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Fluency with Character: Lessons from Newbery Books

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Fluency with Character: Lessons from Newbery Books

Karen L. Parker, Ed.D.
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Put Reading First

Kindergarten Through Grade 3



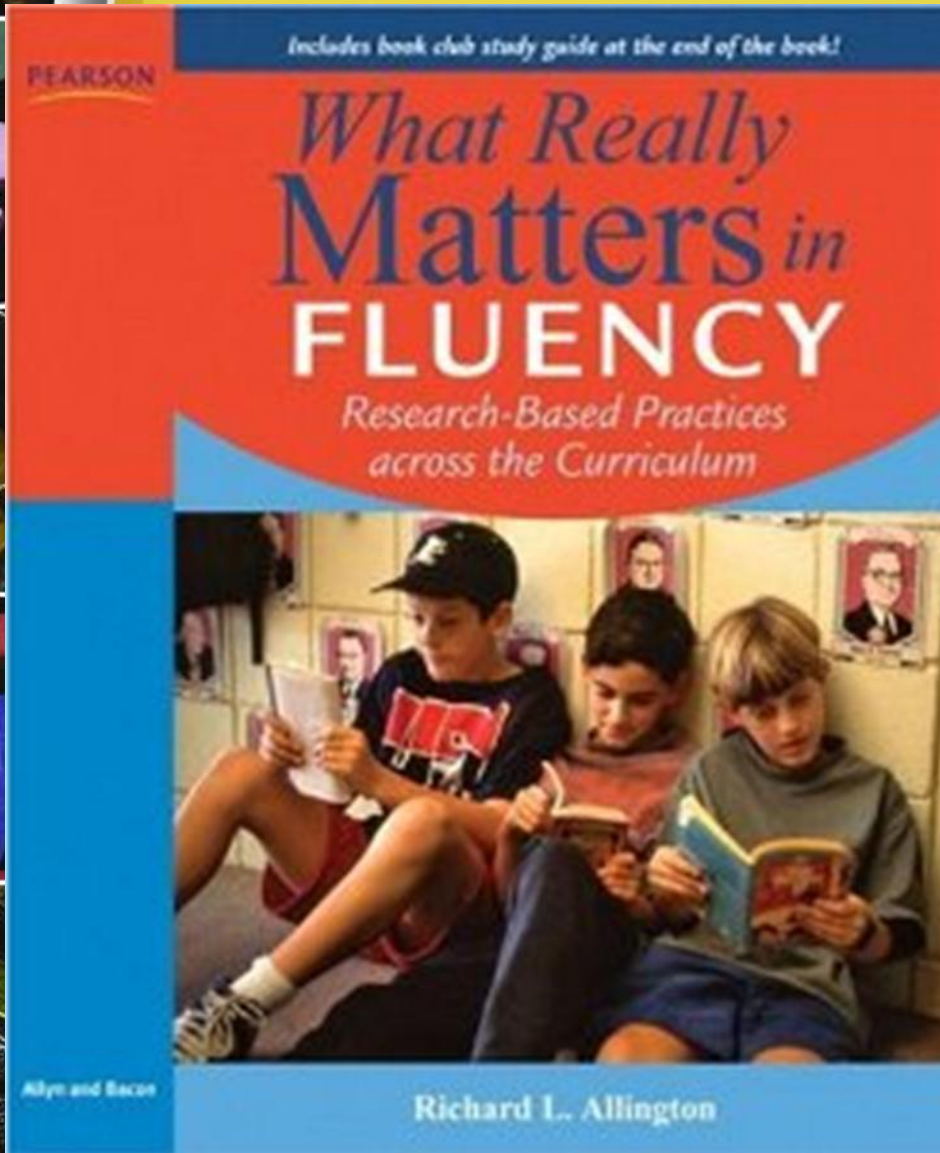
The Research
Building Blocks
For Teaching
Children to Read

