

PAC TEXTBOOKS are designed to provide:

- *INDIVIDUALIZED
- *DIRECTED
- *ACCELERATED
- *LEARNING

Paradigm Accelerated Curriculum & System (PAC) is different than standard school textbooks, which are designed for students whose classroom teachers prefer collaborative learning in student-led groups. PAC can also be used as a resource for peer-directed studies, however, PAC is best applied in a structured academic setting in which students access PAC materials as the primary source of knowledge and skills. PAC contains core academic elements which students are expected and enabled to master within a school year while working individually. The PAC system is based on the assumption that students will master a specified body of knowledge within a school term regardless of whether other students excel, perform as average or remain as underperformers.

Collaborative learning is based on the assumption that students learn best when discovering concepts and data through peer-led discussions. Thus, contemporary classroom teachers are taught to arrange students in groups where cognitive level discovery hopefully will occur. Standard, hard-back textbooks are utilized basically as a resource to provide information to be applied in collaborative groups. The teachers' editions of standard textbooks contain multiple suggestions, charts, pictures, and discussion topics which teachers can implement during group learning experiences. However, standard textbooks used to aid teachers who guide students involved in groups are seldom completed in a school term, thus leaving large academic gaps in the students' core knowledge. Whereas peer-led group discussions can be beneficial as a supplemental learning technique, they are not the primary means by which PAC provides comprehensive course content over which students will be accountable, tested and/or promoted.

PAC would not serve as an effective alternative learning experience if PAC materials were a duplicate of standard, hardback textbooks designed for collaborative learning. PAC is best utilized in learning centers and classrooms where teachers structure the environment specifically to accommodate individualized learning that enables students to complete entire courses as rapidly as desired or as slowly as needed, regardless of the progress or lack thereof by peers.

That is why PAC recommends that teachers complete the five Paradigm Training Modules (Product #76071) before attempting to implement PAC curriculum. The PAC Training Modules orient teachers and students to the concept of accelerated, individualized, directed learning.

A Teacher's Resource Kit (TRK) for each PAC course contains quizzes and tests, plus answers. The TRK is not designed as a resource for collaborative learning. It is designed to provide answers and rubrics as applicable in PAC courses. #