

## Reading Fluency:



## Educators as Physicians:

Using RTI Data for Effective Decision-Making
Jan Hasbrouck, Ph.D.
Four Modules

- Framework for Intervention
- Benchmark/Screening
- Diagnosis
- Progress Monitoring

Summary booklets sold in sets of 4

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Compelling evidence from a convergence of reading research is indicating that $\mathbf{9 0 \%}$ to $95 \%$ of all students can achieve literacy skills at or approaching grade level. These statistics include students with dyslexia and other learning disabilities. Students succeed when they receive intensive, comprehensive, and high-quality prevention and early intervention instruction, provided by well-informed and well-supported teachers. This instruction must be systematic, explicit, and intensive, and designed to appropriately integrate elements of oral language development, phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, fluency, vocabulary development, and reading comprehension skills and strategies.

San Hasbroack, Ph.D.
Torgesen, 2007; Vellutino \& Fletcher, 2007; Rashotte, MacPhee, Torgeson, 2001,
AI Otailba, Connor, Foorman, Schatschneider, Greulich, Sidler, 2009; Every Child Reading: An Action Plan and Every Child Reading. A Professional Development Guide. Available online from Learning First Alliance

## Key Ideas about Reading Fluency

- Fluency is a complex skill.
- Fluency is necessary but not sufficient for reading comprehension \& motivation.
- We can use rate PLUS accuracy measures (ORF) for important assessment purposes.
- Some students are fluent enough; others can be taught.
- FLUENT reading is NOT fast reading!




## What is Reading Fluency?

Fluent reading should sound like SPEECH

Stahl \& Kuhn (2002)


## What is Reading Fluency?

Reasonably accurate reading at an appropriate rate with suitable prosody
that leads to accurate and deep
comprehension and motivation to read.

Hasbrouck \& Glaser (2012)


## What is Reading Fluency?

## Reasonably ACCURATE?

Aim for at least $\qquad$ \% accuracy
(Rasinski, Reutzel, Chard, Thompson, 2011)
Emerging readers: $\qquad$ \%


## What is Reading Fluency?

 Suitable PROSODY?Pitch, tone, volume, emphasis, rhythm
Mirrors spoken language \& conveys meaning


## What is Reading Fluency?

## Appropriate RATE?

$\ldots$ ___ th \%ile on oral reading
fluency (ORF) norms on unpracticed, grade-level text


Robert borrowed my new bicycle.

- ROBERT borrowed my new bicycle.
(Robert, not Raymond, borrowed my bike.)
- Robert BORROWED my new bicycle.
(Robert did not steal my bike.)
- Robert borrowed $\boldsymbol{M} \boldsymbol{Y}$ new bicycle.
(Robert didn't borrow your bike, he borrowed mine.)
- Robert borrowed my NEW bicycle.
(Robert didn't borrow my old bike, he borrowed the new one.)
- Robert borrowed my new BICYCLE
(Robert didn't borrow my new book, he borrowed my bike.)

What is Reading Fluency?
Suitable PROSODY?
Mirrors spoken language \& conveys meaning
BUT abnormal pitch, intonation, phrasing, pauses can be "suitable"


## What is Reading Fluency?

The ability to read
$\checkmark$ accurately $\sqrt{ }$ quickly

- with expression \& phrasing


COMPONENTS of fluency

## Expression \& Phrasing?

Prosody REFLECTS comprehension skill rather than

CONTRIBUTING to it


COMPONENTS of fluency

## What is Reading Fluency?

Word Decoding Skills Text Decoding Skills

- Phoneme awareness
- Orthographic knowledge
- Letter sounds - Sight words
- Phonograms - Decoding connected text
- Multiple cue efficiency

Comprehension Skills

- Metacognition - Passage context
- Content knowledge - Social context
- Vocabulary

MECHANICS of fluency

## CCSS Foundational Skills:

Fluency K-Gr 5
Kindergarten
Read emergent reader texts* with purpose \& understanding

## Grades 1-5

* Emergent reader texts- Texts consisting of short sentences comprised of learned sight words and CVC words; may also include rebuses to represent words that cannot yet be decoded or recognized; see also rebus
* Rebus- A mode of expressing words and phrases by using pictures of objects whose names resemble those words


## CCSS Foundational Skills:

Fluency K-Gr 5
Kindergarten


Read emergent reader texts with purpose \& understanding

## Grades 1-5

Read with sufficient ACCURACY \& FLUENCY to support comprehension:

## CCSS Foundational Skills:

 Fluency K - Gr 5Kindergarten


Read emergent reader texts with purpose \& understanding
Grades 1-5
Read with sufficient FLUENCY to support comprehension:

- Reading on-level text with PURPOSE \& UNDERSTANDING
- Reading on-level text orally with ACCURACY, appropriate RATE, \& EXPRESSION on successive readings
- Using CONTEXT to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary


## So...What is Reading Fluency?

A highly COMPLEX skill that is NECESSARY but not SUFFICIENT for students to read independently, proficiently, and with motivation.