Third Edition

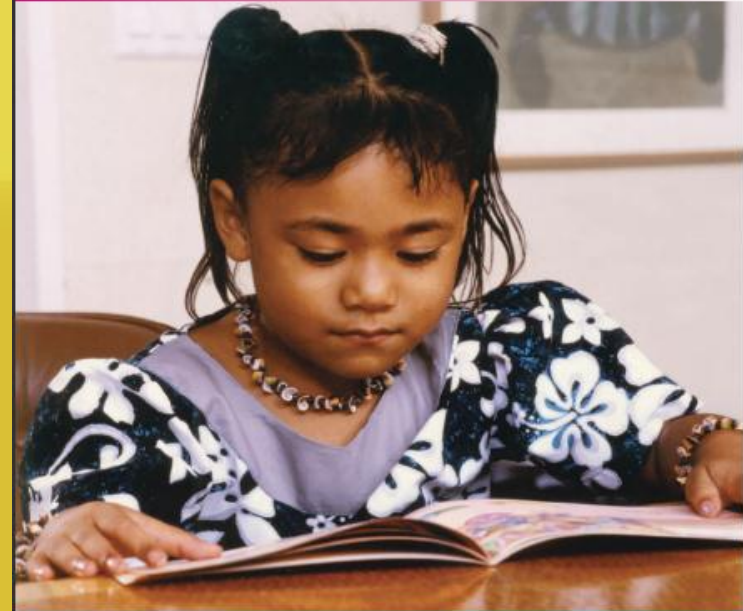
Research-based reading instruction

1. Phonemic awareness
2. Phonics
3. Fluency
4. Vocabulary
5. Comprehension

Fluency resources



Research-Based Practices in Early Reading Series



A Focus on
Fluency



Pacific Resources for Education and Learning

www.prel.org



Fluency

- Ability to read a text quickly, accurately, and with proper expression
- Bridge between word recognition and comprehension
