

The Balanced Reader: Fluency and Phrasing

Remember to be a fluent reader we need to be able to decode, read with fluency and phrasing and comprehend what is in the story.

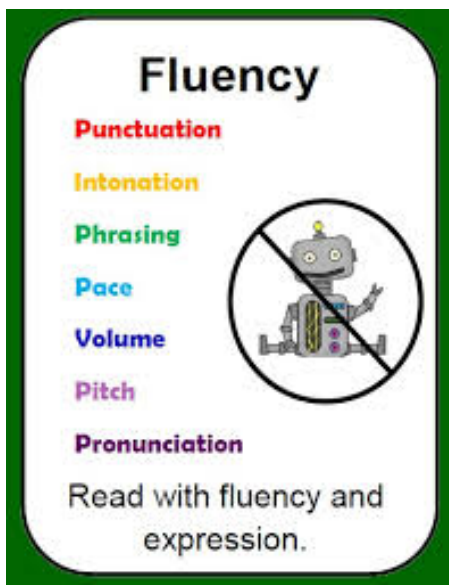
Fluent readers will read with expression in their voice. They sound like they are talking when they read and they pay attention to the punctuation in the story.



There are many ways we can practise at home to enhance our fluency and phrasing. Here are a few simple things we can do with our kids:

1. Perform some readings

Poetry, scripts, speeches, and jokes are all great ways to develop fluency by reading out loud. After kids practice for a few days, they can “perform” their reading.



2. Give meaningful praise

Say things like “You made your voice strong and loud, so I knew what you said was important” or “You got all the words right, but it was hard to follow some of what you said because you read so fast. Try again, but a bit slower this time.”

3. Try guided practise

Read the first line of a story or poem. Then have kids read it back to you. Then read the second line and have kids read it back. Keep going until you’ve completed the text.

