

# Fluency Passages - Homework Guide

## The Purpose of Fluency Passages

Now that our children have a grasp of reading, we would like to turn our attention to reading fluency. Every reader is expected to read not only all the words on a page correctly, but also to read those words with voice and intonation (personality) and at a comfortable, flowing pace. These skills fall under the category of fluency. The key to fluency is NOT just speed! The key is being able to chunk groups of words together so the reading sounds like speech, use punctuation as a guide, and to use expression. (Being able to also include character attitude and personality is a wonderful sign of comprehension, too!) When a student does these things well, then his/her speed automatically increases! A great way to assess fluency is through one-minute timed readings. As students progress as readers, the number of words they read correctly per minute should increase even if the difficulty of the text is increasing. EVERY student, regardless of reading ability, benefits from fluency support and practice. By the end of first grade, students should be able to read 50-60 words per minute.

## Fluency Homework

1. Student reads the entire passage to him/herself. Do not correct any mistakes at this time.
2. Student reads aloud the passage to the adult/parent, who is timing them for EXACTLY one minute. During this time the parent is also keeping track of any errors the child makes while reading by putting a "slash" through words that are read incorrectly. Parent does not correct the child at this time. If they get stuck on a word for 3 seconds, read the word for them and count it as a mistake.
3. Parent subtracts the amount of errors from the total words read and records on the homework sheet the number of words read correctly in a min. (use the numbers at the end of each line to help you add quickly). So if your child reads 83 words in a minute and made 6 mistakes, his/her total would be 77.
4. Parent now points out and corrects the errors made to the child.
5. Student reads aloud the passage to the parent/adult again. At this time, the parent should correct any mistakes as they are reading.
6. Students will answer comprehension questions at the bottom of their page and record their answers on their homework sheet. (Day 1 - Monday, Day 2 - Tuesday, Day 3 - Wednesday, Day 4 - Thursday). **Students will also be bringing home a book for the week for extra practice, but are not required to complete homework on it.**