- Focus on learning words in context

Fluency development

- Decoding skills
- Vocabulary
- At-a-glance words
- Self-monitoring
- Comprehension
- Motivation





Fluency lessons

Struggling

- Read aloud
- Difficult level
- Interruption
- Decoding focus
- Low volume
- Books assigned

Successful

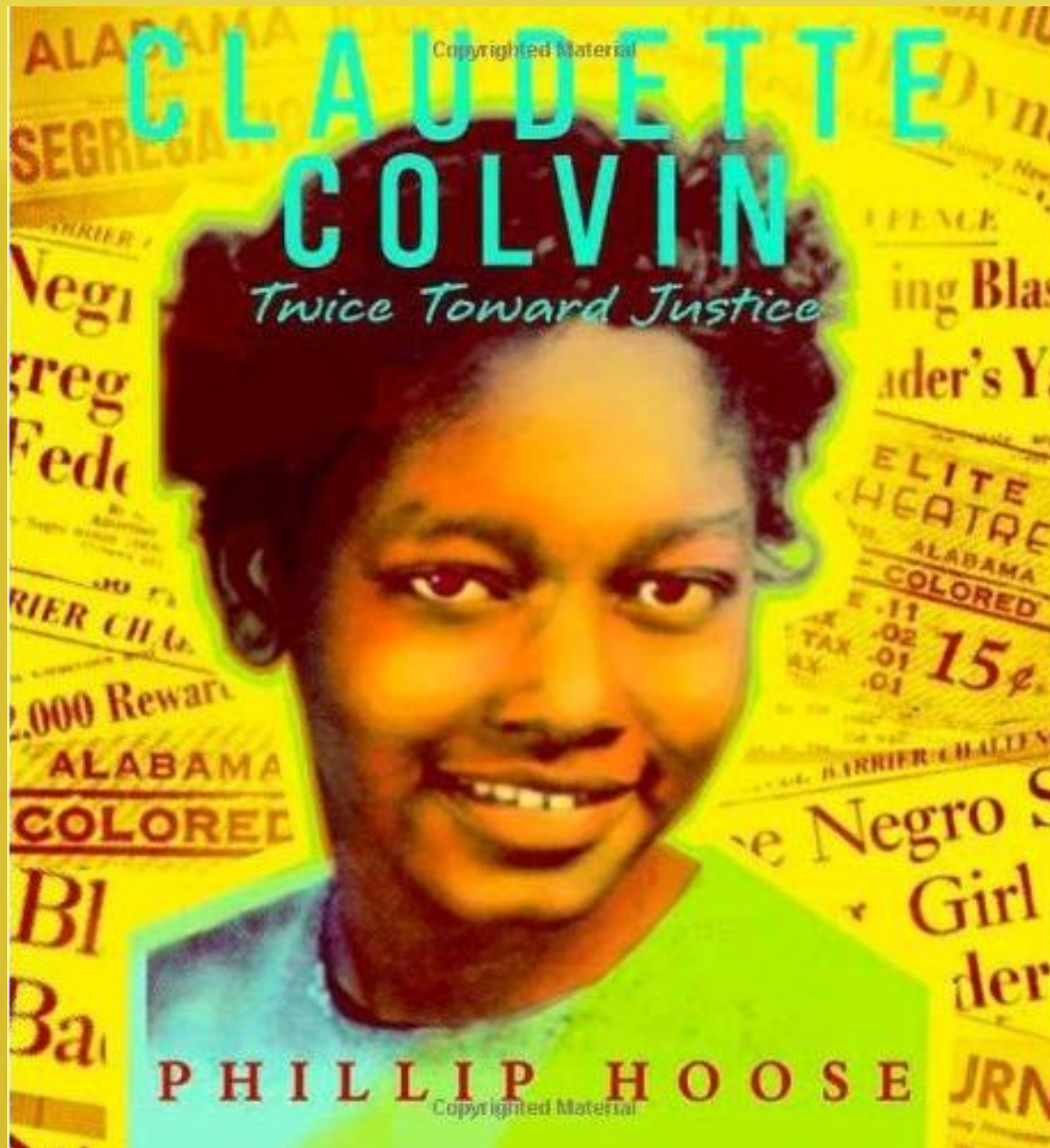
- Read silently
- Appropriate level
- Wait time
- Meaning focus
- High volume
- Book choice

