Tips & Tricks for Fluency Practice

Types of Practice:

The research on Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) suggests that a combination of the strategies below is the best way to increase automaticity by allowing repeated practice, modeling by a fluent reader, and a variety of ways to practice the skill!

1) Choral Reading
   a. Parent/clinician and child read simultaneously; the adult reader may be a few paces ahead during this practice- this is good for modeling, but monitor whether this delay is hindering rate so that you can adjust together
2) Echo Reading
   a. Parent/clinician read first to model fluent reading and the child reads after. Focus on: imitating rate/speed and expression
      i. Always do this with "chunking"- this means that you want to break the article out into sections of varying lengths depending on the difficulty of the passage
3) Repeated Reading
   a. Type 1: Set a timer for 60 seconds and count the total number of words read
   b. Type 2: Set a 60-second word goal and keep reading the passage until this goal is reached
      i. Ex: goal- 140 Words/minute; set a timer for 60 seconds and keep reading until this goal is attained
4) Modeled Reading
   a. Find an audiobook recording or a Youtube Video recording of a story-reading
      i. Try searching YouTube videos for different stories or try audible- first book is free!
      ii. Listen to the recording first and then practice on your own
      iii. Try this website for library resources: https://openlibrary.org/

Extra Tips to use and Activities to Try:

1) Immediate Feedback:
   a. Reinforce self-corrections with positive feedback to encourage monitoring/self regulation
   b. Have the child re-read errored productions, and give reinforcements or correction directly following the passage reading (as opposed to delaying the feedback until the end of the activity)→ This helps them to become better self-monitors, and eventually, they will start to recognize these errors independently
2) Pre-reading:
   a. Scan the passage silently to increase familiarity with the words
   b. Practice "decoding" (sounding out) unfamiliar words and say them aloud a few times before reading the passage
3) Expression Challenges:
   a. Pick an emotion and practice reading a passage or paragraph with different expressions
      i. Experiment by using a play/poem and using your voice and reading style to represent different characters
4) Naturalness Challenges:
   a. Pick a poem, rhyme, or riddle and practice reading it with different rhythms and patterns of "intonation" (pitch changes/tone of voice)

Fluency Practice:

1) Websites for Fluency Passages
   a. https://mycalcas.com/2018/09/top-6-websites-offering-free-leveled-reading-passages/

2) Reading Wizards Game:
   a. https://www.roomrecess.com/mobile/ReadingTone/play.html

3) Reading Fluency Passages online (with audio included)
   a. https://mrnussbaum.com/lang-arts/reading-comprehension-online

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