Project PAL at a Glance

Project Partnerships Achieve Literacy (PAL) is a multi-layered initiative that invests in teachers and students by creating a generative, responsive and contextually-driven approach to literacy development and achievement in under-resourced schools.

☑ Supports primary grade children in under-resourced schools to develop life-long literacy skills

☑ Brings together teachers from different communities, educational researchers and pre-service teachers from local universities to implement a responsive and differentiated literacy curriculum

☑ Invites community involvement by engaging parents and community members in the making of reading materials

Building Collaborative Partnerships

- Forms partnerships with local schools, communities, universities and regional departments of education
- Uses a professional development model based on collaboration, learner centeredness and relevance to the teaching context
- Creates learning communities of teachers from around the region and world as they participate in internet-based seminars

Increasing Literacy

Project PAL enhances literacy achievement through innovative, technology-rich literacy practices and assessments in primary grade classrooms.

- Implements teacher-developed, research-based reading curricula and instruction relevant to children’s lives, languages and experiences
- Monitors children’s literacy growth through ongoing and continuous assessment conducted by teachers and Project PAL faculty
- Uses innovative technology-rich engagements that encourage children to create relevant and meaningful reading materials in multiple languages
- Facilitates on-site professional development and internet-based webinars that inspire teachers to create innovative literacy curricula for the 21st century

“My experience as a Project PAL teacher has been transformative. It has allowed me to engage my students in meaningful literacy practices and assessments that are relevant to their lives, languages and experiences. Project PAL has provided me with the tools and strategies to create a responsive and differentiated literacy curriculum that inspires my students to create relevant and meaningful reading materials in multiple languages.”

- Amy Seely Flint, Project PAL Principal Investigator

“Project PAL aligns with one of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization’s millennium goals – to expand educational opportunities for millions of children throughout the world.”
Adapting to Local Contexts

- Draws on local communities and contexts
- Uses student-authored texts as context for teaching foundational reading skills
- Situates teacher professional development within their own schools
- Supports university students’ learning with real classroom teaching
- Uses low-cost technology
- Enhances teachers’ knowledge through ongoing multi-day professional development workshops, monthly teacher study groups and bi-monthly internet-based webinars