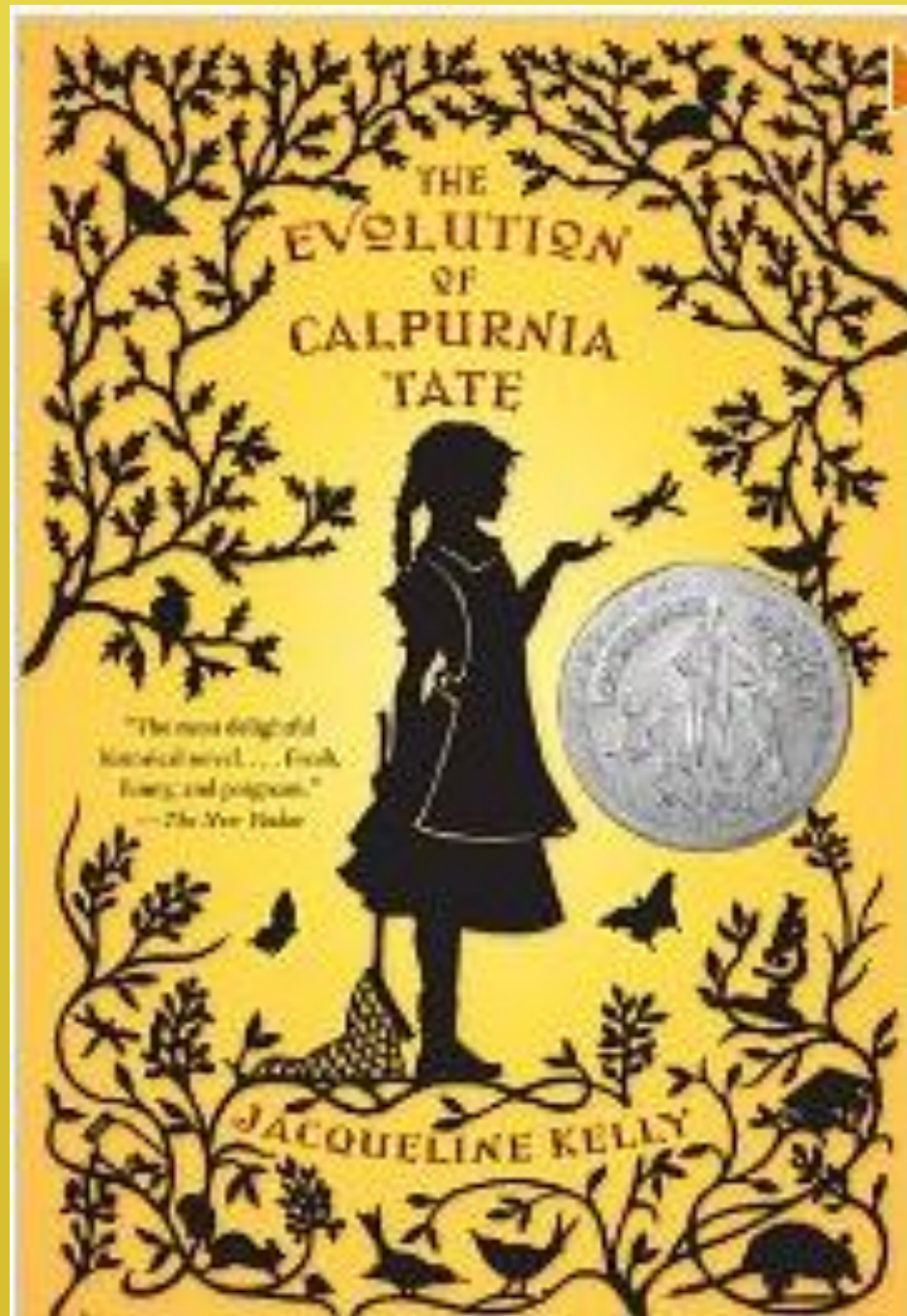


Newbery books:

Criteria for character development

- Well-written books with moral dilemmas
- Enough depth beyond literal level
- Admirable but believable characters
 - about the same age
- Wide range of cultures
 - boy and girl lead characters





