

Comprehension Newsletter December 2025

Reading is essential for those who seek to rise above the ordinary
-Jim Rohn

First Thursday Highlights

Our December First Thursday KAT Chat continued to build a **strong learning community** grounded in meaningful **reflection** and shared instructional practices that support each learner's needs. We celebrated the growth, and progress made this semester and **recognized the dedicated educators** who join us each month to learn, refine, and elevate their instruction.

This month, we shifted our format by showcasing **individual video segments** using the story "Soccer: The Game That Changed It All." Each segment highlighted a real classroom modeling opportunity, allowing teachers to see the authentic interactions, transitions, and adaptations needed to deliver the **KAT Framework** with fidelity. These clips offered **focused explanations, key takeaways, and opportunities for teachers to reflect** on how each component strengthens comprehension instruction. Rather than one full modeled lesson, teachers could explore **the breakdown of each component** or watch the entire model at once through the links provided → **see the video link section on the right.**

This flexible format allowed educators to revisit specific parts of the framework and deepen their understanding of how text structure and main idea anchor comprehension. [Watch the full segment of takeaways here!](#)

Principal's Corner – First-Year Implementation

Mr. Javier Garza shared an insightful look into first-year implementation, highlighting the **clear vision guiding the "before and now,"** the **intentional action steps** that have strengthened collaboration, and the anecdotes and quotes that illustrate the power of shared expectations. He also spotlighted **evidence of early impact**, sharing stories from past schools where the KAT Framework led to **significant improvements in campus ratings.** Even more exciting, campuses implementing the framework this year have already seen **promising gains in benchmark scores after just two months**, reflecting strong momentum and teacher commitment. To hear his full insights, [tune in to the Principal's Corner segment here.](#)

Celebrations and Shout Outs

College Station ISD teachers showcased strong implementation through detailed checkpoints, anchored main ideas, and intentional student writing. Their classrooms reflected clear routines, productive discussions, and excellent examples of KAT done well. A powerful anecdote from **Creek View Elementary** highlighted how students are using the KAT routines with confidence. Teachers and students in **North Little Rock and Arizona Charter** continue to impress with their strong use of the KAT Framework.

A special congratulations to our **Fall Semester KAT Chat Participant Award** recipients! Thank you for showing up month after month with dedication, curiosity, and a commitment to growing your instructional practice. [View the celebration highlights here!](#)

First Thursday Links

- [December 2025 KAT Chat Full Video](#)
- [A Home for Jo-Jo PPT](#)
- [Steph Curry Model Lesson](#)
- [Hatchet Activity-Student](#)
- [Hatchet Activity-Teacher](#)
- [December Library Updates](#)
- [December Calendar](#)
- [December KAT Chat Slides](#)

Takeaway Videos:

- [Introduction](#)
- [Vocabulary](#)
- [Read Aloud](#)
- [Identify Text Structure](#)
- [Main Idea Writing](#)
- [Main Idea Multiple Choice](#)
- [Summary Writing](#)
- [Summary Multiple Choice](#)
- [Inference](#)
- [Full Video](#)

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KAT Questions & Answers

We received great questions this month. Here are brief answers to support implementation and keep everyone aligned.

Q1: How can I access the videos? Through the newsletter?

A: The links to each video segment, as well as the full modeled lesson, will be provided in the **December Comprehension Newsletter**. If for any reason you do not receive the newsletter, all videos are also available in **our File Library**, where you can access every video of each component at any time.

Q2: Is there a reflection document available to help monitor my own growth as a teacher?

A: Yes! With our **The Joy of Reading** book, we created a reflection document that we can upload to the File Library for easy access. We also have a **classroom observation tool that principals and coaches** use during visits, and teachers are welcome to use it for self-reflection as well. Dr. Wijekumar also reminded everyone that the **iCoach and iTeach apps** are available to support ongoing growth. The QR codes and links for these tools, and all referenced documents, are included for your convenience.

[KAT Fidelity Observation Rubric](#)
[Joy of Reading Reflection](#)

What Teachers Are Asking

Watch our segment [here](#).

**Mark your calendar
for the next First
Thursday:
February 5, 2025**

We'll see you there!



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ACE Literacy Project

To share the ACE flyers with your families, click on the links below. These are great resources to support **home-school connection** over the upcoming break and help keep students engaged.

- [ACE Podcast Flyer - English](#)
- [ACE Podcast Flyer - Spanish](#)

Available on YouTube, iTunes, Spotify, or wherever you get your podcasts!

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Other News from the Team

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