

Fluency Activity: Fluency Tic-Tac-Toe

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a. Introduction

- Fluency is reading text with speed, accuracy, and proper expression (Spafford & Grosser, 2010). This relates to the three aspects of fluency: RAP (rate, accuracy, prosody). An activity to help students develop in prosody, their expression, would be a game where they read sentences but are prompted to read them in varying expressions in order to practice and enhance their prosody.

b. Body

- For the activity the students are put in pairs or split into two groups to compete. The students are given a sheet with prompts to read sentences in different expressions. Each prompt will be in a separate box with nine boxes styled as a tic-tac-toe game, which is what the students will play. However, they will play reading in the tone or voice the box asks them to.
- The students/groups will take turns pulling a sentence from a bag. If they want to mark a specific box, they must read the sentence with the expression the box is prompting for. For example, if a student or group wants to mark the top left box, which says “Read with a whisper voice”, and they pull the sentence “I am tired”, then the student must whisper the sentence in order to mark the box.
- In order to win the game, just like tic-tac-toe, the students will have to get three boxes in a row.

c. Conclusion

- This activity is helpful because it provides students a way to practice reading with expression while also playing a fun, familiar game. The expressions they will have to read in will be fun so that they enjoy the game more and are engaged in participating while also learning. Reading with expression is an important skill for students to develop because it will help them understand the tone and emotion behind a story or sentence and will improve their fluency in reading.
- The game helps with fluency because it provides kids with different ways they can read a sentence. It helps them understand that when reading, they shouldn't have to read in a monotone voice. The game will show them to read with expression and even let them apply it to their reading. When the students play the game, they will realize that a sentence can carry different emotions and tones so it is up to them to determine how to read it correctly.
- This activity can help a student who struggles with prosody. Perhaps the student might read at a good speed and accurately as well. However, if the student reads with no expression, it might mean they do not completely understand what they are reading because they do not see the tone in the text. This game shows that when reading any text, a certain voice or tone can be used to read it and it will prompt them to read texts with the appropriate expression.

d. Reference

Spafford, C. A., & Grosser, G. S. (2010). Fluency defined. In *Education.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.education.com/reference/article/fluency-defined/>

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