

Reading Races (6-12)

Language Arts and Mathematics

Summary: Low-level high school readers work with struggling second and third graders to increase the reading fluency of all participants.

Service and Learning Activities

Preparation: Middle or high school students are trained in tutoring methods and techniques from a reading coach to prepare for reading with third grade students. They practice fluent reading with each other. The middle or high school facilitator and the third grade facilitator coordinate a reading program, selecting reading passages and scheduling weekly times when the students can meet to read together.

Action: The middle or high school students make bookmarks for the younger readers that have inspirational quotes about the importance of reading on them. Middle or high school students pair up with younger elementary 2nd and 3rd grade students to read together. Each time they go to read with the elementary students, they chart the number of reading mistakes and record the time it takes for the younger reader to read each passage. They graph the progress weekly on a chart.

Reflection: All students reflect on how it feels to read the passage the first time as compared to the last time, as they review the chart that details the weeks of reading progress.

Demonstration: Students videotape themselves reading passages and describe their program to broadcast on school news. Students can also create and present poems, public service announcements, songs, artwork, lessons, videos, skits, displays, or murals to teach other students or the larger community about the project, the need(s) it addresses, and the impact of their efforts.

Standards

Language Arts: The student

LA.A.1.4 Uses reading process effectively.

LA.A.2.4 Constructs meaning from a wide variety of texts.

LA.C.1.4 Uses listening strategies effectively.

LA.D.1.4 Understands the nature of language.

LA.D.2.4 Understands the power of language.

LA.E.1.4 Understands the common features of a variety of literary forms.

Mathematics: The student

MA.E.1.4 Understands and uses the tools of data analysis for managing information.

Academic Objectives

- Increase reading skills while teaching younger students to improve their reading skills
- Use Mathematics skills to chart reading progress.

Assessment(s): Documented improvement in reading skills and graphs charting young readers' progress

Service Objectives

- Students read fluently with a minimum of mistakes
- Increase in third graders FCAT reading scores

Assessment(s): Record of time it takes to read, and the number of mistakes