center for Reading Research (www.fcrr.org)
- Open Books Resources (worksheets, phonics games, support from Cary & Anika) - **Ask your site leader!**
- Each other! (Use the first 10 minutes to share ideas!)

General Tips for Success

1. Each student is unique.
2. Success is different for each student.
3. Celebrate the small successes.
4. Measure them against themselves; not against others.
5. Have Fun!

Questions?

