The Partner Reading station is a simple station to introduce (and duplicate) early in the year.

This is one of my favorites, because it’s so easy to get started and doesn’t need many materials. In fact, it’s one of the first stations I recommend setting up and duplicating. Do you have students who need to improve their oral reading fluency? The Partner Reading station is a perfect match for them! Do any of your kids have difficulty with independent reading? If so, they may do better at a Partner Reading station with the support of a peer who can read along with them. Do your students need practice with finding theme, author’s purpose, summarizing, and compare/contrast? Provide opportunities for pairs to practice reading and talking about familiar books at the Partner Reading station, and watch the meaningful learning that takes place.

You may already be using partner reading, also known as paired reading or buddy reading, as a whole group activity. Moving this work into the Partner Reading station will free you up to work with a small group to better meet the differentiated needs of every student in your class. You can also move books read in small group directly into the Partner Reading station for additional practice.

In this book, you’ll find many suggestions for simple setup and maintenance, as well as ideas for adding deeper learning by incorporating the Partner Reading station all year long. You’ll find everything you need to get started, including what students might read and respond to, how to introduce this station, and suggested materials to keep this station fresh and fun. I’ve also shared ideas for how to plan with timeless standards, such as identifying points of view and fluently reading dialogue, thinking about author’s purpose and discussing theme, and applying grade-level phonics when decoding. You’ll find ideas for teaching and then transferring these same lessons to student practice with a classmate at the Partner Reading station. My goal is to help you make the Partner Reading station a vital learning experience for students.

This book is dedicated to helping you implement this powerful station in a simple yet meaningful way. I’d love to see and hear your ideas on the Partner Reading station, too, so please check in with me on social media using the hashtag #simplystations and share how it’s going.

With purposeful practice in mind,

Debbie