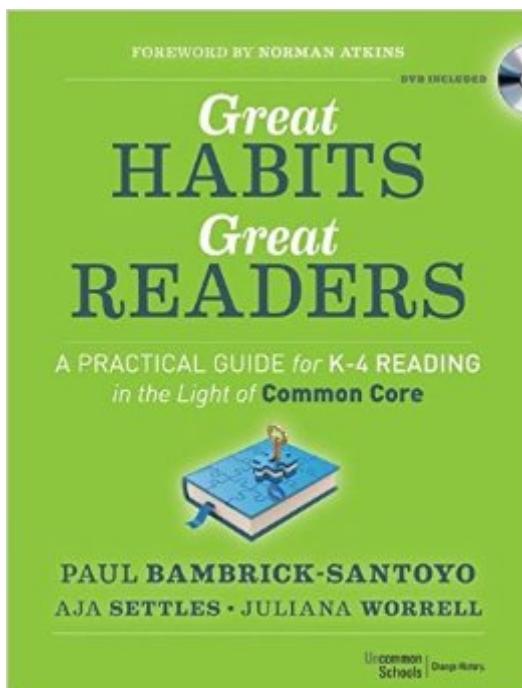


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# Great Habits, Great Readers: A Practical Guide For K - 4 Reading In The Light Of Common Core



## **Synopsis**

A book that brings the habits of reading to life Great readers are not made by genetics or destiny but by the habits they buildâ "habits that are intentionally built by their teachers. The early formal years of education are the key to reversing the reading gap and setting up children for success. But K-4 education seems to widen the gap between stronger and weaker readers, not close it. Today, the Common Core further increases the pressure to reach high levels of rigor. What can be done? This book includes the strategies, systems, and lessons from the top classrooms that bring the habits of reading to life, creating countless quality opportunities for students to take one of the most complex skills we as people can know and to perform it fluently and easily. Offers clear teaching strategies for teaching reading to all students, no matter what level Includes more than 40 video examples from real classrooms Written by Paul Bambrick-Santoyo, bestselling author of Driven by Data and Leverage Leadership Great Habits, Great Readers puts the focus on: learning habits, reading habits, guided reading, and independent reading. NOTE: Content DVD and other supplementary materials are not included as part of the e-book file, but are available for download after purchase

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This book explains, in clear, logical language, how to teach reading so that all children learn. The book is not theoretical. Instead, the authors have gathered best practices to put together a reading system that has been proven to work over and over again with students who live in poverty conditions. The authors don't propose what MIGHT work; they describe what IS already working in

their schools. Great Habits, Great Readers explains how to establish classroom management that saves time and facilitates learning ("Habits of the Classroom"). It moves on to "Habits of Discussion", explaining how to place the Common Core speaking and listening standards in their proper perspective as the bedrock of reading instruction. The authors then explain each of the parts of reading instruction in clear, easy-to-follow terms. Each chapter is supported by video clips (on the DVD included with the book) of master teachers working with real students. The DVD alone is worth the price of the book. It's inspiring and very instructive: a picture is, after all, worth a thousand words! Another valuable feature is the prompting guides, which show teachers exactly what students should master at each reading level, and what to say when students struggle with a particular skill. The prompting guides include explicit connections to the Common Core reading standards. We have ordered a copy for every teacher in our Title 1 elementary school (although many teachers insisted on buying their own copy) and intend to use it next year as the basis for a whole school book study. I also purchased a copy for our district's elementary language arts curriculum director.

North Star Academy's literacy program is among the most rigorous, highest quality programs in our nation. Certainly, the ability to elevate student academic performance from the lowest quartile to the 99th percentile on national assessments year after year emphasizes this fact; however, the power of their program is best exemplified by the enduring habits developed by their young scholars. It is a powerful experience to witness these habits in action - students maximizing instructional time by transitioning to literacy groups in less than 30 seconds, engaging in peer discussions drawing on evidence from their leveled text, and posing a prompt to support a peer's understanding. As a rising school leader, I had the opportunity to visit North Star Academy on a few different occasions, and after each visit, I couldn't help but to wish that I had an internal guide for how to execute this model in the school I would lead. And lo and behold, Great Habits, Great Readers has been my wish come true. This text has broken the complexity of a rigorous literacy program into clear and digestible components that can be successfully replicated by schools across the nation. Aligned to Common Core, this instructional manual outlines specific instructional strategies and action steps that, when implemented, drive strong reading habits and success among budding elementary readers. Additionally, the resources included in the text, specifically narrative and informational guided reading prompting guides, sample lesson plans, and workshop preparation sheets provide a solid foundation from which to build high quality literacy tools.

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