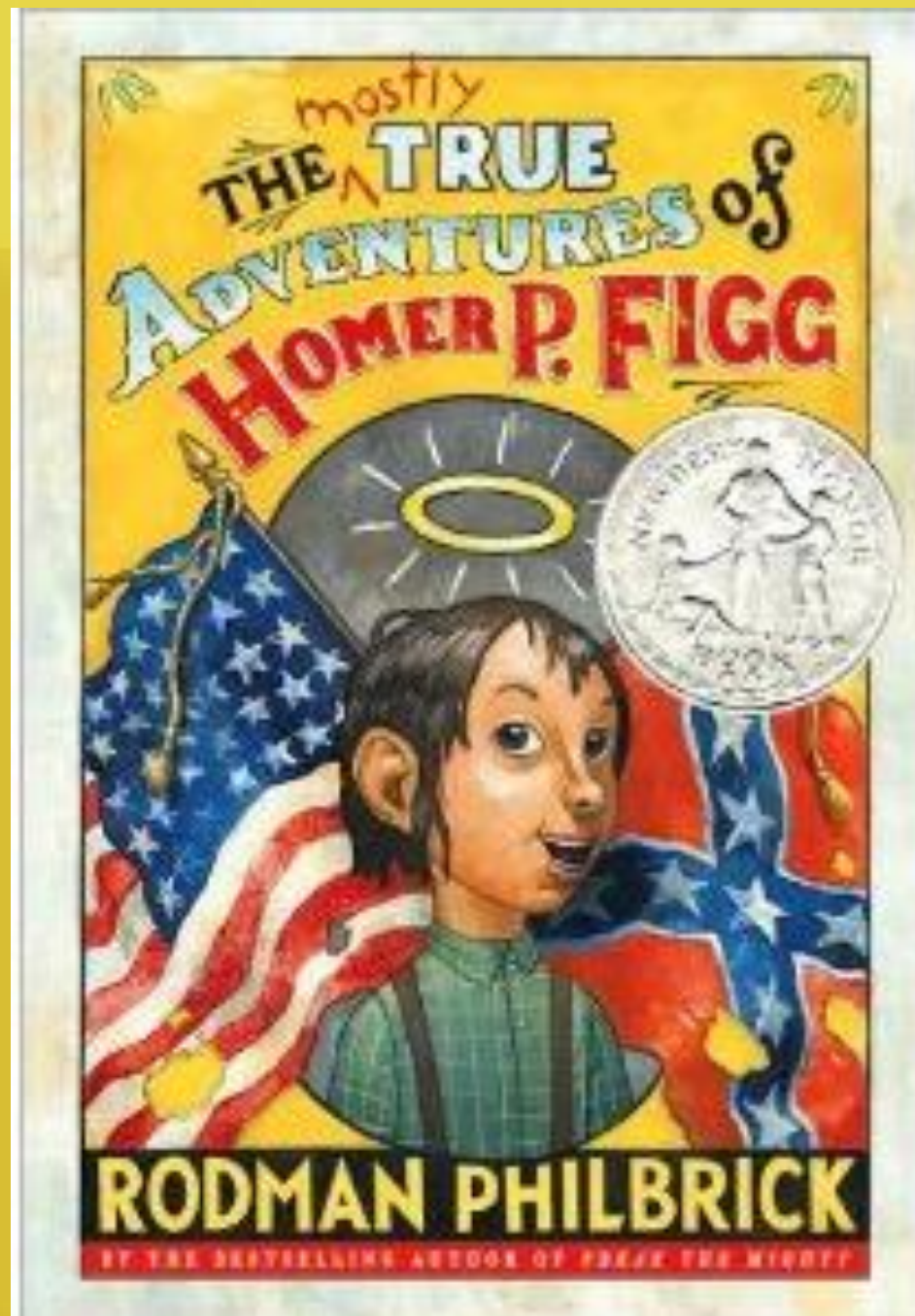
The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate

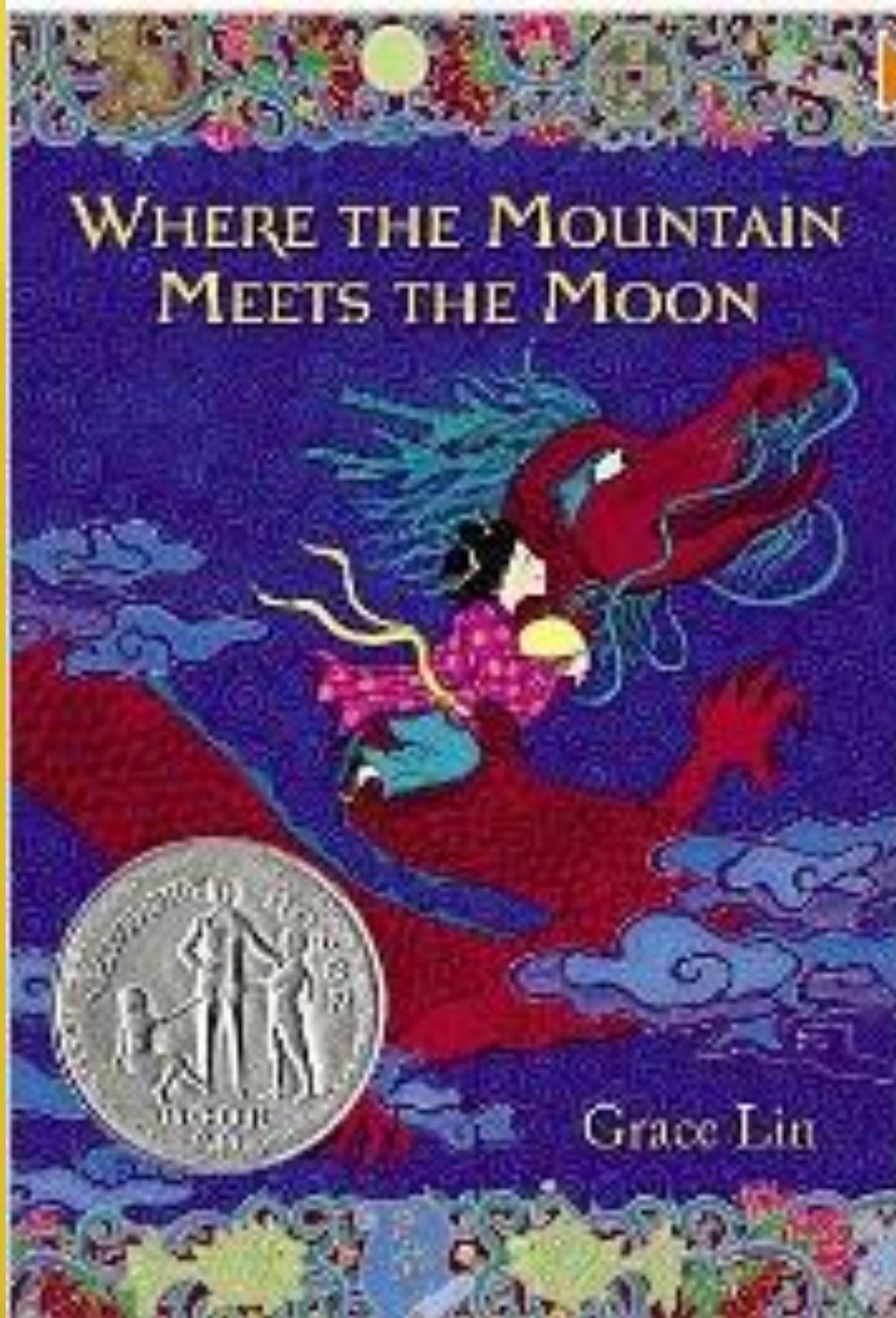


Teachers

- Model fluency
- Provide just-right books
- Pause-prompt-praise
- Book blessings
- Home-run books



