

## K-3 Essential 1, Bullet 3 Collaboration Sample Video

MAISA Literacy Essentials

[https://youtu.be/hx6mZvkCxFA?si=8kZG\\_P7YNeCNqjz7](https://youtu.be/hx6mZvkCxFA?si=8kZG_P7YNeCNqjz7)

Narrator: When teachers offer regular opportunities for children to collaborate with peers in reading and writing, they foster literacy motivation and engagement within and across lessons. In these classrooms, students are learning together through partner reading, book clubs, and collaborative writing projects.

Teacher Jamie: Collaboration is really important to everything that we do in this class, so it's a very big part of our literacy program. We do a lot of partner reading. Partnerships that are working with dyad reading are sitting side by side, they're sharing one book. They use a smooth finger with one of the students guiding that pacing. You'll hear both voices reading with support from our stronger reader.

Students: I wanted to go to the toy store, but mom said not now. I had to try on a pair, pair of pants and a sweater. I wanted to get ice cream cone, but mom said we don't have time.

Teacher Jamie: We do dyad reading and partnerships during reading to help readers feel more confident in what they're doing. We know that to really know something, we need to be able to teach it, and our strong readers really have an opportunity to take on that mentorship role and practice those strategies that they do already have in place, which is only going to strengthen their reading. Our struggling readers have an opportunity to feel good about their reading and hear what reading sounds like at a fluent pace. Their eyes are on those words, they're following along with that smooth voice, and it gives them that confidence to move forward in their own reading.

My students are extremely social, so book clubs is a wonderful way to really get them involved in reading. Talking is something that happens often in my classroom, so I'd like to guide that discussion towards reading and writing and all aspects of literacy. So, when I do book clubs in my classroom, it allows my children to socialize and use their natural curiosity, and they're motivated to talk about the books.

Students: What do you guys think that Bella would want to get a shot instead? Because they're like, she's brave. She pretty much likes to stand up for people and she likes her twin a lot. Well, I think why she wants to get the shot is because it probably doesn't hurt when she gets the shot. It probably doesn't hurt. Yeah, because they make really thin needles.

Teacher Samantha: The book that we are going to be reading today that will promote a group discussion and collaboration around a text is Slap, and it's an elephant and piggy book by Mo Willems, and it's a class favorite.

Students: Oh, when Gerald says, wait, because Gerald has an open mouth, and he has movement.

Teacher Jamie: When my students are collaborating in book clubs, they often deepen their understanding through the discussions that they're having, more so than any discussion that I can give them in a whole group. So, the students are able to support each other in their learning by collaborating together in their book clubs. Sometimes we find in a large group setting we'll have students who are a little shy to speak and they don't always participate, but I will often see in book clubs that they kind of come out of their shell and they open up and they're able to be a part of the discussion and contribute

to the learning that's happening because they feel more comfortable when they're in a small group, such as their book clubs.

Students: The page where Gerald is saying yikes because he has a really silly face.

Teacher Samantha: Seeing my students collaborating with one another and how excited it makes them is really inspiring as a teacher, and it is something that I will continue to encourage my students to do.

Teacher Jamie: In the classroom, collaboration is key to motivating students. They are naturally curious about everything that's going on around them, and when we allow for collaboration, all students have an opportunity to learn and participate in their own way and really grow and achieve great things. When the students are writing, we have writing partnerships that meet consistently during our workshop.

Students: This project we worked on is should animals be kept in zoos or should animals not be kept in zoos? We listen to our ideas to combine them together to make one. We work together as a team to do it. Your partner always helps you and she tells you and if it's a he or she, she helps you with the words and tells you if they're wrong or right.

Teacher Jamie: During partnership writing, we usually have students working on many different aspects. Sometimes they'll be brainstorming and planning together. Other times they are using strategies to put words on the paper, so they'll be stretching out the sounds and supporting each other wherever they need it in their writing. They also will collaborate during the revising and editing portion. Sometimes in writing partnerships, we will see a stronger or more confident writer taking over, and I try to avoid that. I try to really support all of my students doing work, so what we do is we will often do pass the pencil where kids will take turns writing. We also do some independent work when we're writing as well, so students will have to either brainstorm independently and then come together to make a draft, or sometimes they will brainstorm and plan together in a collaboration with one or more students, but then break off and write independent pieces that they have to do for a final writing piece.

Students: This was our first one. We jotted down our ideas and then we combined them together on our draft. Then we did it into final copy.

Teacher Jamie: We also do collaborative writing in a whole class format as well, so students get to come up and share the pen and be a part of that process. When we allow children the opportunity to collaborate with their peers, it really motivates them to be excited about learning and literacy. With their reading and writing, we see growth and achievement, so it's just something that we feel very strongly about.

Students: I think the best part is you always have someone to work with and it's kind of fun when you have someone to work with working as a team.

Narrator: Learn more@[literacyessentials.org](http://literacyessentials.org).