

## Research Based Practice: Peer Support Strategies

### References:

Brock, M. E., Biggs, E. E., Carter, E.W., Cattey, G. N., & Raley, K. S. (2016). Implementation and generalization of peer support arrangements for students with severe disabilities in inclusive classrooms. *The Journal of Special Education, 49*(4), 221-232.

Carter, E. W., et al. (2016). Randomized evaluation of peer support arrangements to support the inclusion of high school students with severe disabilities. *Exceptional Children, 82*(2), 209-233.

Carter, E. W., et al. (2015). Promoting inclusion, social connections, and learning through peer support arrangements. *Teaching Exceptional Children, 48*(1), 9-18.

**Description:** Utilizing peers to provide providing academic, social, and other support to their classmates with disabilities. Below is a table with some specific examples.

Strategy	Examples
The peer provides social supports.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer greets the student.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer initiates a conversation with the student (topics can be shared interests, hobbies, or after school activities)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer includes the student in an interaction with other students.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer encourages other peers to interact with the student.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer prompts the student to interact with another peer.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer praises social communication attempts by responding positively/saying something nice.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer provides emotional support or gives advice.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer prompts a student to use an AAC device.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer explicitly teaches the student a social skill.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer tells jokes with the student.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer helps the student fit in by teaching social norms.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer sits next to the student in class, at lunch, etc.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer walks with the student during transitions.</li> </ul>
The peer assists the student academically.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer helps the student participate in class activities.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer repeats or rephrases instructions for the student.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer highlights important information shared by the teacher.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer and the student brainstorm answers to questions together.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer makes sure the student has a clear role in any group activity.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer offers additional examples to explain concepts or ideas.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer models how to solve a problem or demonstrate a specific academic skill.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer motivates/encourages the student during difficult tasks.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer provides feedback to the student.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer provides choices to the student.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer works collaboratively with the student on an activity/assignment.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer and the student share materials.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer helps keep the student organized.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer assists with taking notes and/or sharing notes.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer paraphrases lectures, discussions, or reading selections.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer reads something aloud to the student.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer serves as a scribe.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer checks the accuracy of a student's response.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer can ask for the student's input.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer uses a prompt hierarchy to elicit responses or encourage initiations.</li> </ul>
<p>The peer assists the student with meeting behavioral expectations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer explains class rules.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer explains the class schedule.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer redirects the student when the student gets off task.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer prompts the student to get out necessary materials.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The peer helps the student self-manage behaviors (e.g. supports the student in recording positive behaviors using a self-monitoring checklist)</li> </ul>