FLUENT reading is not FAST reading!



## The Role of Fluency in Reading?

- ACCURACY: Comprehension is limited by inaccurate reading
- RATE: Comprehension is limited by inefficient, slow, laborious reading
- Lack of fluency = lack of motivation = fewer words read = smaller vocabulary = limited comprehension (self-perpetuating)


## ASSESSING Reading Fluency



## 3 BIG IDEAS about fluency assessments

1. Assessments of accuracy + rate (ORF) can help determine which students might need support (benchmark/screening).
2. ORF assessments can help diagnose a student's individual skill level in reading fluency.
3. ORF assessments can help us determine if a student is making sufficient progress.


## Assessing ORF

the number of words in text read correctly per minute (wcpm)
or...
letters, sounds, words


CBM Assessments of ACCURACY and RATE (ORF)

DIBELS Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills K-6
Reading Fluency Benchmark Assessor
(RFBA) Read Naturally K-8

AIMSWeb Pearson K-8
EasyCBM Riverside K-8

## Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM)

Long research history...
Stan Deno University of Minnesota
GOAL:
Develop QUICK assessments that were RELIABLE and VALID to help teachers:

1. Find students who MIGHT need academic help
2. Determine if instruction was EFFECTIVE

## Curriculum-Based Measurement (CBM)- Reading

 STANDARDIZED PROCEDURES- Production-based: Oral reading
- 1:1 for 60 seconds
- Unpracticed ("cold" read)
- "Do your best reading"- NEVER "read as fast as you can!"
- Standardized procedures for scoring errors
- Compute words correct per minute (wcpm)


## BIG IDEA \#1

Assessments of accuracy + rate (ORF) can help determine which students might need support



## QUICKLY provide information

- Valid (relevant, useful, \& important)
- Accurate (reliable)
- Compared to benchmark...


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## FEVER FACTOIDS:

98.6 F or 37.0 C

1861 German physician Dr. Carl Reinhold August Wunderlich from a large sample of healthy individuals

1992 JAMA $98.2 \mathrm{~F}+/-0.126$ ( 98.1 F to 98.4 F "normal")

QUICKLY provide information

- Valid (relevant, useful, \& important)
- Accurate (reliable)
- Compared to benchmark...


BUT.
body temperature only one single indicator of general health or illness:

## Normal? 103 degrees?

CBM-R measures of accuracy + rate provide one reasonably dependable indicator of a student's academic "health" or "illness"-NEVER a diagnosis for a treatment plan!

## BIG IDEA \#2

ORF assessments can help diagnose a student's individual skill level in reading fluency


## Reading Fluency is a COMPLEX Skill

Reasonably accurate reading at an appropriate rate with suitable prosody that leads to accurate and deep comprehension and motivation to read. Hasbrouck \& Glaser, 2012

COMPONENTS plus MECHANICS!



## Diagnosing Reading Fluency

Assess fluency
COMPONENTS
(accuracy, rate, prosody)

at INSTRUCTIONAL level

## Reading Fluency:

Understanding and Teaching this Complex Skill

## ASSESSMENT CHECKLISTS:

- Phoneme Awareness
- Phoneme Fluency with Print
- High-Frequency Words
- Phonics \& Decoding
- Phonograms (e.g., -ake, -ick, -igh)
- Orthographic (spellings)

MODULE 2: Pages 52-54


## What are the

## ACCURACY \& RATE

 scores we should be looking for?\# 1 LIMITED EVIDENCE from research or theory or practice that suggest a benefit to reading significantly ABOVE the $50^{\text {th }} \%$ ile
\# 2 SIGNIFICANT EVIDENCE that it is
crucial to help students read with fluency at or near the $50^{\text {th }} \%$ ile to support comprehension and motivation


## BIG IDEA \#3

ORF assessments can help us determine if a student is making sufficient progress


CBM-R for Progress Monitoring


Scores compare students' to individual goals rather than grade norms


CBM Monitoring Reading Progress
using CBM-R accuracy + rate measures

- 1 minute oral reading sample
- Obtain equivalent passages
- Administered 1:1

- Score for words correct per minute
- Assess 1 x week or 2 x month (?)
- Use INSTRUCTIONAL or GOAL or level (?)
-One passage each time (?)
- Set up a graph with an "aimline"

Research on CBM Progress Monitoring

- Insufficient research.