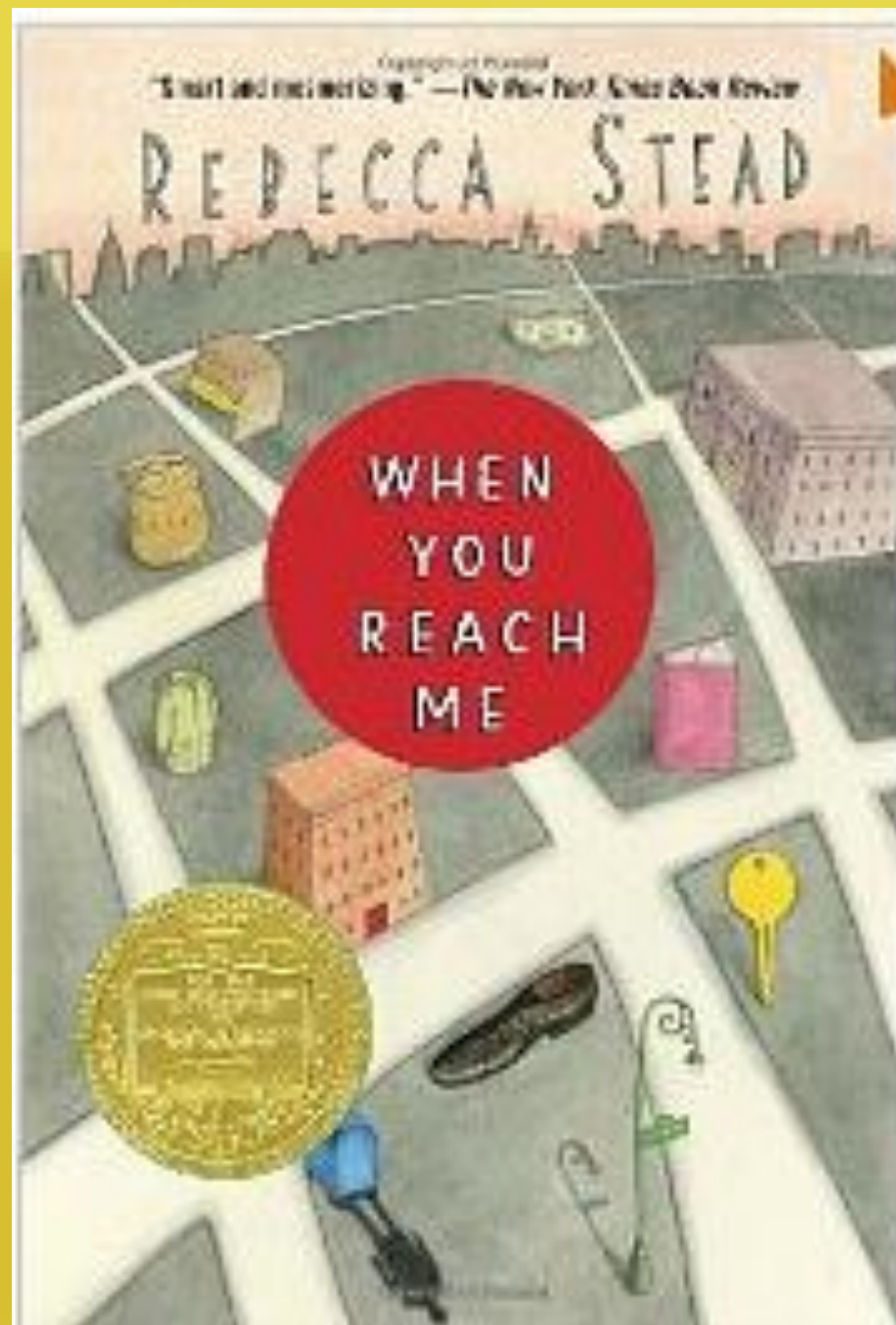




Repeated oral readings

- Paired/buddy reading
- Tape-assisted
- Computer-assisted
- Choral reading
- Readers' theatre



