Paired Passages

Working with Paired Passages - Leaning in to Get the Learning Out
What is a Paired Passage?

• Two passages about the same subject or with a common theme or author. After reading, students are asked questions about each individual passage as well as questions that incorporate both passages.
Why Paired Passages?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCe2cRUfNOE
The Basics of Paired Passages

• Several types of paired passages
• Informational - Informational
• Informational - Fiction
• Fiction - Fiction
What are we asking our students to do?

• Comparing characters, their personalities, and actions
• Comparing story events and plot lines
• Comparing lessons, themes, or messages in stories
• Comparing themes, ideas, issues in fiction/nonfiction text pairs
• Finding common themes, writing style, or perspectives in the work of a single author
• Comparing the treatment of common themes by different authors
• Comparing different versions of familiar stories

Strategies that Work, Stephanie Harvey and Anne Goudvis
How do they relate to CCGPS?
3rd Grade

• ELACC3RL9: Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters (e.g., in books from a series). ELACC3RI9: Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic.
4th Grade

• ELACC4RL9: Compare and contrast the treatment of similar themes and topics (e.g., opposition of good and evil) and patterns of events (e.g., the quest) in stories, myths, and traditional literature from different cultures. ELACC4RI9: Integrate information from two texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.
5th Grade

- ELACC5RL9: Compare and contrast stories in the same genre (e.g., mysteries and adventure stories) on their approaches to similar themes and topics. ELACC5RI9: Integrate information from several texts on the same topic in order to write or speak about the subject knowledgeably.
How do I begin teaching Paired Passages in my classroom?

• Have students compare and contrast two pictures.
The butterfly is an insect. Butterflies are noted for their wings, which are often colorful and bright. Butterfly wings are a bit like bird wings. Bird wings are made of feathers, but butterfly wings are made of tiny overlapping scales. The wings are colored in various patterns. Some butterfly wings look iridescent (changing rainbow colors, depending on the light) because of the way light hits the scales.

Butterflies have an interesting life cycle. They start as eggs. When they are born, they are what we call caterpillars. This is the larval stage for the caterpillar. The caterpillars then move into a cocoon, becoming what we call a chrysalis. This is the pupal stage. When the insect comes out of the cocoon, we call it a butterfly. This is the adult stage for the butterfly. These clear stages of changing on the way to adulthood are called metamorphosis. Many animals go through metamorphosis, but the butterfly’s changes are more dramatic than most.

Butterflies can be found almost all over the world. There may be as many as twenty thousand different species of butterflies. Butterflies usually eat flower nectar. Because of this, they are important to the life cycle of many flowers. Butterflies also need minerals, which they usually get from water found in dirt and sand. They reach their adult stage in the summer. Some butterflies migrate. The Monarch butterflies migrate about 3000 miles (4800 km) every year. They fly between Mexico and California.

The Cocoon
I found a cocoon
That a caterpillar made,
Fastened to a leaf
Hanging in the shade.
He barely had room
To wiggle or wag,
Like me zipped up
In my sleeping bag.
I looked each time
That I passed his way,
But he never budged
Until just today.
Something happened!
He wagged and wiggled
And then climbed out
And carefully jiggled
Small wet wings
That grew as they dried.
He’d turned to a butterfly
Inside!
Integrate with Social Studies
Choose the Wright

Andy slipped into his parka and raced towards the outskirts of town. He was glad school was over. It had been a long day of math numbers and penmanship. Miss Carol seemed determined to do him in. Andy threw his book bag over his shoulder and kept on running. Andy wasn’t the best student, but ask him anything about flying and he could spew out facts. He was a flying expert. He loved to sit and watch birds fly. He studied their landings and their takeoffs. On occasion, he had been known to capture one and try experiments with it wings. The poor creature was left to flap around indignantly.

On the day Andy read the sign stating that Orville and Wilbur Wright were coming to town, he thought he would explode from excitement. The sign said that these two brothers were inventing a real flying machine and would be demonstrating it on the grassy hill above the town. Andy had hiked up his suspenders and raced the whole three miles home barefoot to share the news.

Today as Andy hiked up the grassy knoll, he was almost knocked flat on the ground. Just above him in the air was a huge flying machine. It was beautiful. Andy sat back on the grass to watch. The machine seemed to be flying all on its own. He scanned the crowd looking for the Wright brothers. He finally spotted the two. They were smiling with great pride.
Paired Passage Activity

Directions:

• Find a group of at least 4 others.
• Read “Adventures on a Hot Air Balloon” and complete the graphic organizer (one side).
• Read “Matter is Everywhere” and complete the graphic organizer (opposite side).
• Work with your group members to complete the middle section.
Questioning

- What is a major idea found in both selections/stories?
- The story and the article both present ideas about _____.
- Why was __ mentioned in both the (__________) and the (____________)?
- What is the theme in both selections?
- What do the lessons in __ and __ have in common?
- What is a common theme in both of the stories?
- In comparing __ and __, what was the difference in the moral lessons in the two selections?
- A theme found in both stories is __.
Paired Passage Activity

• Writing Prompt
• RACE Strategy
• Answer the question in paragraph form
Resources

• ReadWorks  www.readworks.org
• Spotlight on Paired Passages (Curriculum Associates)
• Info Pairs (Mondo Publishing)
• Reading A to Z  www.readingatoz.com