

Structuring Multi-Age Reading Buddies to support English Language Learners



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Structuring Multi-Age Reading Buddies to support English Language Learners

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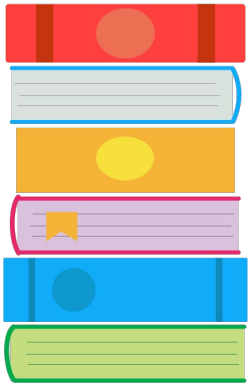
Finding Your Learning Buddy

Milling to Music



Agenda

1. **Research Snapshot**
2. **Martha Speaks Reading Buddies Collections**
3. **Martha Speaks Games and Activities**
4. **Resource Exploration and Planning Time**



The power of vocabulary

- **First grade vocabulary reliably predicts eleventh grade reading comprehension.**
- **English Language Learners (and students from low income households) have a much smaller vocabulary than their peers; pushing the literacy gap farther apart.**

To increase vocabulary and truly *use* new words regularly, students need:

- **to have frequent encounters with new words.**
- **to relate situations in their lives to these words.**

Specific Strategies for English Language Learners

Prioritize daily
1:1 conversations

Pair home language
buddies together;
with a third English
speaking Big Buddy

Provide wait time

Use pictures

Repeat words and
definitions

Highlight
expressions and
colloquialisms

Review and
reinforce words

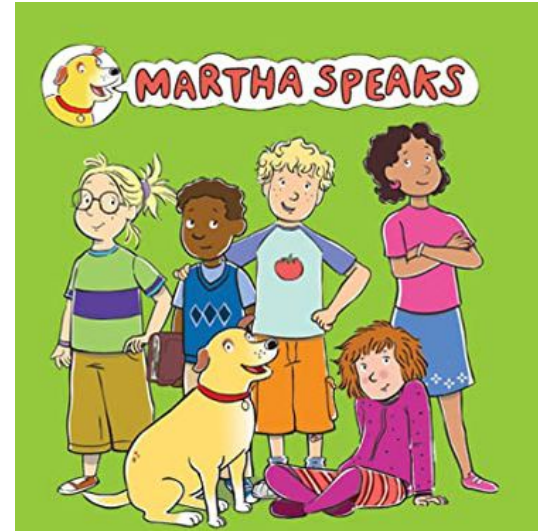
Explore cognates



Martha Speaks Reading Buddies in Action

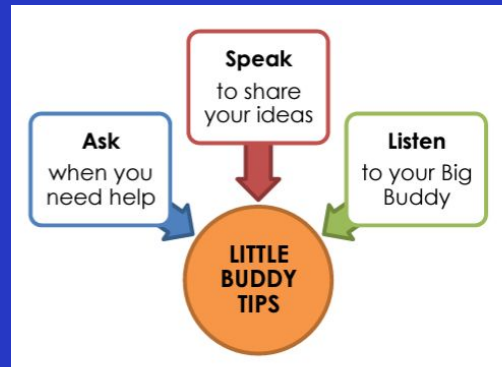
Meet the Teachers

- **Weddy Youn - Kindergarten**
- **Joseph Cooke - Fourth Grade**



Little Buddy Benefits

Increased oral
vocabulary

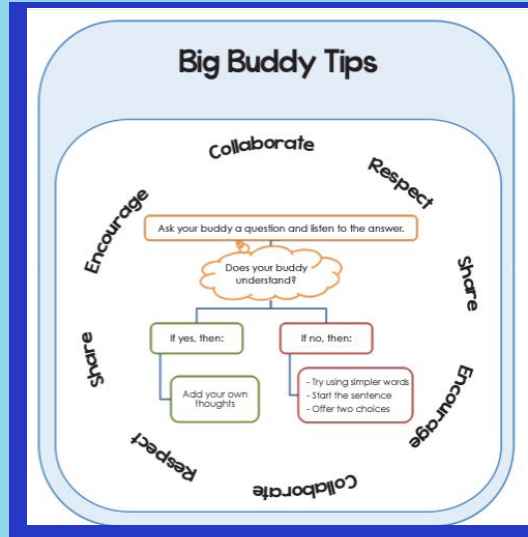


Social
connectedness
with an older
student



Big Buddy Benefits

- Improve reading and fluency
- Confidence



- Pride in being a role model and mentor



Martha Speaks Reading Buddies Guides

- Martha Speaks
 - *Original Multimedia Collection*

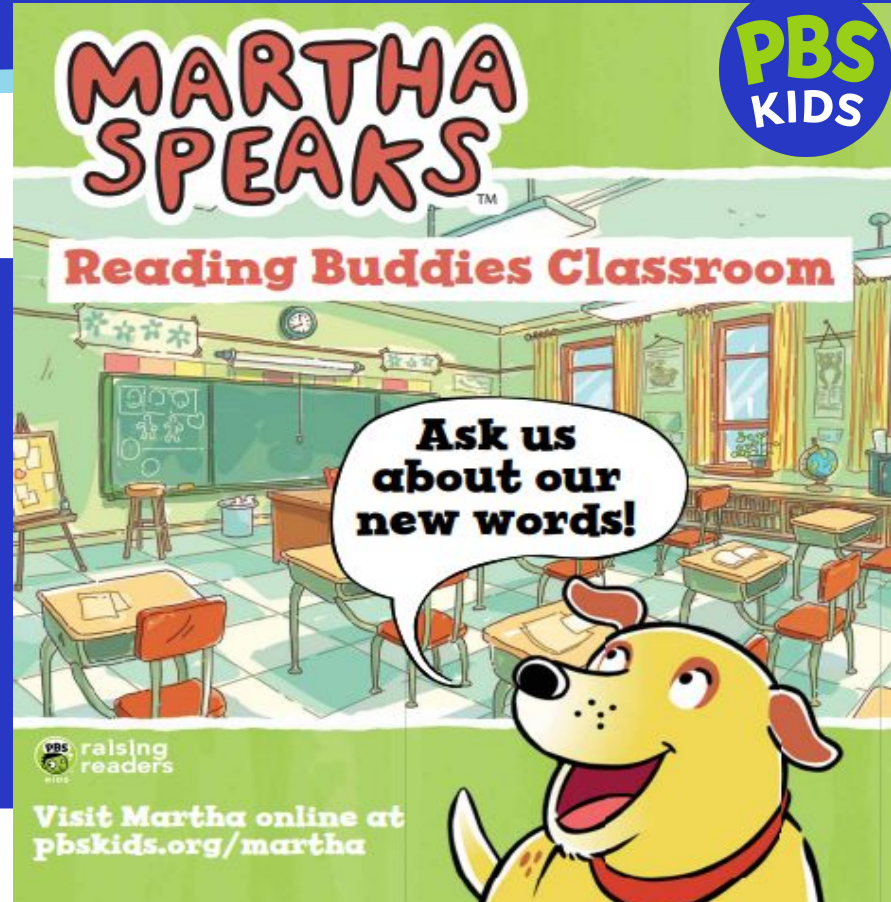
- Martha's True Stories
 - *True Stories Multimedia Collection*



Reading Buddies Program Guide

Resources:

- Teacher Checklists
- Buddy Guides
- Certificates
- Journals
- Letters to Families
- Posters
- Printable Activities and Games



Martha Speaks Reading Buddies Guides

- Activities

- Games

“Watch”
with a Purpose

Conversation
Cards

- English
- Spanish



Explore the Martha Speaks Collections

Plan and Prepare your Program





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