

## **Can You Listen to Me Read? Grant Summary**

Building fluency in students will help with confidence in reading in addition to increasing their comprehension of texts. Through my experience in the classroom, I have noticed 2nd grade students can hear a lack of fluency from others reading but can not hear it when they read themselves. Providing students with technology to record themselves reading will support students as they work toward increasing their fluency. Once students' fluency has increased, they can focus on the content of the text instead of a strong focus being on decoding the words.

According to Scholastic, students will understand fluency through listening to fluency being modeled. Using the technology of students recording themselves reading, allows for students to take ownership of their learning while encouraging their fluency growth. This will encourage them to be self driven to improve their fluency through hard work and practice. Scholastic states that "Having students practice reading by rereading short passages aloud" will grow the student in fluency.

Poetry is a productive way to teach phonological awareness and fluency. Poetry can be used to teach all phonics and spelling skills in addition to content and comprehension skills. According to Reading Rockets, "Relating skills to what is actually being read is always a good practice. Skills practiced in isolation on a worksheet do not always transfer to actual reading." Poetry not only encourages a love of reading but allows for practice of multiple skills at once.

This grant has allowed my students materials to practice improving their fluency. They have enjoyed implementing the new technology in the classroom as they read poems. The excitement in their learning has only intensified the more they use the materials. And while they are having fun and reading, their fluency levels are improving. Thank you for your support in helping my students grow their love of reading.

April Berry  
M., Ed. Classroom Leadership  
W.E. Parker Elementary School  
Edgefield, South Carolina  
2nd Grade