



# HILDALE LOWER ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

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## Reading Corner

“What is Fluency?”

Fluency: recognizing the words in a text rapidly and accurately AND using phrasing and emphasis in a way that makes what is read sound like spoken language.

Why is it important?

There is a close relationship between fluency and comprehension. That is, students who were low in fluency also showed difficulty comprehending what they read. A reader must recognize the printed words by decoding and construct meaning from the recognized words for comprehension. If the word recognition task is hard, all available cognitive resources may be consumed by the decoding task, leaving little or nothing for use in interpretation. Consequently, for the non-fluent reader, difficulty with word recognition slows down the process and takes up valuable resources and energy that is necessary for comprehension. How Can You Help Students Develop Greater Fluency?

Two forms that have shown evidence of improving fluency are repeated reading and guided repeated oral reading.

- 1.) Repeated reading involves asking students to read and reread a passage or story. Through repeated reading, students are able to shift their emphasis from word recognition to comprehension as they become more familiar with the text.
- 2.) Guided repeated oral reading adds greater support for the reader to the strategy of repeated reading. This guidance/ support may take the form of additional modeling of what fluent reading sounds like, telling students unfamiliar words rather than having them sound the words out, having students read along with a taped version of the story, or helping students see how words can be grouped into meaningful phrases.

The following forms of guidance are proven to produce improved fluency:

- Telling students unfamiliar words as they encounter them so they can focus on constructing meaning and reading with fluency.
- Helping children group words in a sentence into meaningful phrases.
- Having students read along orally as a fluent adult reader reads the story aloud.
- Using repeated reading with a taped-recorded version of the story proved significant gains in reading performance

### Important Dates

- April 3<sup>rd</sup>: PTO Hat Day
- April 7<sup>th</sup>: Preschool Roundup at the Elementary
- April 8<sup>th</sup>: Kids for Christ @ 7:40
- April 9<sup>th</sup>: Preschool Roundup at the Elementary:
- April 10<sup>th</sup>: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Field Trip
- April 13<sup>th</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Starts State Testing
- April 20<sup>th</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Starts State Testing
- April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Kids for Christ @ 7:40
- April 24<sup>th</sup>: PTO Hornet Store Closeout
- April 27<sup>th</sup>: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Starts State Testing
- April 30<sup>th</sup>: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip



Check out our website for important district information!!

[www.hilldale.k12.ok.us](http://www.hilldale.k12.ok.us)



### OSTP TESTING TIME

It's hard to believe that the school year is almost over! OCCT Testing is upon us!! Here are a few things you can do to ensure your student is ready for the big test day.

- Get a good night's sleep
- Eat a good, healthy breakfast
- Be at school early
- Please don't schedule Dr. Appointments during their testing time.

