

Reading & Writing

Common Issues

Strategies

Accommodations

Free Resources

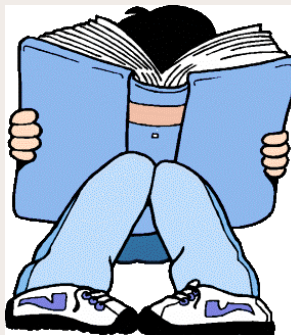


Common Reading Issues

Fluency - the ability to read text smoothly and quickly

Decoding – the ability to make sense of printed words

Comprehension – understanding the material read



Fluency Strategies

- Do not interrupt except when miscues don't make sense (i.e. substitutes "pony" for "horse")
- Use a word or line marker
- Reread familiar material
- Read fun poems, rhymes, and predictable books
- Echo reading (you read a line – child reads the line)
- Student listens to text and follows along
- Speed drills for high-frequency word lists

Fluency Target Criterion

Grade	Correct Words Per Minute (CWPM)
Second half 1 st grade	60 CWPM
2 nd grade	90 CWPM
3 rd grade	100 CWPM
4 th grade	110 CWPM
5 th grade	120 CWPM
6 th grade or higher	140 CWPM

Decoding Strategies

Build awareness of word sounds:

- play rhyming games (i.e. “I like to run. It’s so much .”
- Play listening games for letter-sound correspondence (i.e. say a sentence and have child clap when they hear a word that starts or ends with a particular letter.)
- Encourage child to write stories or poems using words in word families

Decoding Strategies

Encourage multiple word attack strategies:

- Look at the picture
- Sound out the word (start with first letter, and say each letter-sound out loud; blend sounds together; look for familiar chunks then blend chunks together)
- Connect to a word you already know
- Reread the sentence – think about what word might make sense in the sentence
- Read past the unfamiliar word and look for clues
- Use prior knowledge (what you know about the subject of the book, paragraph, or sentence)

Comprehension Strategies

- Build on child's knowledge (select topics that reflects interest)
- Preview text (i.e. look at charts, pictures, dark headings, and captions)
- Draw inferences or make predictions while reading
- Stop and talk about material when reading together (ask open-ended questions)
- Storyboards
- Retell and summarize
- Visualize (create mental images in your head about what you're reading)

Comprehension Strategies

- Apply SQ3R method
 - Survey:** preview reading assignment
 - Question:** pose a question before reading
 - Read:** read to learn answer
 - Recite:** answer question from memory
 - Review:** review each question from memory
- Think about "5 Ws" (Who? What? When? Where? Why?)
- Use the "KWL" strategy (What I **K**now, What I **W**ant to learn, What I **L**earned)

Reading Accommodations

- Provide material on tape/CD
- Extra time to read material
- Reduce the amount of information on a page
- Do not require student to read aloud in front of class
- Have tests read to student
- Present information orally as well as in writing
- Reduce classroom noise/distractions
- Breakdown material into smaller chunks
- Provide study guides/directed reading guides

Free Reading Resources

Grade Level Standards and Government Resources:

- Free resources of all kinds from the US Department of Education
<http://www.free.ed.gov/index.cfm>
- Helping Your Young Child Become a Reader
http://www.free.ed.gov/resource.cfm?resource_id=483&subject_id=80&toplvl=78
- Reading is Fundamental – the largest children’s and family nonprofit literacy organization in the US <http://www.rif.org/parents/>
- To understand what that State Content and Curriculum Standards are for each grade level go to the CA State Board of Education Standards & Frameworks <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/>
- Literacy Begins at Home – checklists for preschoolers- second graders from the National Institute for Literacy (this is just one free downloadable pdf among others developed for families and educators) - http://www.nifl.gov/publications/pdf/Literacy_Home.pdf

Free Reading Resources

Early Reading:

