Fluency – Connecting Decoding to Comprehension

So That…

all students, including those that struggle, will have opportunity to acquire and be capable of using essential language and cognitive skills necessary for making meaning of text.

Nancy Hennessey, Plain Talk 2020

Why? Ohio’s Language and Literacy Vision

Vision Statement: Ohio’s vision is for all learners to acquire the knowledge and skills to become proficient readers.

The Ohio Department of Education and its partners view language and literacy acquisition and achievement as foundational knowledge that supports student success. To increase learner’s language and literacy achievement, the Department is urging districts and schools to use evidence-based systems and high-quality instruction, select high-quality instructional materials and employ culturally responsive practices.
Resources to Read – Fluency

Jan Hasbrouck & Deborah Glasser

Reading Fluency: Understand, Assess, Teach

What is fluency?

We define fluency as:
- Reasonably accurate reading,
- at an appropriate rate,
- with suitable expression, that leads to accurate and deep comprehension and motivation.

Jan Hasbrouck, 2020 (Reading Fast or Reading Well)

Poll: Accurate Reading

When we refer to reasonably accurate, what is the minimum percent of accuracy in decoding that will lead to reading comprehension?

A. 75%
B. 80%
C. 85%
D. 90%
E. 95%
What Is Reasonably Accurate?

- Reasonably accurate is at least 95%, the minimum for comprehension
- Ideally, 95-98% accuracy the goal for comprehension.

Jan Hasbrouck, Reading Fluency: Essential for Reading Comprehension, Georgia IDA, January 2022

The Simple View of Reading

Word Recognition: The ability to transform print into spoken language
Language Comprehension: The ability to understand spoken language

Scarborough’s Rope

Fluency Instruction

accuracy automaticity access meaning
From Fluency to Comprehension

Discover why teaching fluency is critical for achieving reading comprehension.

Comprehension is an OUTCOME

Comprehension occurs when the student:
- Can read the words accurately and fluently
- Understands the meaning of the words
- Has adequate background knowledge
- Focuses attention on critical content

Role of Reading Fluency

- ACCURACY: Comprehension is limited by inaccurate reading (below 95%).
- RATE: Comprehension is limited by inefficient, slow, laborious reading or reading too fast.

Lack of fluency = lack of motivation = fewer words read = smaller vocabulary = limited comprehension (self-perpetuating)
Fluency is the Link

Decoding / Word Recognition → Fluency → Comprehension

Hasbrouck and Hougen, 2020 in Fundamentals of Literacy Instruction and Assessment, Prek – 6.

Fluency Supports Comprehension

- Fluency is only important as a support for comprehension and motivated reading.
- ALL aspects of fluency should be connected to comprehension
  - Assessment
  - Instruction

Jan Hasbrouck, Reading Fluency: Essential for Reading Comprehension, Georgia IDA, January 2022

Resources to Watch and Share – Fluency

Jan Hasbrouck & Georgia IDA

Reading Fluency: Essential for Reading Comprehension

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nlqAirsv3bQ&t=1222s

Assessing Fluency for Comprehension

Identify how to assess reading fluency and plan for instruction.
Why Measure Oral Reading Fluency?

Students who read aloud with appropriate speed, accuracy, and expression (i.e., students who have oral reading fluency) are more likely to comprehend connected text (Sabatini, Wang, and O’Reilly 2019) because they are able to conserve cognitive resources that can be applied to the comprehension of meaning (Perfetti 2007).

- NAEP Oral Reading Fluency Study, 2018

Why Measure Oral Reading Fluency?

Thus, oral reading fluency is a reliable and easily accessible indicator of overall reading competence—and a strong marker of progress in learning to read (Fuchs et al. 2001)—and its assessment has become one of the primary means of determining which elementary school students are on track toward meeting state reading standards and which students would benefit from additional services and intervention (McGlinchey and Hixson 2004; Reschly et al. 2009).

- NAEP Oral Reading Fluency Study, 2018

Poll: Fluency Assessment

What is the most efficient, valid, and reliable assessment of reading fluency?

A. ORF – Oral Reading Fluency CBM
B. Running Record
C. MAZE CBM
D. Silent Reading Measure With Comprehension Questions

Oral Reading Fluency

• One Assessment
• Two Minutes to Administer
• Three Scores
  – Accuracy
  – Fluency
  – Retell
Oral Reading Fluency Measures

- Curriculum Based Measure
- Efficient
- Valid
- Reliable
- Can be a **screener**, **diagnostic** (helpful to plan interventions), and a **progress monitor tool** (measure the success of the interventions).

Where Can I Get ORF Assessments?

- **Acadience** – **FREE**
- **Aimsweb Plus**
- **Core Assessing Reading Multiple Measures**
- **ORF Passage Generator (Intervention Central)**

Hasbrouck and Tindal Fluency Norms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>%ile</th>
<th>Fall WCPM*</th>
<th>Winter WCPM*</th>
<th>Spring WCPM*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Poll: Fluency Assessment

When measuring fluency, reading fast is important.

A. true  
B. false
The Canary in the Coal Mine

The WCPM procedure just described is an extremely time-efficient and reliable way to track students’ fluency — and their overall reading ability.

Its validity and reliability have been well established in a body of research extending over the past 25 years (Fuchs et al., 2001; Shinn, 1998).

Oral Reading Fluency & Comprehension

• ORF Measures are a strong predictor and indicator of reading comprehension.
• Correlations between ORF and reading comprehension measure as high as .91

Fuchs, et al., 1988, 2001

How to Teach Fluency

• Oral reading, with teacher guidance, modeling, and immediate feedback is critical
• Repeated readings of texts
• Independent silent reading is NOT sufficient to improve fluency
• Challenging passages with support and monitoring

NICHD, 2000 & Hasbrouck, 2016

Why Use Complex Texts?

"Giving children easier texts when they're weaker readers serves to deny them the very language and information they need to catch up and move on."

- Marilyn Jager Adams
Say, Spin Write

Heart Word(s) & Vocab

Vocabulary Review

Regardless

Not listening or looking, without paying attention to the situation (adverb)

Turn and Talk - "Regardless of what ______ said, I _______________."

Chapter Three

Pearl was so mad she ran from the broom closet. She ran all the way down the long hallway. When she stopped to and she noticed the words "Goods! the WIZARD OF OZ is not OBSTACLE". She smiled in a big way.

Pearl continued, "I won!," She ran down both sides of the hall. When she walked into the WIZARD OF OZ.

Pearl, being Pearl, went in regardless.
Resources to Watch and Share – Fluency

ODE Reading Interventions In a Digital Environment

Deep Dive Into Fluency

Poll: Impact on Reading

Which of the following leads to the greatest reading gains, according to the National Reading Panel?

a. Silent reading
b. Oral reading without teacher corrective feedback
c. Oral reading with some teacher corrective feedback
d. Oral reading with corrective teacher feedback of every incorrect word

Email Michelle Elia
Ohio Literacy Lead
Michelle.elia@sstr5.org

Questions or Comments?

Share your learning community with us!
#MyOhioClassroom

Celebrate educators!
#OhioLovesTeachers