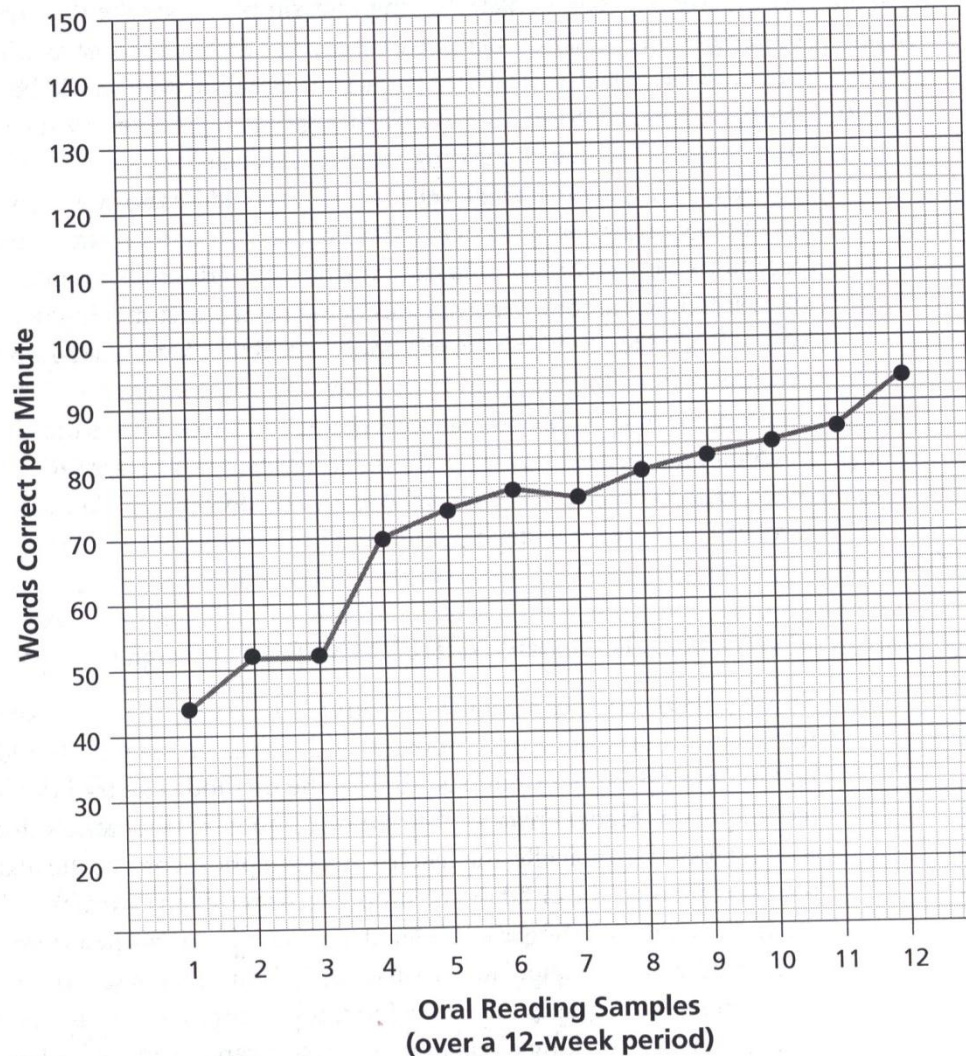


When You Reach Me



wpcm = words correct per minute

► Figure 4.1 Weekly oral reading wpcm data over a 12-week intervention



Fluency Assessment Running Record

Commonly Used Running Record Symbols

Correct response	✓	✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
Misread word	—	✓✓—✓✓✓✓✓
Omission	○	✓✓✓✓○✓✓
Insertion	^	✓✓✓✓✓^✓✓
Teacher prompt	T	✓✓✓T✓✓✓✓✓





NAEP Fluency Scale

- ***Level 4***

Large, meaningful phrase groups. Deviations do not detract from story. Preserves author's syntax. Expressive interpretation

- ***Level 3***

Smaller phrase groups (3-4 words). Phrasing appropriate and preserves author's syntax. Little expressive interpretation

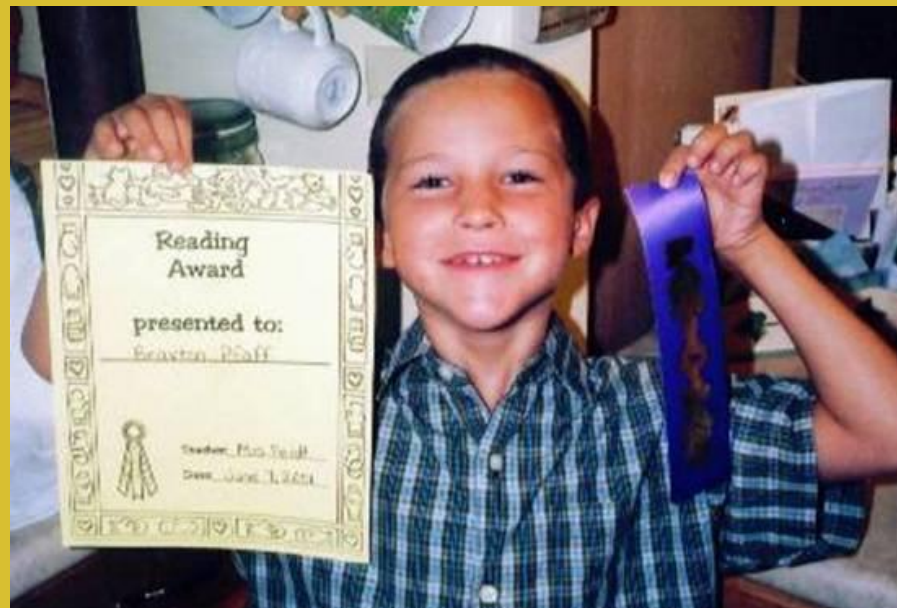
- ***Level 2***

Primarily two-word phrases. Word groupings awkward and unrelated to context.

- ***Level 1***

Primarily word-by-word. Infrequent phrases do not preserve meaningful syntax.

Successful readers are fluent readers



Two-voice reading

