

Practices to Accelerate Student Reading

Teach the sound first, instead of teaching the letter name first.

Look at the text, not the pictures, to read the words.

Read all the sounds in the word, left to right. Do not just read the first sound.

Sound out unfamiliar words; don't guess or memorize.

Students should track under the words smoothly with their finger rather than tapping.

Teach tendencies or patterns instead of rules.

Interleave (mix, alternate between) instruction as opposed to teaching to mastery.

Scaffold writing instruction and correct misspelled words in writing.

Teach the correct way to form letters and correct errors in handwriting.

Teach the code, as well as blending and segmenting, within the context of words (not in isolation).

Teach speech to print.

Read out loud to students, using a novel that is above the ability level of your highest reader.

