

Fluency

Fluency is reading like we talk, NOT like a robot. Fluency is the ability to read with accuracy, expression, phrasing and appropriate rate.

▶ **REREAD FAMILIAR BOOKS:**

Many experts believe that repeated reading of familiar texts is the BEST way to improve fluency.

▶ **MODEL READ:** Continue to read aloud to your child throughout the elementary school years.

▶ **ECHO READ:** You read the first short sentence or phrase aloud and then have your child echo you.

▶ **PARTNER READ:** Share reading parts of the book: by page, paragraph, or sentence.

Prompts:

▶ Listen to me read a little faster. Now you try. (RATE)

▶ Listen to me read. Can you hear me pause @ the comma? Can you hear my voice go up at the question mark? Now you try. (EXPRESSION)

▶ Can you make it sound like this? (EXPRESSION, PHRASING, RATE)

▶ These words make sense together. Let's try reading them together. (PHRASING)

▶ Watch me check it. Yes, that makes sense in this story (or No, that doesn't make sense in this story.) (ACCURACY-If they misread.)

▶ You said, " ____." See if you can find what's wrong. (ACCURACY)

Things to say besides "SOUND IT OUT"

▶ Read the rest of the sentence and think about what would make sense. Use your context clues.

▶ Do you see any chunks in this word that you know?

Ex: -tion, vowel pairs, compound words, prefix/suffix

▶ It could be . . . but look at . . .

▶ Check it. Does it look right and sound right to you? Does it make sense?

▶ Have you tried switching the vowel sound?

▶ After two unsuccessful attempts, give your child the word to avoid frustration and to keep the experience positive.



Book Club

Form a family book club, you can model fluent reading, discuss the higher-level vocabulary, and have a book discussion. Parents often stop reading with their child once they begin to read more independently. Most kids miss having that undivided attention from a grown up that they love (whether or not they admit it)!

Parent Partners

Intermediate Reading Strategies



"You are the most important teacher your child has!"

How Parents Can Help With . . .

Comprehension

Have a discussion with your child about the book. It's not a test, have fun. Use the following questions to guide the conversation.

You might ask:

- ▶ What is the story mostly about?
- ▶ What is the main problem in the story?
- ▶ What is the solution?
- ▶ How does ____ (character) feel after/before ____ happened?
- ▶ How do you know ____ (character) feels ____ (upset, excited, anxious)?
- ▶ What does the word ____ mean in this story? Why do you think ____ means that?
- ▶ What will probably happen next?
- ▶ What caused ____ to happen?
- ▶ Does this story remind you of anything?
- ▶ What lesson do you think the author was trying to teach us?
- ▶ What was your favorite part? Why?

Comprehension (continued)

- ▶ If you were the main character would you have done the same things the main character did? Why or why not?
- ▶ How did the characters in the story change? Why do you think this happened?
- ▶ What kind of person do you think ____ is? What in the story makes you think this?
- ▶ What are some good or bad things that happen in the story? Why makes you think these things were good or bad?
- ▶ Why do you think the author gave this title to the story?
- ▶ What did you like best about ____? What in the story helped you think this way?
- ▶ What did you not like about ____? What in the story helped you think this way?
- ▶ What were the 3 most important ideas in this? (non-fiction)
- ▶ What character is most like you? Why?
- ▶ What character do you wish you could be? Why?
- ▶ Which character would you most like to have as a friend? What in the story helped you make this decision?
- ▶ How are you like ____? How are you different?
- ▶ What did you like best about what you read?
- ▶ If you could change the ending, what would happen?
- ▶ Tell the main parts in just 3 sentences.
- ▶ Tell about a part that is most like your life.
- ▶ What do you think will happen next? Why? (For books that take longer to read.)
- ▶ Was there anything that really confused you?



Websites

- ▶ Literacy ideas created by Leander ISD SRP Team: <http://goo.gl/V76mWp>
- ▶ www.starfall.com
- ▶ www.pbs.org/parents/readlanguage
- ▶ www.professorgarfield.org/pgf_ReadingRing.html
- ▶ Videos and games: pbskids.org/electriccompany/
- ▶ Make your own comics! www.professorgarfield.org/co



Brochure put together by: Tina White & Jennifer Moore