## Reading Wall Fluency Time Chart For Classroom Teachers

The next page in this document is the chart to be used for keeping track of how fast your students can read the column of reading words. Type your students names in each space and place above each Student Reading Wall List (which would be set up in your hallway or back of the class). This keeps track of student progress and provides strong visual motivation for your students.

## 5 STEPS TO RAPID MEMORIZATION OF THE GRADE 1 READING VOCABULARY

| STEP 1 | SAY THE "COLOR" VOWEL SOUND ONLY <br> Have the student say the "colored" vowel sound in each word as you point to it. <br> This places the sound in the child's short term memory. |
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| STEP 2 | "STOP AT THE VOWEL SOUND" STRATEGY <br> Next, have the child "blend" the sounds made by the letters up to the colored vowel <br> sound (ie. ba - ca - da - fa - ga - etc.) It helps considerably if you use your hand to <br> cover over the remaining letters in the word (following the vowel sound) to provide <br> visual help in exactly what should be "blended" together. For example, if the word <br> was "jump" - you would cover over "mp" with your hand leaving the "ju" visible. |
| STEP 3 | ECHO - (OPTIONAL) - USe when student has problems mastering a particular list. <br> On this step the student repeats the top "STOP AT THE VOWEL SOUND" strategy, <br> but then immediately tries to read the entire word (thereby echoing the first sound). <br> You do not need to use this step on every list, however, if student has severe <br> learning problems or is unable to reach mastery you can then try this step. |
| STEP 4 | PRACTICE ENTIRE COLUMN <br> The child is to then say each of the words in the column list slowly. If a mistake is <br> made - correct and explain the proper sounds and have the student start again from <br> the top. When the entire column list can be read perfectly, you should begin the <br> "timed" step below. |
| STEP 5 | FLUENCY PRACTICE - TIMED READING <br> "Fluency" is the process of reading words easily and smoothly and is a critical skill for <br> achieving maximum reading comprehension. We have found that the best method <br> for achieving fluency is to time a student on reading the list words. Get out the <br> stopwatch (or your watch timer) and record how long it takes for the student to say <br> the list from top to bottom. Continue this until the student can read the list in approx. <br> one-half second to three-quarters of a second per word (usually 4-7 attempts). <br> Students with very significant learning problems may require 10-15 attempts. After <br> recording the student's passing time you can then advance to the net LEVEL. <br> INTERESTING OBSERVATION - Whenever a child gets "stuck" on a list and does <br> not seem to be progressing - don't worry - if you take a break for 5 minutes, you'll <br> often see them overcome the obstacle. Waiting 24 hours often results in significant <br> improvement in reading speed again the next morning. |

## Fluency Builder Time Chart

If testing more than 2 or 3 students on the same Student Reading Wall List, use the chart below.
Type or write student's names to the left of each row below. Photocopy or print out multiple copies of the list and tape above each reading wall list. Place " $X$ " inside space to record student's fastest time -

Mastery Time is $3-4$ seconds for the 5 word list.

| Initials | $10$ | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6.8 | 6.6 | 6.4 | 6.2 | 6 | 5.8 | 5.6 | 5.4 | 5.2 | 5 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 4.4 | 4.2 | 4 |
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