

Inputs

What does an ideal tutoring session to do support and supplement student learning?

Activities

How does Pear Deck Tutor deliver on providing impactful tutoring sessions for all students?

Outcomes

What does the research tell us about the potential benefits of Pear Deck Tutor when it is used to support effective instructional practices?

Provide Differentiated Instructional Supports for All Students

A tutor’s role is to operate alongside a school’s structure of support to supplement a student’s classroom learning by filling in gaps of knowledge or challenging students to push further.

Deliver High-Quality Instructional Support

In a one-to-one setting, tutors have the opportunity to deliver engaging and rigorous instructional support that puts students at the center of the learning experience.

Give Students Tools to Learn Beyond the Session

One of the most powerful ways tutors can impact students is in building their capacity, desire, and ability to learn. Whether a student is struggling in Algebra or ELA, or not feeling challenged enough by their current class schedule, helping them evaluate their own learning and reflect on their knowledge can set students up for future success — success that reaches well beyond their tutoring sessions.

On-Demand Support for Students and Teachers

- Pear Deck Tutor can support schools and districts as a tool in their intervention structure.
- Teachers have the ability to use Pear Deck Tutor to supplement in-class learning when students need more direct support.
- Through leveraging tools like Pear Deck Tutor's Writing Lab, teachers can reallocate time originally spent on reviewing and correcting first-draft writing assignments towards higher-impact activities, like deeper content exploration in the classroom.
- Through their school's partnership with Pear Deck Tutor, students can access a tutor anytime, from anywhere, and for any academic need — whether they need homework assistance, an extra challenge, or a personalized support plan.

Scaffolded Sessions and Learning Goals

- Pear Deck Tutor sessions provide differentiated 1:1 support focused on assessing a student’s prior knowledge in order to build towards an accurate student model and keep students in their zone of proximal development.
- With Pear Deck Tutor’s collaborative digital tools, tutors can utilize evidence-based learning strategies, such as a Modeling-Scaffolding-Fading approach.

Growth-Mindset-Oriented Experiences

- Pear Deck Tutor tutors deliver personalized, process-oriented feedback and process praise to continuously encourage student persistence.
- Within a Pear Deck Tutor session, tutors facilitate the creation of a clear, goal-oriented session plan to aid students in accomplishing their learning goals.

Student-Centered Session Designs

- Pear Deck Tutor tutors keep students as the drivers of a learning experience by prompting students to demonstrate their understanding and regularly use self-explanation.
- Pear Deck Tutor sessions emphasize metacognitive strategies by encouraging students to evaluate their own reasoning and reflect on the learning process,
- Tutor guidance and feedback delivered through Pear Deck Tutor focuses on student autonomy. It is never prescriptive or controlling.

Emphasis on Higher-Order Thinking Skills

- Pear Deck Tutor sessions regularly prompt higher-order thinking through questioning techniques and application tasks.
- Pear Deck Tutor reinforces critical thinking, problem solving, and decision-making techniques by engaging students in active discussion throughout the session.

Teacher Satisfaction and Retention

- Teacher self-reports indicate that use of out-of-school-time (OST) resources, such as access to tutoring services, can result in increased student work completion, satisfaction, and greater reports of readiness to learn in the classroom.¹
- Research of variables impacting teacher outcomes found self-report measures of workload to be predictive of job satisfaction ratings and teacher retention rates.^{2,3}

Equitable Learning

- A large meta-analysis of academic interventions with elementary and middle school students from a low SES background found that access to tutoring resources and feedback had a statistically significant impact on achievement.⁴
- A systematic review of OST academic programs found that focused academic supports, such as structured intensive tutoring, can improve academic outcomes for at-risk students, most of whom are from low-income and racial/ethnic minority families.⁵

Academic Achievement and Engagement

- Administering tasks at appropriate levels of cognitive difficulty for students has been shown to have positive effects on the maintenance of engagement and motivation in learning.⁶
- Higher rates of timely and effective feedback have been linked with increased engagement and motivation, and has been cited as one of the most effective practices for improving learning and achievement.⁷ Studies suggest that learning experiences that focus on higher-order thinking skills see gains in the academic achievement of low and high-performing students.⁶
- Interactive lesson experiences — like modeling — have been shown to make learning more accessible, increasing academic engagement and achievement outcomes.⁷
- Student-centered lessons that include active learning elements, such as discussion, interaction, and student response technology, have been linked to improved engagement in learning and higher classroom retention rates.^{9,10} Tutoring sessions marked with reflection prompts have been shown to aid deep learners, while sessions with scaffolding have been shown to aid learners with more shallow knowledge.¹¹
- A meta-analysis analyzing the impact of access to OST tutoring resources found significant positive achievement gains for low-achieving or at-risk K–12 students in reading and mathematics.¹²

Metacognitive Techniques and Confidence

- Implementing metacognitive techniques such as reflection, goal-setting, and self-explanation has been shown to improve students’ ability to self-monitor their own learning, engage in deep conceptual understanding, utilize critical-thinking skills, and succeed in transfer-of-knowledge tasks.^{11,13,14,15,16}
- Process-oriented feedback techniques have been shown to support persistence in learning and challenge-seeking behaviors as measured by growth-goal setting.¹⁷
- Higher rates of timely and effective feedback have been shown to result in increased levels of self-efficacy and self-reported feelings of competence in students.⁷
- A meta-analysis analyzing the impact of access to OST tutoring resources found significant positive achievement gains for low-achieving or at-risk K–12 students in reading and mathematics.¹²

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