

Word Reading Fluency

Directions: Administer the first row of words, which are practice words. With the rows of words covered, say to the student, "On this paper I have rows of words. When I say, 'Start,' I want you to read as many of the words as you can. Let's try this row of words." (Uncover first row of words.) "Ready? Begin." (If the student cannot read any of the words or can only read one or two, do not administer the rest of the test.) After administering the practice words, say to the student, "I have some more rows of words. When I say, 'Start,' I want you to read as many of the words as you can." "Ready? Begin." Put a ruler or other marker under the row being read to help the student keep her or his place. As unobtrusively as possible, start your timer. Do not correct any mistakes. If a student hesitates for three seconds, say, "Go on to the next word." If the student is attempting to decode a word, allow him or her five seconds to do so. Then say, "Go on to the next word." Cross off incorrect responses. Stop the test if the student misreads five words in a row. At the end of the minute, draw a line after the last word read, but allow the students to continue reading to the end of the test or after misreading five words in a row.

Word Reading Fluency

Name _____ Date _____ Score ___/50

I	no	cat	red	me
a	you	is	that	not
go	we	are	this	had
want	little	big	come	day
now	call	time	put	into
make	saw	right	did	away
house	work	walk	bear	around
has	tree	say	place	fish
took	or	jump	wait	door
talk	many	box	may	read
bed	animal	hard	new	ball

Interpretation: By the end of first grade, students should be able to read a least 45 of the words within a minute's time. However, it also important to note how many words the students can read when there are no time limits. A student might be able to read all the words but need more than a minute's time. This suggests a lack of automaticity and a need for experience with the words. It is important that students be able to rapidly recognize high-frequency words and not need to take the time to decode them.