- Between the Lions - an award-winning PBS children's series designed to help young children learn to read. The Web site includes games and materials from the show, including a literacy curriculum aimed at children ages 4-7 - <http://www.pbs.org/parents/lions/>
- PBS Parents reading and language babies-2nd grade - <http://www.pbs.org/parents/readinglanguage/>
- The RIF Reading Planet - part of the Reading Is Fundamental website, is a place where kids can explore the colorful online world of books, activities, and literacy games <http://www.rif.org/kids/readingplanet.htm>
- The Starfall learn-to-read website is offered free as a public service. Primarily designed for first grade, the site is also useful for pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and second grade, teaches comprehension & phonics - <http://www.starfall.com/>
- 9 weeks Free of Reading including some free worksheets for grade levels K-5 <http://www.readingkey.com/demo/index.htm>

Free Reading Resources

Phonics:

- Starfall, a preschool and elementary age language arts site (uses phonics and games to sound out words and letters and more) <http://www.starfall.com/>
- Kidzone- Phonics. Free Printable worksheets - <http://www.kidzone.ws/phonics/>
- Soft Schools provides Phonics activities & flashcards for kids pre-K thru middle school http://www.softschools.com/language_arts/phonics/
- Fun Fonix -FREE phonics materials for teachers, worksheets, free printable phonics workbooks, and printable phonics worksheets - <http://www.funfonix.com/>
- Game Goo - Earobics is a K-3 "reading intervention" product from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. GameGoo is the free online practice game component - <http://www.earobics.com/gamegoo/gooey.html>

Free Reading Resources

For Older Kids:

- Sadlier-Oxford – go to the student or family center link to get free phonics games organized by grade level for students from PreK through grade six. Also has vocabulary games, grammar worksheets and other educational materials - <http://www.sadlier-oxford.com/phonics/student.cfm>
- Book Adventure is a FREE reading motivation program for children in grades K-8. Children create their own book lists from over 7,000 recommended titles, take multiple choice quizzes on the books they've read, and earn points and prizes for their literary successes - <http://www.bookadventure.com/>
- Wired for Books – poems, stories, plays, essays, lectures and interviews for children and adults - <http://www.wiredforbooks.org/>
- Reading Guides from Reading Rockets <http://www.readingrockets.org/guides/readingrockets>

Common Writing Issues

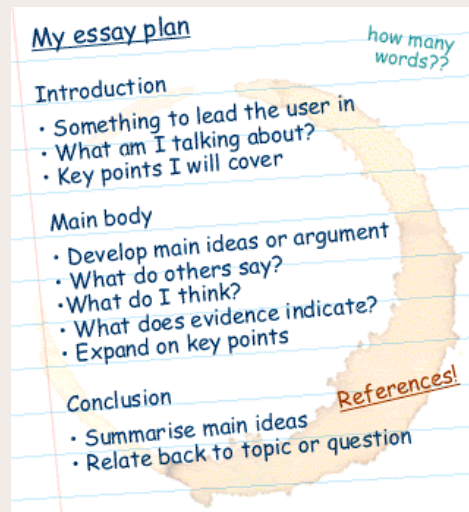
Organization (graphic organizers)

Editing:

