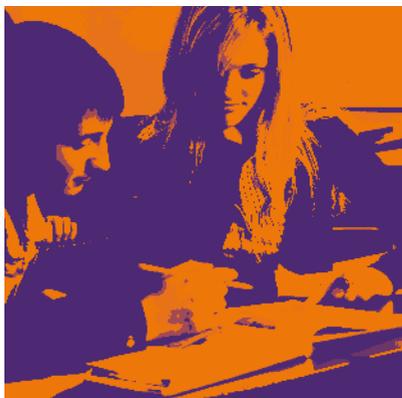


Junior
Certificate
School
Programme



Reading Pairs

Paired Reading Booklet for Tutors
Paired Reading Training



Introduction

Being able to read fluently, being able to understand what we read and make few mistakes are required for successful learning and in everyday life. Like all skills, reading can be improved with practice.

Paired Reading is not meant to take the place of school teaching. Rather it provides a framework for the extra practice which thorough learning requires. Reading should be fun and we hope that you and your partner enjoy taking part.

You can use one of two techniques (or a mixture of the two) when reading with your partner:

**Listening and
correcting any
mistakes**

**Reading along
with your
partner**



Whichever technique you use, the following recommendations are the same.

✓ **Stick to a regular routine**

- a. Attend regularly. Try very hard never to miss a session. Remember to have your name ticked off in the Attendance Register. Remind your partner to do the same.
- b. Choose an appropriate book from the Paired Reading Room.

✓ **Suitable Place**

Try to find a place that is comfortable. If you are not comfortable you will not be able to concentrate. Consequently, you will not be able to look carefully and easily at the book together. You will need to sit side by side so you can look at the book together.

✓ **Always show your interest**

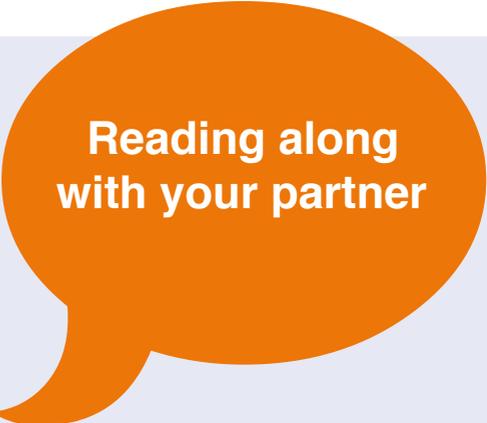
Knowing that you are interested will make your reading partner try his/her hardest. Receiving your undivided attention is very rewarding for them. You can make a significant difference.

✓ **Talk**

Helpers should show interest in the book the reader has chosen. Talk about the pictures. Talk about what is in the book as you go through it. It is best if you talk at the end of a page or section or you might lose track of the story. Ask what might happen next. Do not do all the talking, let the reader share his/her views.

✓ **Ask questions and get involved**

Reading well involves understanding as well as fluency. To see if what's just been read has been 'taken in', ask a few questions at the end. Again, praise correct answers, but don't let them feel too disappointed when they're wrong.



Reading along with your partner

Reading along with your tutee

1. The tutor and the tutee both read the words out loud together. Neither must go too fast. Tutors should make their speed as fast or as slow as the readers. The reader must read every word. If the reader struggles and then gets it right, the tutor should show approval. Do not let the reader struggle for more than five seconds.

If the reader:

a) struggles too long or

b) struggles and gets it wrong then the tutor:

1. just says the word right
2. makes sure the reader then says it right as well.

Make sure the reader looks at the words. It can help if one of you points to the word you are both reading with a finger or a pen. It is best if the reader will do the pointing.

2. **Go at the tutee's pace:** read as fast or as slowly as they do and avoid the temptation to take over the lead yourself! If you can, adjust the pace of your reading to be always a fraction of a second behind your tutee's voice. Look at the example below:

Child: "The blue train stood behind the e.....ngine."

Student Reader: "The blue train stood behind the engine"

This may take practice, but it will help you to read at the tutee's pace.

3. **Be patient with your reading partner.** Don't tell him/her off for making a mistake, just keep on reading and encourage him/her to join in.
4. As your tutee gets more confident lower your voice then drop out altogether, but come back in if he/she makes a mistake.

Reading Alone

After a while your partner may want to read to you. When this happens, you should still sit closely together and follow each word on the page.

Try to follow this procedure!

Ask your partner to make a small “sign” - perhaps by knocking on a table or tapping the book - whenever he or she wants to read aloud alone. You should still follow the words on the page. When your partner wants you to join in again, he or she makes the same “sign” and you carry on reading again.

If the reader struggles for more than five seconds or struggles and gets it wrong, the tutor reads the correct word aloud for them. Make sure the reader then repeats it correctly as well. You both go on reading out loud together, until the reader then feels confident enough to read alone and again asks the tutor to be quiet.

New ways of helping

It is often hard for older people to learn new ways than it is for young people! With paired reading the hardest things to get used to are:

1. When the reader gets a word wrong, the tutor just tells the reader what the word says.
2. The reader says it right. You do not make the reader struggle and struggle or “break it up” or “sound it out”.
3. When the reader gets words right, the tutor should smile and say “good!” Do not nag and fuss about the words the reader gets wrong.

Praise

- **good reading of hard words**
- **getting all the words in a sentence right**
- **putting wrong words right before the helper does, that is self-correction.**



Listening and not reading at the same time

1. Give help when necessary. Help is needed when a tutee:

- a. is struggling with a word
- b. says a word incorrectly
- c. misses or skips a word
- d. puts in a word that's not printed. If your tutee cannot say a word, help him/her by giving the first part, and if that fails then give him/her the whole word. Ask him/her to repeat it before going on.

The same applies to a word which is said wrongly or is skipped or missed. If an extra word is put in, point this out.

2. Don't be a harsh critic.

When you need to give help, do so in a friendly way so that the pleasure of reading is not lost. Don't go over and over a mistake. From time to time read part of the book to the pupil. This will encourage more expressive reading and will help the reader get through more of the material.

Notes

It is a help for everyone to keep a note each day of what has been read and how you are progressing. Therefore, do keep the record very carefully - it also serves to show your tutee how seriously you are taking the activity. The JCSP Bookmarks are also useful to keep track of the reading from day to day.

Enjoy the reading yourself and remember to take some time out of your own busy schedule for a good read.

Good Luck!