



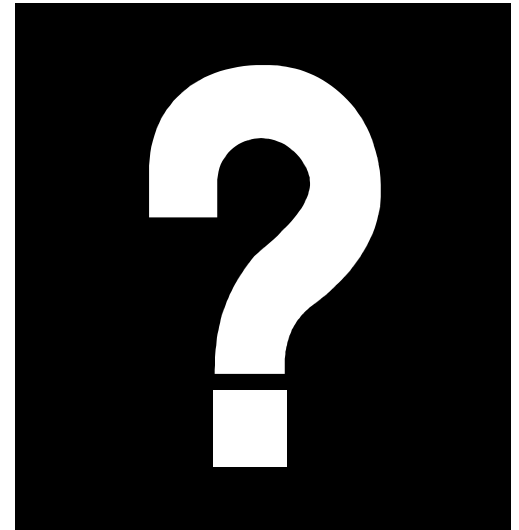
Relationships: The New Key to Reading Success

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Why Buddies



- teachers team taught in previous years for reading instruction
- connection between younger and older students
- importance of basic skills (building skills between grade levels)
- older students model for younger students (reading, character pillars, writing)
- mentors for younger students, care giving for older students
- FUN

Getting Started

- meeting once a week on Fridays for 30-40 minutes
- partner buddies (abilities)
- space availability
- administrative permission



Now What?

- Team building
 - Outdoor education (Silver Spring)
 - name game (group juggle, speed ball)
 - hula-hoop
 - spider web
 - pipeline, cone heads
 - treasure hunt
 - balance raft



September Activities

- shared first grade books, library and insect books
- practiced one-one correspondence with finger pointing
- use picture clues to understand story
- Little Red House (Johnny Appleseed Day)
- wrote insect books



October Activities

- Halloween, spider and Eric Carle books
- predicting
- continue practicing reading skills from Sept.
- Little Orange House
- Trick or Treat Story
- Terrifying Ghost Story
- Halloween song
- math page
- Halloween treats
- spider cupcake
- spider books
- spider page



November Activities

- Thanksgiving, family and rhyming books
- use picture clues to understand story
- practice rhyming skills
- Magical Tale and Thanksgiving Feast drawing stories
- fourth graders performed Pilgrims Go Marching Song
- made Thanksgiving cards for each other
- hand print poem
- turkey cookies



December Activities

- Holiday and Jan Brett books
- picture clues/predicting
- reindeer cupcakes
- We wish you a Merry Christmas in sign language
- made Christmas ornaments
- Christmas cards
- Has Anyone Seen Santa story



January Activities

- snow, whale and Jan Brett books
- character and setting
- Readers Theater
- reading board games
- ABC book for scholastic contest
- 100th day celebration



February Activities

- winter, valentines, presidents and Robert Munch books
- main idea
- connecting text to text
- Valentine heart
- Valentine cards



March

- reptile, desert, spring, Dr Suess books
 - retelling activities
 - Dr. Suess reading and hat
 - St. Patrick's Day activity
 - fourth graders sing a Woman History Song
- ISAT banner



April Activities

- Easter books, weather
Curious George books
- following directions
Easter basket
- Whose In My Garden
Story
- bunny cupcake
- play sparkle
- story telling game
- spelling baseball



May Activities

- May basket
- QAR
- friendship celebration (Winn Dixie)
- good-bye party
- Silver Springs Party





Reunion breakfast

- 15/18 attend
- Memories
 - Halloween hands
 - ghost suckers
 - making ABC book
 - reading to each other
 - Christmas ornaments
 - talking through ears
- Connections
 - wrestling
 - keeping in touch
 - see each other in hall



Comments



- Parents
 - It makes reading fun.
 - Reading is like a game.
 - They develop more than reading skills, they develop friendships. The younger children feel accepted by their older peers
 - It's improved their reading
 - Whenever we see a buddy when we're around outside of school, my shy child points them out.
 - It helps the older children learn patience and leadership.(role models)
 - I hope it is a relationship that lasts through all their school years.
 - I like the sense of responsibility it gives the fourth graders.
 - Keep doing this, don't ever stop!!

More Comments

- Subs
 - Call the papers!!
 - Awe-struck (Jim)
- Teachers
 - What are you doing?



Always growing!

- reunion breakfast with the original first and fourth graders
- student/parent input
- colleagues interest
- getting in touch with nursing home.
- meals on wheels