- Schools must use multiple sources of information to support decisions about progress.
- All CBM scores are estimates.
- Confidence intervals must be used.


## INTERPRETING

Progress Monitoring Graphs

## General Rules:

from National Center for Student Progress Monitoring
Use 5 consecutive scores.

- If all ABOVE goal-line:

Keep current intervention and increase goal

- If all BELOW goal-line:

Keep current goal and modify the instruction

- If NEITHER ABOVE OR BELOW goal-line:

Maintain current goal \& instruction \& continue monitoring

| What to |
| :--- |
| - Appropriate "MATCH" of instruction |
| - QUALITY of program \& instruction |
| - FIDELITY of instruction |
| - INTENSITY of instruction |
| - DURATION of instruction |


| (10 | Available for download at: <br> www.gha-pd.com/resources |
| :---: | :---: |
|  |  |


|  | CBM Information Sources |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| The ABCs of CBM <br> Hosp, Hosp, \& Howell (2007) |  |
| CBM: From Skeptic to Advocate <br> Hasbrouck \& Ihnot (2007) |  |
| National Center on <br> Student Progress Monitoring <br> www.studentprogress.org <br> Fluent Reader.org <br> www.fluentreader.org |  |




## Research on Fluency Instruction

BOTTOM LINE:
The natural result of INSTRUCTION

- Explicit
- Systematic
- Comprehensive instruction


## PLUS



Lots of carefully orchestrated reading PRACTICE

Fluency Instruction TRIPLE A:

Hasbrouck \& Glaser (2012)

- Read words with reasonable ACCURACY
- Read words and connect with ideas AUTOMATICALLY
- ACCESS meaning



## Research on Fluency Instruction

- Oral, guided reading practice with feedback improves fluency for "typical" students
- Independent practice (silent reading) NOT sufficient to improve fluency



## Research on Fluency Instruction

- Repeated reading (deep reading) remains the "gold standard"
- Assistance more effective (feedback; reading with model) Kuhn \& Stahl (2003)
- Prosody develops from acquiring efficient word \& text
 reading skills
Kuhn, Schwanenflugel \& Meisinger (2010)


## Research on Fluency Instruction

- Wide reading
(vs. repeated reading) may be best strategy for improving fluency for some Kuhn et al., 2006
- Wide reading must be monitored \& students held accountable



## Research on Fluency Instruction

- Structured partner reading improves fluency Osborn, Lehr \& Hiebert (2002)
- Cueing for accuracy \& rate helps improve fluency

O'Shea \& Sindelar (1984)


## Research on Fluency Instruction

- Challenging passages (85\% accuracy) beneficial with sufficient support \& monitoring
Stahl \& Heuback (2005)
- Combining three researchproven strategies (modeling, repeated reading, progress monitoring) effective \& motivating


Hasbrouck, Ihnot, \& Rogers (1999)

## Research on Fluency Instruction

How can we APPLY
this fluency research to real world classroom instruction?

DIFFERENTIATE BASED ON IDENTIFIED NEEDS!

## FLUENCY INSTRUCTION

Tier 1: On Level
Students at benchmark and able to succeed with classroom instruction

Tier 2: Supplementary
Students needing some extra targeted skills instruction to keep them at level or catch them up

Tier 3: Intensive
Students significantly behind their
 peers or with special learning challenges

## FLUENCY INSTRUCTION

ALL STUDENTS Tiers 1, 2, 3 In-class practice opportunities

SUPPLEMENTAL \& INTERVENTION
Tiers 2 \& 3
Explicit, systematic, intensive, active instruction with
 supervised, sustained guided practice


## CHORAL READING

Whole class reads ALOUD \& TOGETHER from same selection NON-THREATENING practice

PROCEDURE

- Orally read with students
- Read at a moderate rate
- Use pre-correction procedures: "Keep your voice with mine."