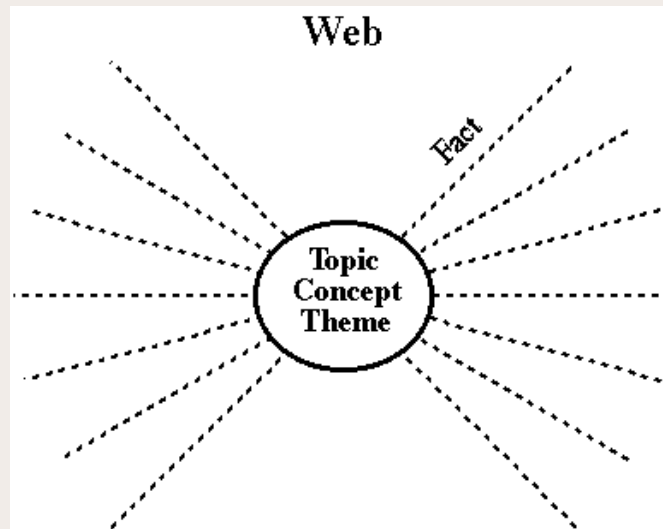
traits of writing

spelling

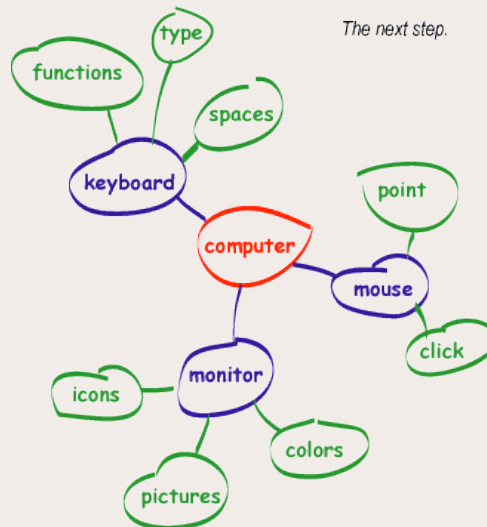
punctuation



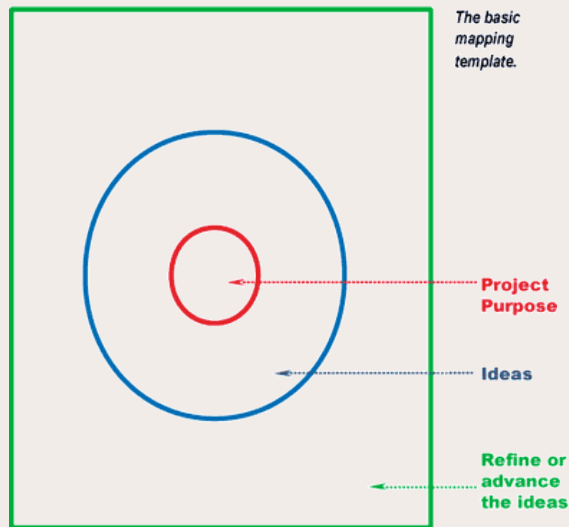
Organizational Strategies



Organizational Strategies



Organizational Strategies



Organizational Strategies

Introduction

• Thesis: _____

BODY PARAGRAPH I:

• Opening Sentence: _____

• Detail 1: _____

• Detail 2: _____

• Detail 3: _____

BODY PARAGRAPH II:

• Transition/Opening Sentence: _____

• Detail 1: _____

• Detail 2: _____

• Detail 3: _____

BODY PARAGRAPH III:

• Transition/Opening Sentence: _____

• Detail 1: _____

• Detail 2: _____

• Detail 3: _____

BODY PARAGRAPH IV:

• Transition/Opening Sentence: _____

• Detail 1: _____

• Detail 2: _____

• Detail 3: _____

VI. CONCLUSION:

• Reconfirmed Thesis: _____

Organizational Strategies

Outlining Body Paragraphs:

A.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

B.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

C.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Organizational Strategies

Introductory Paragraph

**Motivator
Thesis Sentence**

**First Body Paragraph
Topic Sentence**

Specific Support
Specific Support
Specific Support

**Second Body Paragraph
Topic Sentence**

Specific Support
Specific Support
Specific Support

**Third Body Paragraph
Topic Sentence**

Specific Support
Specific Support
Specific Support

Concluding Paragraph

**Reworded Thesis
Clincher**

Editing: Traits of Writing

Ideas: the heart of the message; main theme

- Is my message clear?
- Do I know enough about my topic?
- Is it interesting?
- Is my topic “small” and focused?
- Did I show what was happening?

Organization: gives direction; fits together like a puzzle

- Does my paper have a good opening that captures the reader’s attention?
- Are my ideas in the best order?
- Does my paper have a strong ending?

Voice: gives personality; speaks directly to the reader

- Does this writing sound like me?
- Did I say what I think and feel?
- Does my writing have energy and passion?
- Is it appropriate for my audience and purpose?

