

Fluency Activities

Try each one out as a group.

Reflect upon the following:

- What elements of fluency does this activity build?
- How might you extend a similar activity at home?

1

Activity #1

- Find the pages with bold types.
- Work on your own to rehearse reading the sentence aloud, with stress on the word in bold.
- Now, read the sentences aloud to a partner. Stress the word in bold.
- How does the meaning change with stress / intonation?

She didn't ask Dad to go to the mall.

She didn't ask Dad to go to the mall.

She **didn't** ask Dad to go to the mall.

She didn't **ask** Dad to go to the mall.

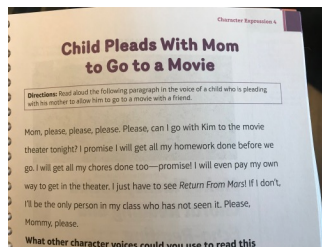
She didn't ask **Dad** to go to the mall.

She didn't ask Dad to go to the **mall**.

2

Activity #2

- Follow the directions in the box.
- Practice until you feel you're ready to deliver an Oscar worthy performance!



3

Activity #3

- Find the Reader's Theater script.
- There are 5 parts. Assign a part to everyone. Double up if you need to.
- Spend a few minutes reviewing your part. How can you make it sound great?
- Practice as a group until you're ready for a performance!



4

Activity #4

- Work in partners or small groups.
- Find the Speedy Phrases pages.
- Partner A sets a timer for one minute.
- Partner B reads as many phrases as fast as they can, until the timer goes off.
- Partner A jots down and shares any errors that Partner A made.
- Try it again. Can you speed improve, and your errors decrease?
- Switch roles.

5

Activity #5

- Find the poem 'Casey at the Bat'
- As a group, mark the text to show where short pauses go (use /) and where long pauses go (use //)
- How does this activity contribute to fluency?

6

Video Games

1

Directions: Emphasizing certain words in a sentence can change the meaning. Read each sentence aloud, emphasizing the boldfaced word, and explain how the meaning changes.

Lydia loved her video games.

Lydia loved her video games.

Lydia **loved** her video games.

Lydia loved **her** video games.

Lydia loved her **video** games.

Lydia loved her video **games**.

Chocolate Chip Cookies

Directions: Emphasizing certain words in a sentence can change the meaning. Read each sentence aloud, emphasizing the boldfaced word, and explain how the meaning changes.

Jill ate Mom's chocolate chip cookies.

Jill ate Mom's chocolate chip cookies.

Jill **ate** Mom's chocolate chip cookies.

Jill ate **Mom's** chocolate chip cookies.

Jill ate Mom's **chocolate chip** cookies.

Jill ate Mom's chocolate chip **cookies**.

Child Pleads With Mom to Go to a Movie

2

Directions: Read aloud the following paragraph in the voice of a child who is pleading with his mother to allow him to go to a movie with a friend.

Mom, please, please, please. Please, can I go with Kim to the movie theater tonight? I promise I will get all my homework done before we go. I will get all my chores done too—promise! I will even pay my own way to get in the theater. I just have to see *Return From Mars*! If I don't, I'll be the only person in my class who has not seen it. Please, Mommy, please.

What other character voices could you use to read this paragraph? The brother or sister of the child who is asking the mother to go to the movie? The brother or sister who is mocking how the child pleaded with the mother, to a friend?

Bonus: Write the mother's response to the child's request. Then read the response in the voice of the mother.

12-Hour Energy Bar Commercial

Directions: Read aloud the following paragraph in the voice of a person who is advertising energy bars on television or radio.

Do you feel tired most of the time? Do you feel like you do not have enough energy to do all the things that you need to do? Why not try our new product called 12-Hour Energy Bars? Eat just one of these delicious bars, and you will find yourself with more than enough energy to make it through the day. Our bars contain a secret ingredient that was only recently discovered in the Amazon jungles. We guarantee that one 12-Hour Energy Bar each day will take away those tired feelings and give you the strength and energy that you need.

