



Reading 1 Overview

Bear Bags helps participants build skills in phonemic awareness, the understanding of the alphabetic principle (phonics), and decoding of one-syllable words. Participants must distinguish initial, medial, and final sounds in single-syllable words and distinguish long- and short-vowel sounds in orally stated single-syllable words.

Flying Fish helps participants build skills necessary for fluent reading, such as decoding and word identification. The participant is repeatedly presented with the 200 most frequently used words in written English, and is required to distinguish among them and identify them. This exercise improves phonological working memory by requiring the participant to remember a spoken word while attending to a series of written words, and selecting the word that matches. Flying Fish also provides practice in visual tracking to reinforce left-to-right reading patterns.

Magic Rabbit helps participants build skills in spelling, phonemic awareness, and sensitivity to letter-sound correspondences. The participant must distinguish initial, medial, and final sounds in single-syllable words as well as long- and short-vowel sounds in orally stated single-syllable words. Additionally, participants are asked to add, delete, or change target sounds to change words as well as spell three- and four-letter short-vowel words correctly.

Quail Mail helps participants build vocabulary knowledge and skills. The participant learns to rapidly access various dimensions of vocabulary, including multiple semantic attributes and other linguistic properties. Quail Mail also encourages the development of automatic word recognition, conceptual relationships, and a flexible approach to vocabulary.

Bedtime Beasties helps participants to build skills in sentence comprehension by requiring participants to complete sentences with missing words, letters, or punctuation. The participant builds vocabulary skills, knowledge of punctuation and capitalization rules, working memory, and awareness of sentence structure. Brief passages and individual sentences are used to provide context, including both fiction and non-fiction text. As participants gain mastery, sentence length increases and reading supports are reduced. At the most challenging level, both the stimulus sentences and the response words, must be read independently by the participant.

Buzz Fly helps participants build skills in passage comprehension, working memory, and answering multiple choice questions. No independent reading is required. Passages and questions are always presented aurally, as well as in written form, and the answer choices are presented as pictures. To help the participant develop comprehension skills for a variety of text types, both fiction and nonfiction passages are presented. To build sustained attention and working memory, the length of the text between questions increases as participants progress through the exercise. To support beginning readers in reading along, the aural presentation of the text is slowed; the rate increases as the participant advances further in the exercise. Line by line highlighting of the written text is synchronized to the aural presentation to help participants visually keep pace.