

Dear Parents,

This year, I would like to work specifically on developing your child's grade-level vocabulary and fluency when reading texts. I will be doing many activities within my classroom, but would like to enlist your help with a special homework piece. Below is an explanation of the Fluency Builder sheet that I will be sending home with every new story. It would help your child (and me) out tremendously if you would take a few minutes each night to work on this activity.

FLUENCY BUILDER

- Read aloud each of the words in the first column and have your child repeat it. Do this several times. Then have your child read you all of the words in the first column.
- Follow this procedure with each of the remaining columns.
- Have him/her practice reading the entire list and time him/herself.
- Look at the sentences at the bottom of the page. The goal is to have your child read each phrase smoothly. Model appropriate pace, expression, and phrasing as you read aloud each of the sentences. (The sentences are divided into parts or phrases by "/". Group the words between the / as you read, and pause briefly when you come to the "/".)
- Have your child practice reading aloud each sentence two or three times.

This strategy will help your child practice the vocabulary for the unit as well as work on fluency. There is a direct connection between fluency, comprehension, and reading success.

As always, please feel free to call or email me with any questions—or come up if you need me to model this for you.

Thanks for your continued support!

Beth Becker