What other voices could you use to read this paragraph?
Disappointed that the bars didn't work? Totally wired because the bars worked too well?

Bonus: After having tried 12-Hour Energy Bars, write a note to the company about what you think of the product. Then read your note in a voice that reflects how you feel.

Where the Wild Things Are

by Maurice Sendak

Max: The night Max wore his wolf suit and made mischief of one kind
Max: and another
Mother: his mother called him “WILD THING!”
Max: and Max said “I’LL EAT YOU UP!”
Mother: so he was sent to bed without eating anything.
Max: That very night in Max’s room a forest grew
Wild 1: and grew—
Wild 2: and grew until his ceiling hung with vines
Wild 3: and the walls became the world all around
Wild 1: and an ocean tumbled by with a private boat for Max
Max: and he sailed off through the night and day and in and out of weeks
and almost over a year to where the wild things are.
Wild 2: And when he came to the place where the wild things are
Wild 1: they roared their terrible roars
Wild 2: and gnashed their terrible teeth
Wild 3: and rolled their terrible eyes
Wild 2: and showed their terrible claws
Max: till Max said “BE STILL!” and tamed them with the magic trick of
staring into all their yellow eyes without blinking once
Wild 3: and they were frightened and called him the most wild thing of all and
made him king of all wild things.
Max: “And now,” cried Max, “let the wild rumpus start!”
Max: “Now stop!” Max said and sent the wild things off to bed without

their supper. And Max the king of all wild things was lonely and wanted to be where someone loved him best of all.

Mother: Then all around from far away across the world he smelled good things to eat

Max: so he gave up being king of where the wild things are.

Wild 1: But the wild things cried, "Oh please don't go—

Wild 2: we'll eat you up we love you so!"

Max: And Max said, "No!"

Wild 3: The wild things roared their terrible roars

Wild 1: and gnashed their terrible teeth

Wild 2: and rolled their terrible eyes

Wild 3: and showed their terrible claws

Max: but Max stepped into his private boat and waved good-bye and sailed back over a year and in and out of weeks and through a day and into the night of his very own room where he found his supper waiting for him

Mother: and it was still hot.

Name _____

Speedy Phrases

F.013.SS

Phrases Correct Per Minute

1 st try	_____ phrases correct per minute
2 nd try	_____ phrases correct per minute
3 rd try	_____ phrases correct per minute
4 th try	_____ phrases correct per minute
5 th try	_____ phrases correct per minute

he would like

Who said that?

Who are you?

Now we will go.

What could it be?

We will use this.

Write the number.

They are with him.



one at a time	What are these?
Look at this.	I made some
about the time	You can go.
one or the other	Write his name.

phrase cards



some of them

look at each

Call her now.

She said that.

they have been

What time is it?

Write the word.

some may get



I like them.

you and I

She called me.

We have some.

It is time.

This is my dog.

one of us

these people



in the water

by the time

How old are you?

Look at me.

You may go.

how many

a long day

my number is

phrase cards



it has been

Write her name.

some of you

it could be

The cat is little.

Look for them.

There you are.

She will go.



Name: _____ Date: _____

Directions: Mark the text to show where short pauses and long pauses should go when reading it aloud. / = short pause, // = long pause

Casey at the Bat

(excerpt)

by Ernest Lawrence Thayer

The outlook wasn't brilliant for the Mudville nine that day
The score stood four to two with but one inning more to play
And then when Cooney died at first and Barrows did the same
A sickly silence fell upon the patrons of the game

A straggling few got up to go in deep despair The rest
clung to that hope which springs eternal in the human breast
They thought if only Casey could get but a whack at that
We'd put up even money now with Casey at the bat

But Flynn preceded Casey as did also Jimmy Blake
And the former was a lulu and the latter was a cake
So upon that stricken multitude grim melancholy sat
For there seemed but little chance of Casey's getting to the bat