

Oral Reading Records

Proficient readers use a balance of cues and strategies to gain meaning from print.

Observing a child read orally is a way of measuring fluency, rate, accuracy, and the use of reading strategies to discover what may be hampering a child's reading progress.

Competent readers:

- make predictions about text
- use picture cues to support the meaning
- use language structure to predict the text
- use the visual feature of print
- monitor by rereading
- cross-check one cue source with another
- self-correct when cues do not match
- link personal experiences with the text
- use appropriate strategies to read different text structures
- read fluently, with expression
- can retell what they've read

In an effective balanced literacy program, teachers use oral reading records to:

- ✓ create a reading profile for each child.
- ✓ support at-risk readers.
- ✓ monitor reading growth over time.
- ✓ analyze the cues, strategies, and information sources a child uses.
- ✓ observe whether a child self-monitors and self-corrects during reading.
- ✓ check for comprehension during reading.
- ✓ observe the fluency of reading.
- ✓ select text at the child's instructional level.
- ✓ group students for guided reading.
- ✓ provide appropriate instruction, based on the strengths and needs of the child.

Macomb Intermediate School District Early Literacy Committee

