

Friends on the Block **Early Literacy Curriculum**

Designed by researchers for all emergent readers, including struggling readers and readers with disabilities

Lessons Based On Books

- Shared reading experience: Student-read text and Helper text (read by a Friend)
- Natural-sounding text with picture support for key content words
- Dialogic reading questions
- Word building activities in context

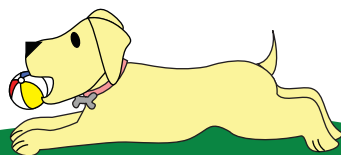
Explicit, Systematic Instruction

- Gradually introduces letter sounds and sight words
- Decodable words with attention to all parts of the words
- High-frequency sight words are common and in meaningful contexts
- Words are repeated often in the lessons and books
- Cumulative review throughout the curriculum
- Gradually fading scaffolds

Key Characteristics

- Consistent with What Works Clearinghouse recommendations*
- Multiple books in each level
- Multiple criteria (meaning & difficulty scaffolds and design features)
- Books read with a Friend (teacher/tutor/parent)
- May be used as a supplemental or primary intervention
- Carefully aligned, targeting critical skills
- Instructional routines are evidence-based practices
- Flexible pacing and implementation
- Engaging instructional games

*<https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/PracticeGuide/21>



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On the Web: www.FriendsOnTheBlock.com

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