

Graphing Oral Fluency



by Laura Candler

Graphing Oral Fluency includes student directions, an oral fluency chart, and a fluency rate line graph. The activity can be completed in a literacy center by students working in pairs or by an adult working with a student. Each student will need one copy of the Oral Fluency Chart and one of the Fluency Rate Line Graph and those items should be stored in a notebook or folder to be used again later. In addition to what's in this packet, you'll need leveled reading selections and a timer.

Before having your students complete this activity with a partner, introduce it to them in a whole group or small group setting. Be sure to explain that reading fluently doesn't mean reading as quickly as possible; fluent readers also read smoothly and with expression. Demonstrate how to calculate the Words Per Minute fluency rate and plot that number on the line graph. After they have repeated the activity several times on different days, show them how to connect the points to see how their fluency rate has changed.

Graphing Oral Fluency Directions

Materials:

- stopwatch or timer
- leveled reading selection
- Chat Fluency Chart
- Fluency Rate Line Graph

Before You Begin:

Decide who will be the first reader and who will be the first listener. You will switch roles before you finish this activity.

Timer Task:

- Tell the Reader when to begin reading and start the timer.
2. Listen to the Reader when he or she signals for help.
- Say "Stop" after 1 minute.

Reader Task:

- Record today's date, the selection title, and its reading level on your chart.
- Read the selection smoothly but with expression.
- When the Timer tells you to stop, evaluate yourself and record your Expressive Reading Score.
- Count the words in Expressive Reading.
- Record the number of words read in 1 minute. If any words missed include them in your skip count, reread, rerequest, or needs help pronouncing.)
- Subtract your WRM from your WRM Read. Record this number as your Words Per Minute (WPM) score for that trial.
- Switch roles and repeat steps 2 - 6.

Both:

- Keep reading until you both have read the selection.
- Find your average Words Per Minute for today and record it in the right column of the Oral Fluency Chart (Tally).
- Transfer the average WPM number to the graph direction line.
- Graph this a point on the graph direction line.
- If you have graphed all the points, connect them to observe any trends in the data.

Expressive Reading (ER) Rubric:

Score	Description
1	Read smoothly but lacks expression.
2	Read smoothly and with expression.
3	Read smoothly and with expression, but may lack intonation.
4	Read expressively and with intonation, but may lack variety.
5	Read expressively and with intonation, variety, and accuracy.

Fluency Rate Line Graph

Graph the average WPM for each day. Connect the points to see how your fluency rate has changed over time.



Graphing Oral Fluency Directions

Materials

- stopwatch or timer
- reading selection
- Oral Fluency Chart
- Fluency Rate Line Graph



Before You Begin

Decide who will be the first Reader and who will be the first Timer. You will switch roles twice before you finish this activity.

Timer Tasks

1. Tell the Reader when to begin reading and start the timer.
2. Don't help the reader unless he or she signals for help.
3. Say "Stop" after 1 minute.

Reader Tasks

1. Record today's date, the selection title, and its reading level on your chart.
2. Read the selection aloud (quietly but with expression).
3. When the Timer tells you to stop, evaluate and record your Expressive Reading score (see Expressive Reading Rubric).
4. Count the words you read in 1 minute and record under # of Words Read.
5. Record the number of words you missed, if any. (Words missed include words you skipped, misread, mispronounced, or needed help pronouncing.)
6. Subtract your Words Missed from your Words Read. Record this number as your Words Per Minute (WPM) score for that trial.
7. Switch roles and repeat steps 2 - 6.

Both

1. Keep switching roles until you both have read the selection twice.
2. Find your average Words Per Minute for today and record this number in the far right column of the Oral Fluency Chart. (To find the average, add the WPM numbers and divide by 2)
3. Transfer the average WPM number to the chart under the Fluency Rate Line Graph. Plot a point on the graph directly above that number to represent your Words Per Minute rate for today.
4. If you have graphed your fluency on a previous day, connect the points and observe any trends in the data.

Oral Fluency Chart for



Date	Selection Title and Reading Level	Reading Trial	ER* Score	# of Words Read	# of Words Missed	Words Per Minute (WPM)	Average WPM
		1st					
		2nd					
		1st					
		2nd					
		1st					
		2nd					
		1st					
		2nd					
		1st					
		2nd					

*Expressive Reading (ER) Rubric

1	2	3	4	5
Reads very slowly or very quickly. Does not pay attention to punctuation. Reads in a monotone voice (without any expression).	Reads a little too slowly or a little too quickly. May sound choppy, with pauses or errors. Some attention is given to punctuation.	Sounds like natural language, but has some chopiness. Usually pays attention to punctuation. Errors are self-corrected quickly and smoothly.	Reads expressively throughout most of text. Words flow smoothly and naturally, and meaning is clear.	Reads expressively and enthusiasm throughout the entire text. Reader varies expression to match meaning of text.

