



Fluency!

Fluency is the reader's ability to read text quickly, effortlessly, and efficiently with good, meaningful expression. (Rasinski, 2003)

Fluent readers can focus on comprehension because less energy is spent on decoding words. (LaBerge and Samuels, 1974)

Fluency does not automatically develop a student's ability to decode (figure out words) and therefore, explicit is fluency practice necessary.

(Chard, Vaughn & Tyler, 2002)

One of the most effective strategies for improving fluency is repeated reading!

(Rasinski, 1990)

Why Poetry?

Poems are short: the ideal texts for reading and rereading!

Poems are fun: perfect for performing and reading aloud!

Poems are engaging: there is a poem about every topic imaginable and they are chock full of rich vocabulary!



10 PERFECTLY PLAYFUL WAYS TO HAVE FUN WITH POETRY

1. Read aloud together
2. Perform poetry: act it out
3. Echo read: one person reads and another echoes
4. Read in different voices: whisper, shout, or sing!
5. Record your poetry readings: audio and video
6. Read in poetic places: bring poetry outside or create cozy spaces inside
7. Explore children's poetry websites online
8. Write your own poetry and perform for friends
9. Create a found poem: reread a poem or picture book and extract the "language that lingers." Use these words to create a new poem
10. Create a poetry scrapbook: find poems to celebrate the important moments in your life and create a scrapbook to share with those you care about!

