

Gradual Release of Responsibility

Phase I 15 Lessons Tutor directed

Reading Together supports a gradual release of responsibility from tutor to tutee. As tutees move through three phases (30 lessons), they accept more responsibility until they engage in true independent reading. The goal of all Learning Together programs is to accelerate student achievement and motivate students to become lifelong learners.

In Phase I, tutors model fluent reading and think aloud as they support tutees in reading short passages. Tutors read aloud from trade books; tutees read leveled passages, with an emphasis on informational and procedural text. Stages of a lesson include:

- Warm-up chat
- Predicting
- Setting a purpose
- Activating prior knowledge
- Modeled reading
- Guided oral reading
- Rereading of passage
- Retelling
- Literal and comprehension questions
- Text connections: text-to-self; text-to-world; text-to-text
- Writing activities related to passage
- Tutor debriefing with coordinator

Phase II 10 Lessons Shared reading

In Phase II, a shift is made to shared responsibility. Tutors and tutees take turns reading from trade books. Lessons are grouped by themes; tutees synthesize information over several lessons in writing, semantic webs. Stages of a lesson include:

- Warm-up chat
- Predicting
- Setting a purpose
- Activating prior knowledge
- Discussion
- Paired reading
- Rereading
- Retelling
- Silent reading
- Literal and comprehension questions
- Text connections
- Visualization
- Synthesizing information
- Writing activities related to story
- Tutor debriefing with coordinator

Phase III Three lessons Independent reading

In Phase III, tutees learn to select appropriate books from the media center, read independently at home and share book reviews in writing and through group presentations. Stages of a lesson include:

- Warm-up chat
- Predicting
- Activating prior knowledge
- Discussion



Third grade is a gateway year, as students must reach grade level on mandated end-of-year tests. That's why Reading Together Grade Three builds on skills learned in our Grade Two program or serves as a new intervention for below-proficient third graders. Tutees learn comprehension strategies and increase their understanding by making deeper connections with the text.

Key elements:

- ✓ All language arts — listening, speaking, reading, writing — are practiced in each lesson.
- ✓ A mix of genre of interest to emerging readers — fiction, non-fiction, poetry, informational and procedural — supports content in language arts, social studies and science.
- ✓ Comprehension strategies include: predicting, retelling, inferring, questioning, synthesizing information, and text-to-text, text-to-self and text-to-world connections.
- ✓ Fluency strategies include: modeled reading, guided oral reading and rereading.
- ✓ Writing activities include: Venn diagrams, semantic webs and other graphic organizers, poems, letters, connection responses and answering complex questions.
- ✓ Research-based strategies are used consistently until tutees can apply them independently.
- ✓ Content aligns with local, state and national performance standards.

Who are the tutees?

- Able to decode
- Read at or below third-grade level
- May benefit from instruction
- Lack comprehension and/or fluency skills

Who are the tutors?

Cross-Age Tutors

- Two grade levels higher than tutees
- Able to read at fourth-grade level
- May benefit from instruction
- Willing to work with younger children

Adult Tutors

- Family members
- Paraprofessionals
- Community/corporate volunteers
- Able to read at fourth-grade level
- Willing to work with struggling readers



Reading Together Grade Three
Raising student achievement by the power of 2!

Training, scripted lessons, activity books, trade books and ongoing support ensure success!

Student Kit:

- 1 Tutee Activity Book
- 2 Tutor Guidebooks (30 Lessons)
- 1 Set of activity materials
- 1 Tutor Journal
- 1 Trade book library (27 books)
- 2 Reading Together T-shirts



PHASE I Trade Books

1. *Reptiles* by Rod Theodorou
2. *Gray Bat* by Rod Theodorou
3. *All About Owls* by Jim Arnosky
4. *Gorillas* by Seymour Simon
5. *When I Was Young in the Mountains* by Cynthia Rylant
6. *Aunt Flossie's Hats (and Crab Cakes Later)* by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard
7. *A Day's Work* by Eve Bunting
8. *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox
9. *La Mariposa* by Francisco Jimenez
10. *The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch
11. *Erandi's Braids* by Antonio Hernández Madrigal
12. *A Picture Book of Amelia Earhart* by David A. Adler
13. *A Promise is a Promise* by Robert Munsch and Michael Kusugak
14. *Sootface* retold by Robert D. San Souci
15. *The Empty Pot* by Demi

PHASE II Trade Books

1. *I Hate English* by Ellen Levine
2. *The Quilt Story* by Tony Johnston
3. *Too Many Tamales* by Gary Soto
4. *Blueberries For Sal* by Robert McClosky
5. *Buffalo Woman* by Paul Goble
6. *Water, Water Everywhere* by Mark J. Rauzon and Cynthia Overbeck Bix
7. *Chicken Sunday* by Patricia Polacco
8. *I Wonder Why Snakes Shed Their Skin and Other Questions about Reptiles* by Amanda O'Neil
9. *Spectacular Spiders* by Linda Glaser
10. *A Koala Is Not a Bear!* by Hannelore Sotzek and Bobbie Kalman
11. *I Wonder Why Stars Twinkle and Other Questions about Space* by Carole Stott
12. *Grandpa's Face* by Eloise Greenfield

Coordinator Kit:

- 1 Coordinator Manual
- 2 Tutor Guidebooks
- 1 Coordinator Resource CD
- 1 Coordinator Training DVD