

What is Student Team Literature?

Talent Development Secondary's Student Team Literature makes the best of adolescent literature available to middle grades readers. This innovative, thoroughly researched, and highly effective approach pairs significant literary works with research-based strategies.

The result:

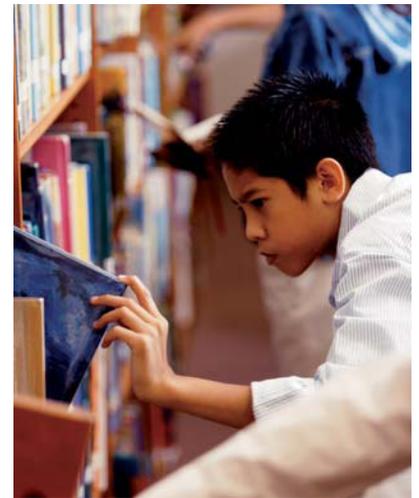
- Greater reading comprehension
- Richer vocabularies
- A deeper appreciation of literature in both struggling and secure readers

Materials for effective, engaging instruction include teacher and student Partner Discussion Guides and assessments for over 50 works of literature. Partner Discussion Guides are available for novels, plays, poetry, and nonfiction of varying readability levels from special education to high school.

Partner Discussion Guides lead students to think analytically and comparatively, draw conclusions, and analyze plot, literary devices, and writer's style and craft. Students work in cooperative teams to support high academic performance in every student.

Partner Discussion Guide Features

- Vocabulary Lists, including Starred High Frequency Words aid comprehension.
- Writer's Craft Boxes explore aspects of the writer's technique (e.g., flashbacks, figurative language).
- Make a Prediction and What If? Boxes lead students to anticipate what will come next.
- Partner Discussion Questions guide conversations about the literature, and are followed by independent writing of short answers.
- Selection Review Questions help pairs of students prepare for literature tests.
- So, You Want to Read More suggests literature of similar theme, genre, or topic for further independent reading.
- Extension Activities include art, drama, social studies, and research projects.
- About the Author presents biographical information about, and additional works by, the author.
- Literature-related Writing leads students to demonstrate their understanding of the text and to make connections between the text and themselves.



"My students blossomed into enthusiastic, independent readers through the use of the Student Team Literature Program."

a New Jersey middle school teacher

Teacher Partner Discussion Guides

Teachers' Partner Discussion Guides also include:

- A summary of the literature
- Background material
- Questions to help students establish a purpose for reading
- Answers to guided discussion questions
- Teacher read-aloud suggestions for mini-lessons on selected literary elements and devices
- The cycle of classroom activities includes direct instruction, team practice and discussion, and individual assessment

Student Team Literature Assessment Materials

- Vocabulary and Literature Tests assess students' use of new vocabulary, grasp of literary elements and devices, and comprehension. They require students to compose written responses to questions.
- Unit Tests that mirror the format of leading standardized assessments are available for many trade books. These tests allow students to practice taking standardized tests within the context of the literature they are reading.

Teaching Resources

Teaching resources available for over 50 titles including:

- Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl
- Bridge to Terabithia
- Bud, Not Buddy
- The Cay
- The Dream Keeper and Other Poems
- The Giver
- Hatchet
- Holes
- In the Night on Lanvale Street
- The Library Card
- Maniac Magee
- The Outsiders
- The Skin I'm In
- The Watsons Go To Birmingham—1963

"This has given us a structure for teaching that perhaps we did not have before... I have never seen in all of the years that I've been teaching this kind of support for any one book."

a New Jersey
middle school teacher

