

The Balanced Reader

What are the three areas in reading that make us a balanced reader? When reading we need to be decoding, focusing on fluency and phrasing and understanding the story through comprehension.



What is Fluency and Phrasing?



Fluency

Fluency is being able to read with speed, accuracy, and proper expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to read fluently whether they are reading aloud or silently. Fluent readers sound natural, as if they are speaking. Readers who have not yet developed fluency read slowly, word by word. Their oral reading is choppy.

Phrasing

Phrasing is chunking or grouping words together as in normal speech, pausing appropriately between phrases, clauses, and sentences. We also pause after commas, ellipses, dashes, colons and semicolons!

