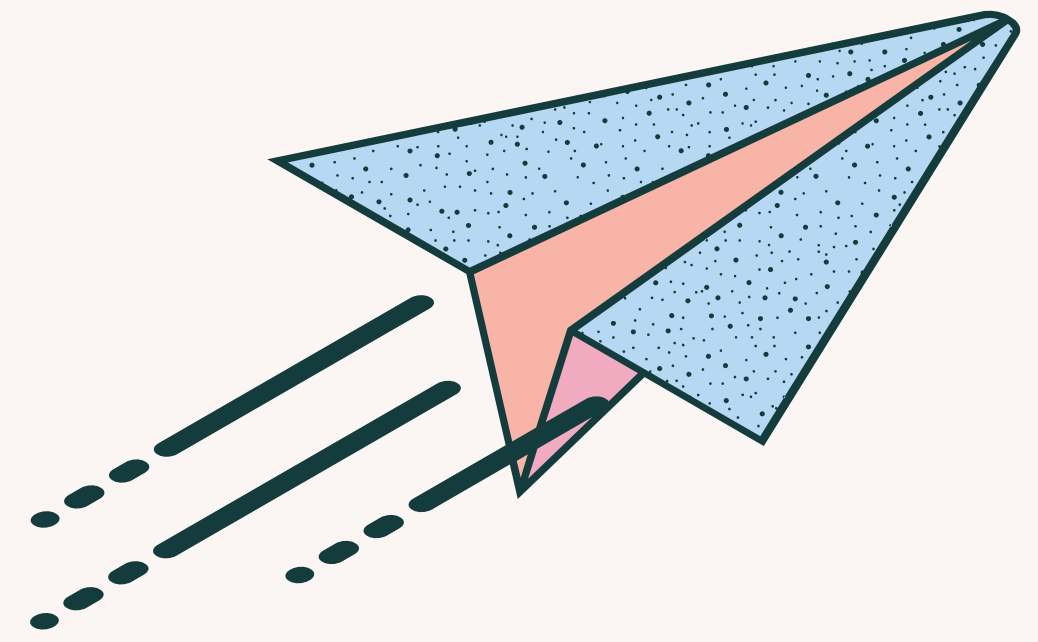


USING PAIRED READING TO PROMOTE ACTIVE LEARNING



If you are looking for a way to motivate yourself while promoting active learning, paired reading may be the answer for you!

1. Find a partner or two to form a small group
2. Using a section or article that group has selected to read, read one paragraph aloud while the others follow along silently.
3. At the end of the paragraph, hypothesize a main idea for it.
4. The others in the group should then probe to find out the reasoning behind the choice. The questions asked should push you to present evidence from the paragraph that supports your position.
5. Discuss the choice. Then others in the group can propose alternative main ideas.
6. Continue the discussion until the group reaches a consensus on the paragraph's main idea.
7. Once the group agrees, one student, serving as recorder, writes the decision down.
8. As a group, make a prediction about the probable content of the next paragraph.

The focus of this activity is on processing the material rather than just getting through it. The most important goal of reading is not simply to finish a given text, but to *understand* it!