Reading fluency is the speed or rate of reading words in a text. A fluent reader is able to read words with automaticity, prosody (expression and effective use of punctuation), and accuracy. This is a measured skill that is linked with reading comprehension. A student's reading fluency is an initial indicator of his/her overall reading ability and an important factor in determining if there may be something interfering with expected reading development. Similar to taking your temperature to see if you have a fever or not.

Reading accuracy is also assessed to see how efficiently a student is able to use decoding strategies with grade level material. If a student has reading accuracy difficulty it may also indicate underlying issues that will affect reading comprehension. Here are some strategies and activities that may help to improve reading fluency (which improves reading comprehension) you can try at home:

- Short, daily reading of passages, articles on a topic of interest to your student, Scholastic magazines
  - Daily reading will allow more exposure to words in text, letter patterns and expand vocabulary
- Re-reading favorite story, books, passages for meaning, then reread for expression, then try rereading for deeper understanding
- Reader's Theater: reading plays and reading different character lines each reread.
- Listening to fluent readers engaged in a novel of choice.

Reading is a skill that can be entertaining and engaging and practicing on reading fluency with a strategy in mind may help students that struggle with this skill. The key is to read, read, read.

Websites

Early Childhood Letter Level Fluency

Elementary : Reading Rockets

Upper Elementary Snapshots