Foundational Facts ORF

Reading fluency is the ability to effortlessly translate letters to sounds and sounds to words. The fluent reader is one whose decoding processes are automatic, requiring little to no conscious attention, freeing up cognitive "desk space" to focus on comprehension and meaning. (LETRS) Simply put, oral reading fluency is reading with speed and accuracy sufficient to support comprehension. Student performance is measured by having students read a leveled passage aloud for one minute while making notes regarding errors and counting the number of words read correctly to receive a words correct per minute and accuracy score.

ORF is an **indicator** of accurate and fluent reading of connected text, advanced phonics and word attack skills. It has been shown, in both theoretical and empirical research, to serve as an accurate and powerful indicator of overall reading competence — and has a strong correlation with comprehension.

During Assessment

Assessing ORF provides an indicator of accurate and fluent reading of connected text, advanced phonics, and work attack skills.

During Instruction

Provide deliberate, sequenced instruction in decoding that enhances fluency as well as instruction in comprehension skills.



Good Idea

Encourage students to read at a rate that supports their comprehension of text.

Shanahan on Maze

"Why teach fluency? Because at different points in a reader's development it makes important contributions to understanding how print works, to consolidating and automatizing decoding skills, and to helping readers to figure out how to go from print to prosody."



Not So Great

Never encourage students to "read as fast as you can". Reading without prosody does not lead to meaning.

The Components of Fluency

Accuracy:

Accurate reading requires students to be able to pronounce written words correctly.

Prosody:

Prosody means reading with expression – with the appropriate rhythm, tone, pitch, pauses, and stresses for the text.

Rate:

The goal is to achieve a pace that allows for appropriate phrasing and changes in tone, but which is quick enough to enable comprehension.

Activities that Increase Fluency

- ◊ Alphabetic Prosody
- ◊ Phrase –Cued Oral Reading
- ◊ Simultaneous Oral Reading
- ◊ Partner Readings
- ◊ Repeated Readings
- ◊ **Increased** Time in Text!!!!