## **Comprehension and Fluency**

Reading is the greatest single effort that the human mind undertakes, and one must do it as a child.

-John Steinbeck

#### Begin with the End in Mind!

If your child's doctor told you that you could possibly prevent your child from ever having health problems in the future, what would you do? Would you jump at the chance?

## What about Reading?

Research shows that reading TO your child is the **single** most important factor in contributing to his/her reading success.

#### Hmmm...

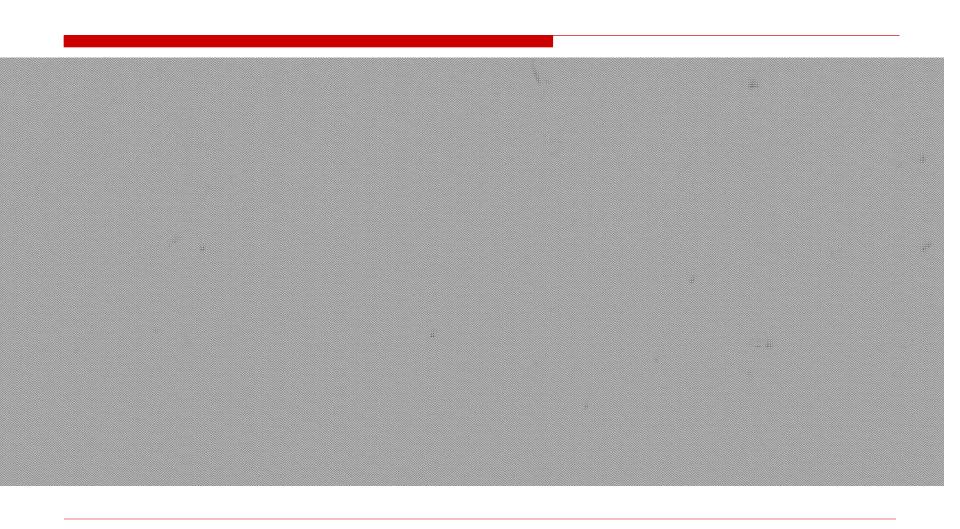
So, I bet your question is "How will my child become a better reader if I am the one doing the reading?"

## Recipe for Literacy



One relaxed child
Bathed, fed, and at peace with the world
One loving parent
Combine with one wonderful picture book
Simmer with read aloud and conversation
The result: A lifetime of comprehension

-Linda Hoyt



#### Reading and Comprehension

Reading refers to the ability to comprehend or make meaning from written text.

■ What does it mean to comprehend?

#### **Definition:**

Reading comprehension is the construction of the meaning of a written communication through a reciprocal, holistic interchange of ideas between the interpreter and the message.

Harris and Hodges

#### Why is background knowledge key?

#### Background Knowledge - What is it?

Mike Piazza and Robin Ventura singled to start the eighth inning. After a Braves pitching change to bring in Mike Remlinger, Melving Morafirst of a series of pinch hitters- came to the plate for Benny Agbaynani. Mora bunted, moving Piazza and Ventura over.

Kallis and Rhodes put on 84 but, with the ball turning, Mark Waugh could not hit with impunity and his eight overs cost only 37. The runs still had to be scored at more than seven an over, with McGrath still to return and Warne having two overs left, when Rhodes pulled Reiffel to Beven at deep square leg.

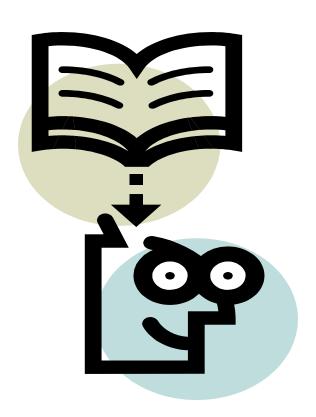
# Making Connections

☐ Text to Self

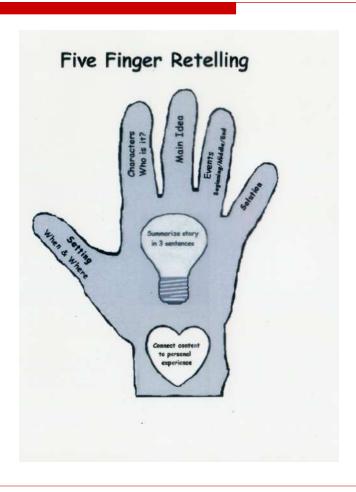
☐ Text to Text

□ Text to World

#### **Show Your Child Your Connections**



# Retelling



# **Fluency Instruction**

Fluency is

the ability to read a text accurately and quickly

Fluency is important because

it frees students to understand what they read

Reading fluency can be developed

by modeling fluent reading

by having students engage in repeated oral reading

More fluent readers: focus their attention on making connections among the ideas in a text and between these ideas and their background knowledge. Therefore, they are able to focus on comprehension.

■ Less fluent readers: must focus their attention primarily on decoding individual words. Therefore, they have little attention left for comprehending the text.

#### Independent level text

Relatively easy text for the reader, with no more than approximately 1 in 20 words difficult for the reader (95 %)

#### Instructional level text

Challenging but manageable text for the reader, with no more than approximately 1 in 10 words difficult for the reader (90 % success)

#### Frustrated level text

Difficult text for the reader, with more than 1 in 10 words difficult for the reader (less than 90% success)

Brown/
bear brown/
bear what/
do/
you see.

# Brown Bear/ Brown Bear/ What do you see?

# How can I help my child become a more fluent reader?

- To understand a line or phrase that is difficult
- □ To get ready to talk about the book
- ☐ To follow a thread throughout the book
- □ To support a theory or prediction
- To study the author's craft
- To think through an opinion about an issue in the text
- To think about how a word relates to others in the same genre

# "Visualizing is a comprehension strategy that enables readers to make the words on a page real and concrete."

-Keene and Zimmerman

# Visualizing

Imagining in your head the events of a story



# par-ent-ing (pâr 'ən-ting), n. 1. The most difficult and most important job you will ever have. 2. And, potentially, the most rewarding.

# A Village

☐ We have to work together in order for our children to grow and succeed so that they may become college and career ready.