## CLOZE READING

## ASSISTS students in reading difficult material <br> Provides GROUP PRACTICE \& MAINTAINS student ATTENTION

## PROCEDURE

- Orally read the material to students
- Read at a moderate rate
- Pause \& have students say the next word
- Intentionally delete "meaningful words"


## STRUCTURED PARTNER READING

## PROCEDURE

- ASSIGN students partners
- Designate amount to read to partner
- When an error is heard, teach students to use the "Ask, then Tell" procedure:

ASK "Can you figure out this word?"

TELL "The word is $\qquad$ ." "Read the sentence again."

## Establishing Partners

- Avoid pairing highest and lowest skilled readers
- Consider taking lowest readers into a small group for practice with the teacher


Establishing Partners


## PARTNER READING VARIATIONS

Side by Side- Reading to a Partner
Students sit next to each other with one book between them. One partner reads \& points to the words; the other partner follows along.

Shoulder to Shoulder- Reading to a Partner Students sit facing opposite directions with shoulders aligned. Each partner has a book.

Reading WITH a Partner
Students sit side to side with one book between them. Both partners read at the same time as partner one touches the words.

Commercial Fluency Programs

- Core Reading Programs
- Six Minute Solution

K-2 Gr 3-6 Gr 6-9 Partner reading practice


FLUENCY INTERVENTION THREE STEP MODEL


READ NATURALLY www.readnaturally.com

## FLUENCY INTERVENTION

(1) FOLLOWING A MODEL

Reading along with a model of ACCURATE reading from an audio tape/CD or computer

OR a skillful reader


## (2) REPEATED READING

Students REREAD passage orally to themselves or a partner until goal achieved (4-10 times)

## (3) MONITORING PROGRESS

Students GRAPH their performance:
"Cold" reading first- BLUE; then again after practice- RED


## FLUENCY INTERVENTION PLACEMENT FIRST! <br> 1. Place students in appropriate level: CHALLENGING! Placement Packet online www.readnaturally.com <br>  <br> 2. Assign wcpm goal: <br> Placement baseline $\boldsymbol{+} \mathbf{3 0}$ for Gr. 1.5 to Gr. 4 <br> Placement baseline + 40 for Gr. $5+$

## FLUENCY INTERVENTION



1. Select a Story Gives students ownership of the learning process. Students choose any passage from the set shown for their assigned level. Because students select which stories they want to read, they develop a sense of ownership of their own learning. (Folder of passages OR log on to computer)
2. Key Words Develops vocabulary. Students read along subvocalizing quietly as key words and definitions are read aloud by a narrator. Helps readers learn how to pronounce the words and understand what they mean.
3. Prediction Promotes comprehension. CAN BE MODIFIED Students use the story title, key words, and pictures to write a brief prediction of what they think the story is about. Students prepare to read by first thinking about the topic.
4. Cold Timing Establishes a baseline for progress monitoring. Students read aloud quietly and time themselves for one minute, marking (estimating!) unfamiliar or difficult words ("Stop, Skip, Stumble"). Helps students note unfamiliar words and alerts teachers to words or word patterns they may need to teach CAN BE MODIFIED
5. Graph the Cold-Timing Score Establishes baseline for monitoring.

Students graph their (estimated!) wcpm. Cold-timing scores-total number of words read correctly minus the number of difficult words-are typically marked in blue.
6. Read Along Develops fluency through teacher modeling.

Students read along quietly with a recording of the story several times. Students learn new words, proper pronunciation, expression, and phrasing.
7. Practice Develops fluency through repeated reading.

Students time themselves as they practice reading the story aloud quietly several times without the recording. They continue to reread the story until they achieve or exceed their predetermined goal rate.
8. Answer Questions Promotes comprehension.

Students answer quiz questions about the story, a process that encourages students to read for comprehension and ensures that they understand what they are reading.
9. Pass Verifies that students can meet the pass criteria. The teacher times the student as he or she reads the story. The teacher subtracts the number of errors from the number of words read in a minute to get the correct words-per-minute score.

To pass a story, students must (\#1) read at assigned goal rate--wcpm, (\#2) make no more than three errors, (\#3) read with good expression, and (\#4) answer the questions correctly. If a student does not pass, the teacher points out areas that need more work, and, if necessary, assigns remedial action, such as reading along again with the narrator or continuing to practice independently.
10. Graph the Hot-Timing Score Motivates students.

Once students "pass", they graph their hot-timing score in red above the blue bar representing their cold-timing score. When students see their progress, they build selfesteem and feel motivated to continue improving
11. Retell Promotes comprehension. OPTIONAL STEP

Students retell the story, either in writing or orally, which requires them to think about the ideas in the story rather than just the words.



