

Fluency

FLUENCY IS READING...

1. **SMOOTHLY:** not too fast or too slow
2. **AUTOMATICALLY:** reading in phrases, not one word at a time.
Example: Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a pail of water.
3. **WITH EXPRESSION:** reading with feeling in your voice, not like a robot.
4. **WITH ATTENTION TO PUNCTUATION:**
 - Stop. Take a breath.
 - Pause, take a mini-breath.
 - ? Voice goes up, stop.
 - ! Voice gets louder, stop.
 - “ ” Slide into a new voice.

WHAT TO DO:

1. Read it again. Re-reading a text three or four times increases familiarity with the words, builds confidence, and increases fluency. Use a stopwatch or clock to time your student while he or she reads a page. Then repeat, reading and measuring the time again, to see how speed and fluency improve.
2. Read out loud while your child watches the words. Many children who struggle with fluency are used to reading word by word. Training their eyes to move through the words more quickly will help them tremendously.