



Pasadena Unified Chooses Freckle for its 17,000 Students

At Pasadena Unified School District, the administration cares deeply about providing a top-notch education to all of their students. They strive to make sure that students are prepared to be critical thinkers, creative problem-solvers and strong communicators.

With the help of her team, Helen Hill, the Director of Curriculum at Pasadena Unified, is responsible for making sure that Pasadena teachers have the support and tools they need to teach the Common Core standards to their 17,000 students.

17,000 Students



19 Elementary Schools



5 Middle Schools



76 Miles covered
with LA County



“

Teachers know best and they made it clear that Freckle was changing things for them. Teacher voice is valued in our district.”

— HELEN HILL

Director of Curriculum at Pasadena Unified



Discovering Freckle

Freckle ELA

“With the transition to Common Core, we’re focused on making sure our teachers have access to tools that push students to think and not just respond,” said Helen. In her team’s search for ELA resources, they found Freckle™ by Renaissance® and introduced its ELA product to their teachers.

With Freckle ELA, teachers get access to over 400 non-fiction articles, reading comprehension questions, and writing prompts. Each article is available at multiple reading levels so that students get the version that is best for them.

Freckle Math

A year later, while Helen and her team were looking for Math resources, they sent a survey to their teaching staff: “If you had a choice in Math, what would you drive us to use?” To their pleasant surprise, Freckle was named by 72% of respondents even though the Math portion of Freckle was never formally introduced to the staff! Their students had already answered more than half a million questions on Freckle!

“We never asked our teachers to use Freckle Math, but adults vote with their feet and it was clear they chose Freckle,” Helen said. “It’s so quick, easy to use, and purposeful that our teachers didn’t need any encouragement to use it. Teacher voice is valued in our district.” With this information in hand, Helen decided that they needed to buy their teachers access to Freckle School Edition so they could enjoy all of the benefits of Freckle and have more instructional time with their students.

“*When we came across Freckle’s ELA resources we thought, gosh this is so ready to put into lesson designs. It just really fit our needs.*”

— HELEN HILL

Director of Curriculum at Pasadena Unified

Looking Forward

By the end of the 2016-2017 school year, every student in Pasadena Unified will have a Chromebook assigned to them. Plus, any student who qualifies for a free or reduced lunch will receive a free mobile hotspot. This will allow every student to have access to all that Freckle offers even when they're at home.

“We just really care a lot about our kids,” said Helen. “I don't want us to have a forgotten group of students. We want to take care of all of our students and make sure things are equitable.”

We're so proud to have the Pasadena Unified School District as a part of the Freckle family!

