Together We Can! Classwide Peer Tutoring (CWPT)

TARGET AUDIENCE
This program is for students in 1st through 8th grade.

SUMMARY
The Together We Can! Classwide Peer Tutoring (CWPT) program is designed to increase various skills and concepts for students and enhance their learning in basic subject areas through peer tutoring and group reinforcement.

EVIDENCE
A randomized controlled trial examined low-socioeconomic students receiving the CWPT program from 1st through 4th grade. Program participation resulted in higher levels of academic behavior (i.e., oral reading, academic talk, and question asking) and more success approaching or exceeding national norms in math, reading, and language, as compared to the control group. The 2-year follow-up also demonstrated that program participation resulted in greater gains in language, reading, and math; better performance in science and social studies; and fewer and less restrictive placements in special education programs during elementary school.

COMPONENTS
This program can be used in content areas involving drill and memorization. On Mondays, students are placed in pairs, and each set of partners is assigned to one of two teams, using the structure of a basketball game as the format. Partners tutor and test each other, and points are awarded for correct answers. The team with the most points is announced each day and is recognized on Fridays. At the end of every week, students are tested individually on the week's materials and pretested on material for the coming week.

The program consists of seven basic operational components:

- Multi-modality format in which students "hear," "see," "say," and "write" their responses and discover which modality best enhances their learning;
- Reciprocal and distributed practice;
- Immediate error correction and feedback;
- Game format, partner pairing, team competition;
- Built-in reinforcement;
- High mastery levels achieved by tailoring content to individual students; and
- Measured outcomes as determined by pre- and post-assessments given at the beginning of every new unit, before and after tutoring.

A computer-based approach is available. The ClassWide Peer Tutoring Learning Management System uses computer software support to aid teachers in their implementation of the program.

PREVIOUS USE
The CWPT program was developed during the early 1980s by Juniper Gardens Children's Project at the University of Kansas and is distributed under the name Together We Can! by Sopris West. It has been implemented with pre-school to high school students who are in regular and special education classrooms, have attention deficit disorder, are at risk for academic failure, and are learners of the English language.
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**TRAINING**

One-or two-day workshops are available through the Juniper Gardens Children's Project [http://jgcp.ku.edu/](http://jgcp.ku.edu/) A full-day session with two consultants costs $1,500, and one half-day session with two consultants costs $800. Purchase of the training manual is also recommended and available from SOPRIS West for $29.50 at [www.sopriswest.com](http://www.sopriswest.com).

**CONSIDERATIONS**

Considerations for implementation of this program include acquiring teacher interest and buy-in, creating time within the existing curriculum to implement the program, and purchasing the manual and software support, if desired.

The Clearinghouse can help address these considerations. Please call 1-877-382-9185, or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

If you are interested in implementing the CWPT program, the Clearinghouse is interested in helping you! Please call 1-877-382-9185, or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu.

**TIME**

The CWPT program is practiced 30 minutes a day, and tutoring sessions are 1 to 2 weeks long.

**COST**

A CWPT program manual with reproducibles and four dry-erase posters cost $61.95. Optional software support for implementing the program costs $245.

**EVALUATION PLAN**

To move the CWPT program to the Effective category on the Clearinghouse Continuum of Evidence, two evaluations, one of them by an independent investigator, must be conducted that demonstrate a strong study design and implementation; sustained, positive outcomes; and non-differential attrition.

The Clearinghouse can help you develop an evaluation plan to ensure the program components are meeting your goals. Please call 1-877-382-9185, or email Clearinghouse@psu.edu.

**CONTACT**

Contact the Clearinghouse with any questions regarding this program. Phone: 1-877-382-9185 or by email: Clearinghouse@psu.edu

You may also contact Dr. Barbara Terry by email terryb@ku.edu; phone 1-913-321-3143; or visit wwwlsi.ku.edu You may contact Sopris West by mail 4093 Specialty Place, Longmont, CO 80504; phone 1-303-651-2829 or 1-800-547-6747; or email customerservice@sopriswest.com.

**SOURCE**

- [www.specialconnections.ku.edu/~kucrl/cgi-bin/drupal/?q=instruction/classwide_peer_tutoring](http://www.specialconnections.ku.edu/~kucrl/cgi-bin/drupal/?q=instruction/classwide_peer_tutoring)
- [http://store.cambiumlearning.com/together-we-can/](http://store.cambiumlearning.com/together-we-can/)