

Fluency Activities

1. Predictable Books

For beginning readers and pre-readers, books that are predictable and easily memorized provide an understanding of the way books “work” and an experience of “reading” fluently. Some easy, predictable books incorporate phonetically decodable words with repeated text, while other incorporate sight words with repeated text.

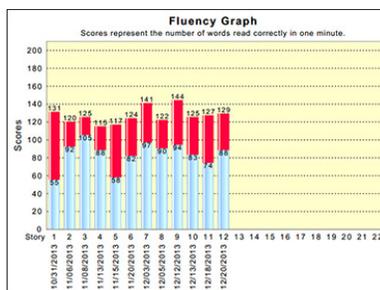
As a student’s reading ability develops, higher-level predictable books (such as *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Numeroff) can support the growth of a student’s fluency because of the more difficult text.

An Internet search for “predictable books” will yield a variety of options from which to choose.

2. Repeated Reading

One way to develop fluency is through repeated reading of a particular book or passage:

- **Cold Read/Hot Read:** Start by timing a student reading a new passage or short book for one minute. Count the words that the student read correctly. This is the student’s “cold score.” Record the “cold score” on a graph in blue ink or blue pencil. Read the passage aloud to the student several times. Have the student practice the passage every day for a week. At the next tutoring session, have the student practice the same passage once or twice, and then time him again reading it for one minute. Again count the number of words that the student read correctly. This is the student’s “hot score.” Record the “hot score” on the same graph as the “cold score,” but with red ink or red pencil. The student will be able to see the fluency progress made through practice.



- **To-With-By:** This method was described in the training video. The tutor reads the passage or book to the student two or three times. Then the tutor and student read the passage together two or three times. Finally, the student reads the passage alone two or three times.
- **Recorded Reading:** If you have access to a recording device, record the student reading the passage for the first time and listen to it together. After the student has practiced the passage multiple times, record the student again and listen to it together. Notice how the student’s fluency has improved.

3. Readers’ Theater

A fun way to engage students in repeated reading is to have them practice reading a script. In Readers’ Theater, students practice a particular part in a play along with other students. They practice reading their lines with expression and fluency, and may use some basic props. They perform the play for each other or for other students while using their scripts. Because students use their scripts during the performance and only

simple props are used, Readers' Theater is less work than putting on a full play. Free Readers' Theater scripts can be found at a variety of reading levels through an online search.

4. Read-Alouds

Students gain a great deal by hearing books read to them. They experience the sound of fluent reading, develop vocabulary, and build listening comprehension skills. Ideally, read-aloud books are a year or two above a student's reading level. By staying within that level, the tutor is more likely to keep the student's interest and attention.