

Reading Strategies for Unknown Words

Here are some helpful strategies to use when reading with your child and they come to words they don't know.

- Skip the difficult word.
Read on to end of sentence or paragraph.
Go back to the beginning of sentence and try again.
- Read on.
Reread inserting the beginning sound of the unknown word.
- Substitute a word that makes sense.
- Look for a known chunk or small word.
Use finger to cover part of word.
- Read the word using only beginning and ending sounds.
Read the word without the vowels.
- Look at the picture cues.
- Link to prior knowledge.
- Predict and anticipate what could come next.
- Cross check.
"Does it sound right?"
"Does it make sense?"
"Does it look right?"
- Self-correct and self-monitor.
- Write words you can't figure out and need to know on Post-its.
- Read passage several times for fluency and meaning.

Use errors as an opportunity to problem solve.

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