



Results

*District: Randolph County Schools
Program: Reading Together Grade Two™
Model: Cross-age, fifth-grade tutors
Implementation: In school*

Read what program coordinator Amy Hogan says about..

Benefits to tutors

Randolph County has had the adult tutor program with parents acting as tutors for the past two years. Farmer is unique in that we implemented the cross-age program last year and this current school year. We've seen great benefits to both our tutors and tutees.

To recruit tutors, we presented Reading Together™ to all fifth graders. We let them know up front that they would have to train one afternoon after school, fill out an application and have their own transportation. The fifth-grade reading teacher interviewed high twos and threes from N.C. EOG tests and we did have a couple at-grade-level students selected as tutors.

We have seen the tutors become more responsible and become real leaders. They feel an ownership of their teaching and love working with the second graders. They feel confident and more at ease with reading, even though it is still hard for some.

Benefits to tutees

Our tutees were all struggling readers chosen by reviewing running records and classroom teacher observations (Level 12's, 14's and 16's were considered). The second graders just loved their tutors and the neat activities that dealt with reading comprehension — they hated when their tutors were absent!

Working with older students made a real difference: tutees learned reading skills and strategies from another source, outside of regular classroom teachers or parents. Tutees now feel and see a purpose for their reading. They got to visualize and hear student readers who shared their backgrounds and who understood reading hardship.

R₂
reading **2** together

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Tutors and tutees working together... a powerful combination

Read what Amy says about ...

Improving attendance

We've seen a great improvement in attendance. The tutors and tutees really enjoy being together, so they are not absent as often. Neither tutors nor tutees wanted to miss a single lesson. Our Reading Together™ sessions were at the end of the school day and classroom teachers have reported that students tended not to leave school early on tutoring days.

Learning Together coordinator training

The coordinator training that was provided was awesome and made it easier to start the program. The program does take time to study and implement correctly, but it is worth it because it works so well with the students. I was able to go back and train my tutors step-by-step on just the right things...I had been well-prepared.

The power of Reading Together™ in action

Our staff is just finding out about Reading Together™. This year, we set aside one faculty meeting to show off the program and give teachers a chance to learn more about it. Everyone who came to visit last year and see the fifth-grade tutors in action with the second-grade tutees saw the influence and power the program had on both sets of students. It was work, but the students loved it as if it were play...they enjoyed the time together and had fun while reading.

