

The Reading Wall Time Chart

The next page in this document is the chart to be used for keeping track of how fast a child says the column of words. Place the Time Card above the “LEVEL” Heading of the each Reading Wall column for visual motivation and easy recording.

4 STEPS TO THE STOP AT THE VOWEL SOUND STRATEGY

STEP 1	DISCUSS THE “COLOR” VOWEL OR PHONICS SOUND IN EACH WORD Discuss the sound made by the colored letters in each word. This places the sound in the child’s short term memory.
STEP 2	“STOP AT THE VOWEL SOUND” STRATEGY Next, have the child “blend” the sounds made by the letters up to the colored vowel sound (i.e. ba – ca – da – fa – ga – etc.) It helps considerably if you use your hand to cover over the remaining letters in the word (following the vowel sound) to provide visual help in exactly what should be “blended” together. For example, if the word was “ j ump” – you would cover over “mp” with your hand leaving the “ju” visible.
STEP 3	PRACTICE ENTIRE COLUMN The child is to then say each of the words in the column list slowly. If a mistake is made - correct and explain the proper sounds and have the student start again from the top. When the entire column list can be read perfectly, you should begin the “timed” step below.
STEP 4	TIMED READING Get out the stopwatch (or your watch timer) and record how long it takes for the student to say the list from top to bottom. When the student can read the list in approx. 8-10 seconds (usually 4-7 attempts), you need to then have the child read the list from the bottom to the top (to make sure the order wasn’t memorized) before you record the winning time. After recording the winning time you can then advance to the next LEVEL. INTERESTING OBSERVATION – Whenever a child gets “stuck” on a list and does not seem to be progressing – don’t worry – if you try again the next morning the problem frequently disappears. The only explanation I have for this observation (I’ve seen occur repeatedly) is that there must be some type of physical change that gradually takes place in the child’s brain during the 24 hour period.

That’s all there is to it.

Do this each night (better yet - morning and night) for 3-5 minutes and watch your child’s progress jump into high gear.

