

Northmead Reading Newsletter

January
2023

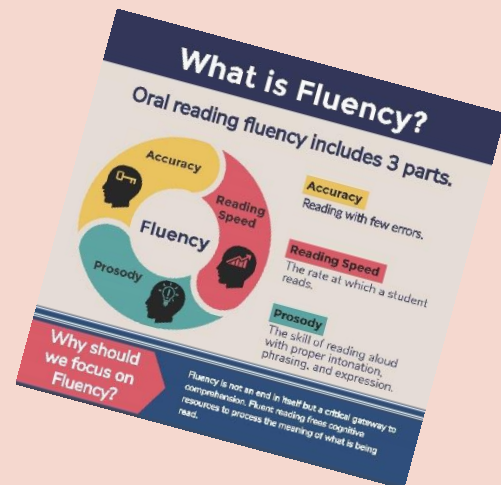
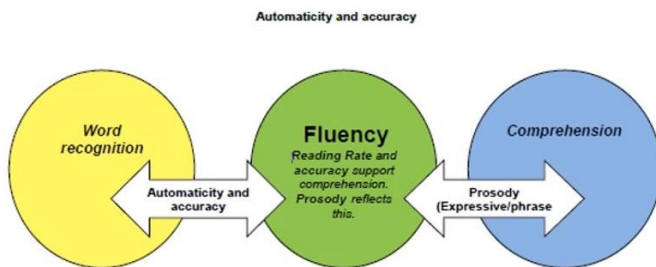
READING
is never
A waste
OF
time



Reading fluency

This month, teaching staff have been focusing on how to develop children's fluency skills when reading. Reading fluency is the ability to read easily, accurately, with proper expression and at a suitable pace. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to read fluently whether they are reading aloud or silently. Children who do not read fluently have to work hard on the mechanics of reading which means there's no mental energy left to think about the meaning of what they are reading.

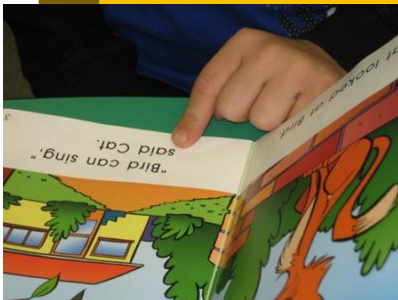
- **Automaticity** (rapid word reading without conscious decoding)
- **Accuracy** (often measured as correct words per minute)
- **Prosody** (expressive, phrased reading)



What a parent may see at home:-

Here are some clues for parents that a child may have problems with fluency:

- He/She knows how to read words but seems to take a long time to read a short book or passage silently
- He/She reads a book with no expression
- He/She stumbles a lot and loses his/her place when reading something aloud
- She/She reads aloud very slowly
- He /She moves her mouth when reading silently (subvocalising)



How can I help my child read fluently?

- Support and encourage your child. It is possible your child is frustrated by reading or reluctant to engage in reading.
- Model fluent reading. Provide opportunities when your child can hear you read aloud. Read with expression, pausing appropriately at punctuation marks and change your voice for different characters.



- Allow your child access to audio books, and encourage them to follow along in a print copy. These books are often read by superb story tellers and are a great demonstration of how to read aloud.

- Teach your child high frequency sight words. (A list of these is supplied below) High frequency sight words are words that readers are encouraged to recognise without having to

sound them out. It is estimated that the first 100 sight words account for approximately 50% of what we read. These words can be practiced on flashcards.

- Repeated reading has proven to be one of the best strategies for developing reading fluency. Children need opportunities to read the same reading material aloud several times. It is best if the adult reads the passage (paragraph, story) first and then has the child read and re-read the same text. Reading the same text 3 times is helpful in developing fluency.
- When listening to your child read, when he/she comes to an unknown word, allow him/her to use word attack skills to decode the word. If you have to provide the word for your child, or he/she has struggled over a word, ask him/her to re-read the whole sentence in which the tricky word is found.



First 100 High Frequency Words

in frequency order reading down the columns

the	that	not	look	put
and	with	then	don't	could
a	all	were	come	house
to	we	go	will	old
said	can	little	into	too
in	are	as	back	by
he	up	no	from	day
I	had	mum	children	made
of	my	one	him	time
it	her	them	Mr	I'm
was	what	do	get	if
you	there	me	just	help
they	out	down	now	Mrs
on	this	dad	came	called
she	have	big	oh	here
is	went	when	about	off
for	be	it's	got	asked
at	like	see	their	saw
his	some	looked	people	make
but	so	very	your	an

Ensure your child is able to easily read these words



Welcome to the Winter Mini Challenge 2022!



Welcome to the Winter Mini Challenge 2022!

This year, The Reading Agency teamed up with the Science Museum Group for a fantastic Summer Reading Challenge with the Gadgets and Gears.

Now we're back for the Winter Mini Challenge!

Join the Gadgets and Gears as they use their ingenuity and creativity to keep everyone entertained during a snowstorm.

Get ready for cool do-it-at-home experiments and the best reading activities around as you complete your very own Winter Mini Challenge.

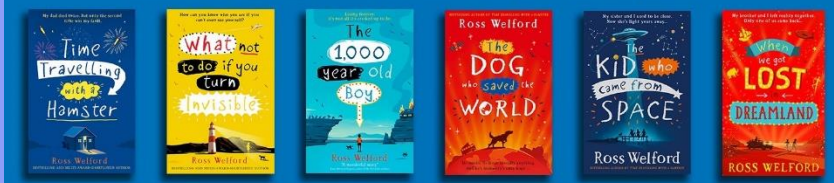
You still have time to join in the mini winter reading challenge, run by Surrey libraries. It doesn't finish until 20th February

Click on the link:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/news/general/winter-mini-challenge-2022>

I know many of your children have enjoyed the books of Ross Welford.

ROSS WELFORD



On February 16th his new book, The Monkey from the Future, is being released and I'm sure will appeal to many readers aged 9 and above. You can preorder it now at book stores and on Amazon.

