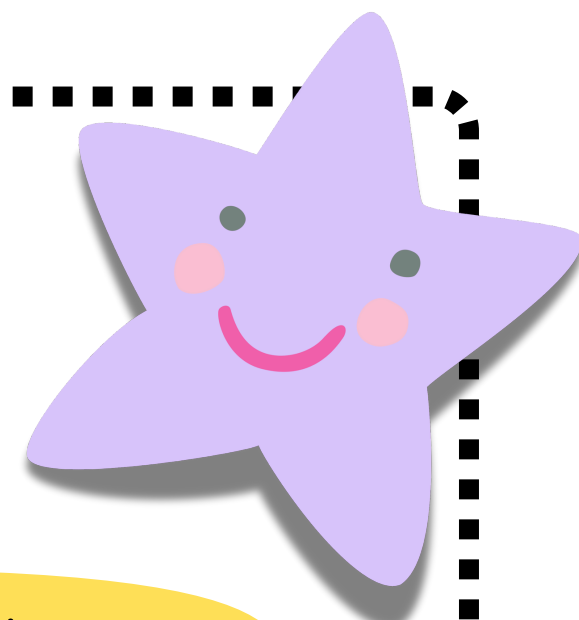


ACT 20 RESOURCES FOR READING FLUENCY AT HOME



We are excited to support you and your child with gaining literacy experiences and skills inside and outside of school. We hope that these resources will provide your family with information and activities about what your child is learning in school, and what pieces they will need to focus on to improve their reading proficiency and skills. We are pleased to work with you in building a family of readers and writers.

As part of the Act 20 legislation, schools are providing parents with information to support their children in the following areas of literacy: phonemic awareness, phonics, and fluency. The School District of Janesville is in the process of creating a website for parents as well.

What is Fluency?

"Fluency" means reading smoothly, at a good pace, and with expression. It should sound like the way we talk naturally. Fluency helps students better understand what they're reading because the cognitive load is not taken up with stopping and sounding out every word. When students are struggling to decode words, it takes a significant amount of cognitive space, leaving less room to process the meaning of text. Fluency is about reading accurately and with the right tone of voice, not just reading quickly. Fluent readers pay attention to punctuation and read the sentences accordingly. Fluency is a combination of rate (words per minute), accuracy (number of words correct), and prosody (reading with feeling).

Online Resources

-  [Storyline Online](https://storylineonline.net/) <https://storylineonline.net/>
This resource features videos of celebrities reading children's books aloud. It helps children hear stories read with expression and fluency, providing a model for their own reading.
-  [Epic!](https://www.getepic.com/parents) <https://www.getepic.com/parents>
While Epic! is a subscription-based service, it offers a free tier with access to a limited selection of books. It includes a variety of read-aloud books that can help children improve their reading fluency.
-  [Unite for Literacy](https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/)
<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>
This site provides access to a library of free, narrated picture books. The narration is helpful for children to hear fluent reading and follow along.
-  [Florida Center for Reading Research \(FCRR\)](https://games.fcrr.org)
<https://games.fcrr.org> A collection of digital activities for use with pre-kindergarten through 5th grade children.

-  [UFLI Parent Hub](http://bit.ly/40Vo7EL) <http://bit.ly/40Vo7EL>
This collection of web-based language and literacy resources was compiled and curated by UFLI faculty and graduate students.
-  [Reading Rockets](https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/fluency)
<https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/fluency>
Offers articles, tips, and activities on developing fluency. A great resource for parents looking for a deeper understanding of how to support their child's literacy skills.
-  [Home Reading Helper](https://www.homereadinghelper.org/)
<https://www.homereadinghelper.org/>
A resource for families to support their child's development with at-home reading activities, organized by skill and grade level.

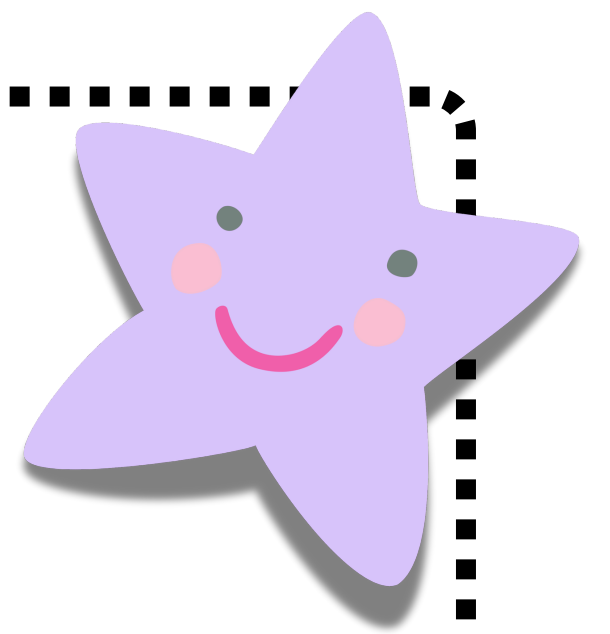


**School District
of Janesville**
#JanesvillePromise

For electronic access to the links in this resource, please scan the QR code or visit <https://rb.gy/w6g5tx>



EASY FLUENCY ACTIVITIES TO TRY AT HOME



Read Aloud Together

Take turns reading aloud with your child. Model fluent reading by using expression and proper pacing, then let the child mimic the style. Demonstrate how to attend to the punctuation (pausing at the end of sentences, adding expression based on the punctuation mark).

Echo Reading

Caregiver reads a sentence or paragraph aloud with expression, and the child repeats it back, echoing the same expression and fluency.

Choral Reading

Read a book together in unison. This helps the child feel more confident and supported while practicing fluency.

Word Recognition Games

Use flashcards to create a game where children quickly recognize and read sight words. Games like "Sight Word Bingo" can make this activity fun.

Record and Listen

Have the child read a short passage and record it. Then, listen to the recording together and discuss ways to improve fluency, such as smoother reading or better expression.

Discussion and Feedback

Encouraging feedback to say when your child reads: • You sounded just like the character would sound! • I could hear you take a break after the punctuation marks! • Great job reading in phrases, not word by word! • Your speed is just right - not too fast or too slow!

High Frequency/Heart Word Practice

High frequency words are commonly occurring words in written and spoken language, and are foundational to literacy development. Practice reading these words in isolation or in short phrases (i.e. "We were here." "Look for some." "Who will make it?")

Beat the Clock

Time your student on their first, second, and third reading of a passage. They will gain confidence as they see instant progress! Remind them that good readers read text more than once to increase understanding.

Repeated Readings

Repeated reading is a practice where a child reads the same text multiple times until they achieve a certain level of fluency. The goal is to help students read smoothly, accurately, and with proper expression. This technique is particularly beneficial for young readers, like those in first grade, who are still developing foundational reading skills.

How do repeated readings help?

- **Improves Speed and Accuracy:** By reading the same text several times, students become familiar with the words and phrases. This familiarity helps them read more quickly and accurately over time.
- **Builds Confidence:** As children notice their own improvement with each reading, their confidence in their reading abilities grows. They begin to see themselves as capable readers, which encourages them to read more.
- **Enhances Comprehension:** Once students are able to read the text fluently, they can focus more on understanding the content rather than just decoding words. This leads to better comprehension and retention of information.
- **Develops Expression and Pacing:** Repeated readings help children learn how to read with expression, paying attention to punctuation and the natural flow of language, making their reading more engaging and meaningful.