

# Ohio Literacy Conference for K-3rd Grade Teachers

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## **C-8** Creating Success with Readers' Theater (Gr. K-3)

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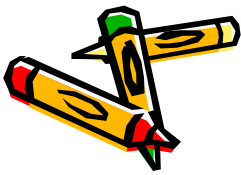


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# So why Readers Theater?

1. Improves visual tracking skills and fluency, with time and practice.
2. Reinforces expression, intonation, and diction.
3. It's fun, easy, and effective!



Reader's theatre promotes fluency. Fluency is considered one the essential components of learning to read according to a 2000 report of the National Reading Panel (NRP). Peebles (2007) noted the importance of fluency instruction for struggling readers because they often lose meaning of a text because of slow and laborious oral reading. If text cannot be read in a smooth and efficient manner, children will find difficulties remembering what has been read, comprehending it, and incorporating the ideas expressed in the text into the child's current schema (Flynn, 2004; NRP, 2000).

# Implementing Readers Theatre as an Approach to Classroom Fluency Instruction

- Results showed immense progress by the students at the conclusion of the school year.
- Students made gains in both word recognition and reading rate.
- The average student reading rate at the beginning of the school year was at 62.7 words read correctly per minute (WCPM) and made a momentous increase at the end to 127.6 WCPM.
- Qualitative findings:
  - readers Theatre was positive and motivational
  - high level of engagement by struggling readers
  - fun and creative environment



Young, C., & Rasinski, T. (2009). Implementing readers theatre as an approach to classroom fluency instruction. *The Reading Teacher*. Vol. 63(1), 4-13.



*Reflections . . .*