

Tips for Reading Aloud

FLUENCY

Fluency is a skill that readers develop with practice. As students first learn to read, they are more focused on breaking down words, resulting in choppy and monotone reading. Fluent readers have developed the skills necessary to read aloud with accuracy, voice inflection (expression) and appropriate pace. Fluency is critical to successful reading comprehension, because students who are struggling to decipher each word will miss the content of the text they are reading.

So, how do we incorporate fluency work in a reading session? Follow these simple steps:

1. Select a book at a lower level than current working level, looking for 95% accuracy, which is the independent reading level:
2. Read the book aloud to the student, modeling:
 - a. Speed: read at a pace that sounds engaging and is easy to follow
 - b. Inflection: read in a tone that is interesting and adds to the story, paying attention to punctuation
 - c. Accuracy: saying each word accurately allows the reader and the listener to focus on the story
3. Provide guidance and encouragement as the student reads. Reading the book aloud four times is usually sufficient.

