



Oral Reading Fluency

Oral reading fluency is an important goal of reading instruction in the elementary classroom. Research recognizes fluency as a strong indicator of efficient and proficient reading. A fluent reader reads with accuracy, appropriate speed, and expression. If a reader has to spend most of his/her energy trying to decode words, comprehension suffers. Fluent readers can devote more attention to word meaning, therefore, increasing understanding of the reading.

Fluent readers can:

- **Recognize words automatically**
- **Group individual words into meaningful chunks**
- **Apply strategies rapidly to identify unknown words**
- **Determine where to place emphases or pause to make sense of a task**
- **Read effortlessly and with expression.**

like” pace. Children need opportunities to improve their fluency through repeated reading practice.

Repeated Oral Reading:

- **Provides ample times to practice**
- **Produces gains in reading rate, accuracy, and comprehension**
- **Helps struggling readers at all grade levels.**



Word recognition must be automatic for fluency to improve. Doing sight word drills everyday will help to increase automatic recognition. Playing word games will help to improve fluency. Practice reading passages out loud and time the reading. This is a great exercise for reading fluency and vocabulary development.

One form of reading practice for fluency is repeated oral reading with familiar texts. This gives the reader opportunities to gain speed and accuracy in oral reading. Oral reading should reflect a “speech-