Editing: Traits of Writing

Word Choice: rich, colorful language; makes writing come alive

- Will my reader understand my words?
- Were my words accurate, original, and just right?
- Did I use energetic verbs?
- Did I use language that painted a picture?

Sentence Fluency: gives writing rhythm; easy flow; sentences clear and powerful

- How does my writing sound when read aloud?
- Do my sentences begin in different ways?
- Are some sentences long and some short?

Conventions: spelling, grammar and usage, paragraphing, use of capitals and punctuation

- Did I paragraph correctly?
- Is my spelling correct?
- Did I correctly use periods, question marks, commas, quotation marks, and other punctuation?
- Did I use capital letters correctly?



Editing: Spelling Strategies

- Play word games (i.e. Boggle; Scrabble; word searches; hangman)
- Look, say, cover, write, check
- Break the word into syllables
- Say word in memorable rhyme or pattern (i.e. tom – or – row)
- Practice, practice, practice
- Write labels on things at home
- Draw attention to words in the environment
- Have child picture word in their head
- Write the word in the air
- Give multiple choices and have child pick correct spelling
- Have practice spelling words by writing or typing
- Cut letters out of magazines/newspapers to prepare for spelling tests
- Count number of misspelled words and see how many child can find



Editing: Punctuation

- Read child's work aloud following only punctuation they've indicated (you may need to emphasize at first)
- Practice, practice, practice
- Point out use of different punctuation when reading stories
- Make flashcards and have child identify proper punctuation based on what you read

Writing Accommodations

- Provide graphic organizer
- Spelling errors will not impact grade when no opportunity for editing assistance and/or spell-check is available
- Proof-reader and redo assignment or writing mechanics not graded
- Extended time on writing assignments
- Breakdown assignments into smaller parts
- Shorten spelling tests to functional words

Free Writing Resources

Graphic Organizers/Writing Guides:

- English Homework Help from Discovery School (Writing Mechanics & Grammar) - provides useful and enjoyable resources for students, and smart advice for parents about how to help their kids enjoy learning and excel in school - http://school.discoveryeducation.com/homeworkhelp/english/english_home_work_help.html
- Education Planet - K-12 Web services company designed to help teachers, students, and parents easily find and utilize teacher approved educational resources, web tools, and e-learning services. It features a database of more than 100,000 educational resources - <http://www.educationplanet.com/>
- Read-Write-Think Student Materials - a collection of online Student Materials to support K-12 literacy learning - http://www.readwritethink.org/student_mat/index.asp
- Graphic organizers for reading and writing and well as spelling lists by grade k-5 tied into the Houghton Mifflin Harcourt textbooks - <http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/>
- TeacherVision, free lesson plans, printables and graphic organizers for reading writing math & more grade K-12 - <http://www.teachervision.fen.com/>

Free Writing Resources

- Handwriting Without Tears – can buy grade level work books for under \$10 - <http://www.hwtears.com/>
- Spelling City, make your own spelling games- <http://www.spellingcity.com/>
- All About Spelling- Free Spelling lists for each grade level K-7 - <http://www.all-about-spelling.com/free-spelling-lists.html>
- Technology - Although most Web sites focus on helping younger children develop their spelling skills, this resource provides spelling worksheets for high school students as well - http://www.teach-nology.com/worksheets/language_arts/spelling/
- Your Dictionary – a useful online dictionary with lots of tools to help with writing, a phonics dictionary and alphabet and Thesaurus. In the library you'll find tons of useful resources ranging from lists of spelling words, rules & tips for grammar, punctuation, sentence structure and spelling lists and activities - <http://www.yourdictionary.com/library/grammar.html>
- Spelling Game Tumble Bees and other word games from Pogo.com - <http://word-games.pogo.com/games/tumble-bees>
- ABC Teach- Free spelling lists - http://www.abcteach.com/free_spelling_list_form.php

Conclusion

Every individual matters. Every individual
has a role to play.
Every individual makes a difference.



~Jane Goodall