

Fluency



“Fluency is one of several critical factors necessary for reading comprehension. If text is read in a laborious and inefficient manner, it will be difficult for the child to remember what has been read and to relate the ideas expressed in the text to his or her background knowledge. Reading practice is generally recognized as an important contributor to fluency.” (National Reading Panel Report) Research shows that repeated and monitored oral reading improves reading fluency and overall reading achievement.

Model fluent reading

- Read aloud to students on a daily basis.
- Use expression to distinguish between speakers and enhance the text.
- Use a think aloud to demonstrate how fluent reading helps comprehension.

Use word walls to teach high-frequency vocabulary

- Introduce 3-5 words per week to be placed on the word wall
- Systematically and explicitly focus on regular features of irregular words through daily instruction and practice.
- Make other words within a family such as the -ad words (bad, sad, mad, etc).
- During center time, “read the word wall”.

Student-adult reading

- The adult reads the text first modeling fluent reading.
- The student then reads the same text to the adult.
- The student continues reading the passage until he/she can read it with fluency (3-4 times)

Choral reading

- The use of big books, overhead stories, or class sets of books is recommended.
- Text should be at independent level.
- Teacher reads aloud the passage to the group first.
- Reread the passage and have the students join in as they are able.
- Continue to reread the text 3-5 times. All of the re readings do not need to occur on the same day.

Tape-assisted reading

- Students using this strategy read along in their books with a fluent reader reading the book on an audiotape.
- Book is at an independent level read by a fluent reader at 80-100 words per minute.
- Reading with the tape continues until the student can read the book independently and fluently.

Partner reading

- The fluent reader reads a passage of text modeling fluent reading.
- The less fluent reader reads the same passage aloud until the passage can be read independently.

Reader's Theater

- Students read from scripts with rich dialogue.
- They play characters or narrators.
- The reader's fluency and voice conveys the story.

