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How to Practice Fluency With Your Child:

• One of the best ways to practice fluency is to read, read, read! Research shows that rereading the same passage over and over until your son or daughter masters the story or passage really does help improve their reading fluency ability! One of the most important things to remember is that accuracy must be established before rate. In other words, your son or daughter must be able to accurately decode (read) the words (instantly) before he or she will be able to become fluent readers. Fluent readers will then be able to comprehend what they read with greater ease because they are not spending so much time decoding the words. They will spend it on enjoying what they are reading! Here are some helpful steps to remember when practicing fluency at home:

- Support and encourage your child. Realize that he or she is likely frustrated by reading.
- Check with your child's teachers to find out their assessment of your child's word decoding skills.
- If your child can decode words well, help him or her build speed and accuracy by:
 - Reading aloud and having your child match his voice to yours
 - Having your child practice reading the same list of words, phrase, or short passages several times
 - Reminding your child to pause between sentences and phrases
 - Read aloud to your child to provide an example of how fluent reading sounds.
 - Give your child books with predictable vocabulary and clear rhythmic patterns so the child can "hear" the sound of fluent reading as he or she reads the book aloud.
 - Use books on tapes; have the child follow along in the print copy