How to DEFINE Reading Fluency?
Reasonably accurate reading at an appropriate rate with suitable prosody that leads to accurate and deep comprehension and motivation to read.

Hasbrouck \& Glaser (2012)
Components: Accuracy, rate, \& prosody
PLUS

Mechanics: Word decoding, text decoding, \& comprehension

## A COMPLEX SKILL!



What is the ROLE of Reading Fluency?


Comprehension! Comprehension! Motivation!


## ASSESSING Reading Fluency

## 1. BENCHMARK/SCREENING

Assessments of accuracy + rate (ORF) can help determine which students might need support
2. DIAGNOSTIC ASSESSMENTS

ORF assessments can help diagnose a student's individual skill level in reading fluency

## 3. PROGRESS MONITORING

ORF assessments can help determine if a student is making sufficient progress


## TEACHING Reading Fluency

- Who needs fluency instruction?

Determine skills levels first

- Triple A!

Accuracy! Automaticity! Access meaning!

- Tiered instruction

All students: Choral read, cloze read, partner read
Tier 2 \& 3: Explicit 3-Step Process


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## NATIONAL ORAL READING FLUENCY NORMS

Hasbrouck \& Tindal (2006)

| Grade | Percentile | $\begin{gathered} \text { Fall } \\ \text { WCPM* } \end{gathered}$ | Winter WCPM* | Spring WCPM* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 90 |  | 81 | 111 |
|  | 75 |  | 47 | 82 |
|  | 50 |  | 23 | 53 |
|  | 25 |  | 12 | 28 |
|  | 10 |  | 6 | 15 |
| 2 | 90 | 106 | 125 | 142 |
|  | 75 | 79 | 100 | 117 |
|  | 50 | 51 | 72 | 89 |
|  | 25 | 25 | 42 | 61 |
|  | 10 | 11 | 18 | 31 |
| 3 | 90 | 128 | 146 | 162 |
|  | 75 | 99 | 120 | 137 |
|  | 50 | 71 | 92 | 107 |
|  | 25 | 44 | 62 | 78 |
|  | 10 | 21 | 36 | 48 |
| 4 | 90 | 145 | 166 | 180 |
|  | 75 | 119 | 139 | 152 |
|  | 50 | 94 | 112 | 123 |
|  | 25 | 68 | 87 | 98 |
|  | 10 | 45 | 61 | 72 |


| Grade | Percentile | Fall WCPM* | Winter WCPM* | Spring WCPM* |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 5 | 90 | 166 | 182 | 194 |
|  | 75 | 139 | 156 | 168 |
|  | 50 | 110 | 127 | 139 |
|  | 25 | 85 | 99 | 109 |
|  | 10 | 61 | 74 | 83 |
| 6 | 90 | 177 | 195 | 204 |
|  | 75 | 153 | 167 | 177 |
|  | 50 | 127 | 140 | 150 |
|  | 25 | 98 | 111 | 122 |
|  | 10 | 68 | 82 | 93 |
| 7 | 90 | 180 | 192 | 202 |
|  | 75 | 156 | 165 | 177 |
|  | 50 | 128 | 136 | 150 |
|  | 25 | 102 | 109 | 123 |
|  | 10 | 79 | 88 | 98 |
| 8 | 90 | 185 | 199 | 199 |
|  | 75 | 161 | 173 | 177 |
|  | 50 | 133 | 146 | 151 |
|  | 25 | 106 | 115 | 124 |
|  | 10 | 77 | 84 | 97 |

[^1]
## NATIONAL ORF NORMS

50 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Percentiles Hasbrouck \& Tindal (2006)

| Grade | Fall <br> wcpm | Winter <br> wcpm | Spring <br> wcpm |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 |  | 23 | 53 |
| 2 | 51 | 72 | 89 |
| 3 | 71 | 92 | 107 |
| 4 | 94 | 112 | 123 |
| 5 | 110 | 127 | 139 |
| 6 | 127 | 140 | 150 |
| 7 | 128 | 136 | 150 |
| 8 | 133 | 146 | 151 |

GREEN zone 10 or more to -4 YELLOW Zone -5 to -10 RED Zone > 10 below

## Diagnostic Assessment Sequence



Continue appropriate instruction based on assessment results
$\mathrm{K}-1$ begin assessments here

Assess phonics \& decoding if instruction has started for this skill


Teach blending, segmenting sounds, \& sight words


[^0]:    Available online at www.gha-pd.com

[^1]:    *WCPM = Words Correct Per Minute

