

At Home Activities

The Radio Play

Find a short story and assign parts. Instead of just reading, you both "perform" it. If a character is described as "whispering," your child must whisper that line. If the character is "grumpy," they must read with a growl. This deepens comprehension while building speed.

License Plate "Chunking"

Look at the letters on a license plate. Challenge your child to use those letters as the "middle" or "end" of a word. If the plate has "RNT," they might come up with parent or rent. If it's "SPL," they could say splash or split.

Road Sign Fluency

As you drive, have your child try to read every word on a billboard or road sign before you pass it. If the text is too long, have them just focus on the "bold" words.

1-Minute "Cold vs. Hot" Read

Have your child read a new page for one minute (the "Cold Read"). Count the words. Then, have them practice that same page three times. Finally, time them for one more minute (the "Hot Read"). Seeing the jump in their "Words Per Minute" score is a massive confidence booster.

Phonics Pattern Finger Touch

Choose a phonics pattern (ask your child's teacher for a list). As you read, your child keeps their index finger "on guard." Every time they see that phonics pattern, they "tap" and read the word.

Error Detection

Read a page aloud while your child follows along. Occasionally, purposely misread a word or ignore a punctuation mark (e.g., read "The cat sat" as "The car sat"). Your child has to yell "BEEP!" or "STOP!" to catch your mistake. To do this, they have to be tracking the text very closely.

Did You Know?

100 simple words (the, and, is) make up about 50% of everything we read in English. By turning these common words into games, you help your child recognize them instantly, freeing up their brain power to tackle the harder words in a story.

