

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. Lessons 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 12 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 and semantic webs. Lessons 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. Lessons include:

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

Upper-elementary and middle-school students need strong reading skills to understand content across their curriculum. That's why Reading Together Intermediate is written on a fourth-grade level, yet filled with high-interest passages and trade books appropriate for students in fourth, fifth and sixth grades. A wide range of genre, with emphasis on informational and procedural text, is used to motivate students to become independent readers.

Key elements:

- ✓ Focuses on reading with a purpose and activating prior knowledge to help students master challenging text.
- ✓ All language arts — listening, speaking, reading and writing — are practiced in each lesson.
- ✓ Fiction, poetry, informational and procedural text support 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.
- ✓ Program content aligns with local, state and national performance standards.

Who are the tutees?

- Able to decode
- Read at or below fourth-grade level
- 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 Intermediate
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 (26 books)
- 2 Reading Together T-shirts



PHASE I Trade Books

1. *Cars, Bikes, Trains and Other Land Machines* by Ian Graham
2. *Usborne Book of Inventors: From DaVinci to Biro* by Stuart Reid and Patricia Far
3. *Mistakes That Worked: 40 Familiar Inventions and How They Came to Be* by Charlotte Jones
4. *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by Jon Scieszka
5. *Thunder Cake* by Patricia Polacco
6. *What Makes a Bird a Bird?* by May Garelick
7. *June 29, 1999* by David Wiesner
8. *Starry Messenger* by Peter Sis
9. *The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System* by Joanna Cole
10. *Jellies: The Life of Jellyfish* by Twig C. George
11. *Bill Nye the Science Guy's Big Blue Ocean* by Bill Nye and Ian G. Saunders
12. *What Makes an Ocean Wave?* by Melvin and Gilda Berger
13. *The Great Kapok Tree: A Tale of the Amazon Rain Forest* by Lynne Cherry
14. *The Butterfly Alphabet Book* by Brian Cassie and Jerry Pallotta
15. *Look Closer: Rain Forest* by Barbara Taylor

PHASE II Trade Books

1. *Going Home* by Eve Bunting
2. *Richard Wright and the Library Card* by William Miller
3. *Look to the North: A Wolf Pup Diary* by Jean Craighead George
4. *Bird Watch* by Jane Yolen
5. *Minty: A Story of Young Harriet Tubman* by Alan Schroeder
6. *And Still the Turtle Watched* by Sheila MacGill-Callahan
7. *Mummies Made in Egypt* by Aliko
8. *Lon Po Po* by Ed Young
9. *Children of Clay: A Family of Pueblo Potters* by Rina Swentzell
10. *Cat!* by Virginia Kroll
11. *Weather* by Seymour Simon

Coordinator Kit:

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