



Reading Fluency at Home

Paired reading, echo reading, and fun performance ideas

Audience: Parents & Caregivers

Based on professional development by Dr. Chase Young | LiTerrific.com

What Is Fluency?

Fluency is the ability to read text accurately, at a natural pace, and with expression. When reading is fluent, your child's brain is free to focus on understanding the meaning rather than struggling with each word.

Fluency develops through practice, especially *supported* practice where your child hears what fluent reading sounds like and gets help with tricky parts.

Methods You Can Use Tonight

Echo Reading

You read a sentence with expression. Your child reads the same sentence back, trying to match your expression and pace. Think of it like a call-and-response.

Read Together (Choral Reading)

Read the same text aloud at the same time. Your child can lean on your voice for support, especially with tricky words. It feels less scary than reading alone.

Paired Reading (Neurological Impress)

Sit beside your child. Read aloud together from the same text, with you reading slightly ahead and a bit faster. Your child follows your lead. After a page, let them try it solo. Continue for about 20 minutes.

Record & Listen

Record your child reading a passage. Play it back together. Then have them read it again and record a second time. Compare the two recordings. Kids love hearing their own improvement.

Give Them a Reason to Re-Read

Children re-read more willingly when there's a purpose:

- Read a funny poem aloud to a grandparent on the phone
- Practice a joke book entry to perform at dinner
- Rehearse a passage to read to a younger sibling
- Record a 'podcast episode' about an interesting topic
- Practice reading a recipe, then make the food together

What to Look For

Sign	What It Means
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Word-by-word reading	Your child is still working hard on decoding. Focus on easier texts and lots of echo reading.
Reads fast but flat	Speed is there but expression is missing. Model expressive reading and try echo reading.
Stumbles on longer words	Word recognition is developing. Help them break words into parts.
Sounds like natural talking	Your child is fluent with this text level. Time to move to something more challenging!