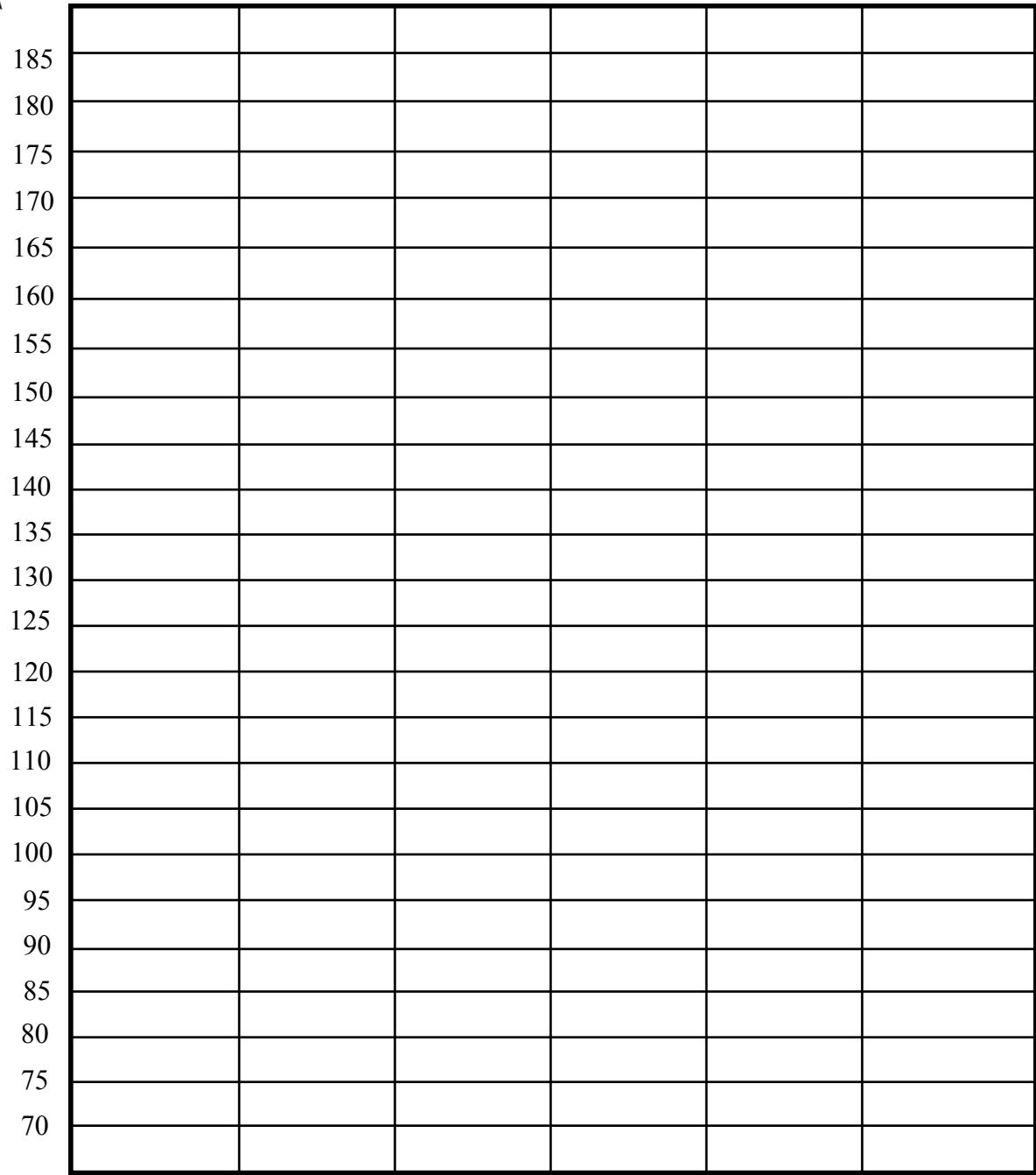
Name _____



Fluency Rate Line Graph

Average Words Per Minute

185
180
175
170
165
160
155
150
145
140
135
130
125
120
115
110
105
100
95
90
85
80
75
70

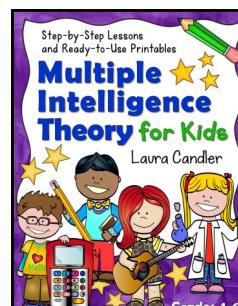
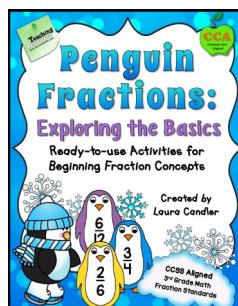
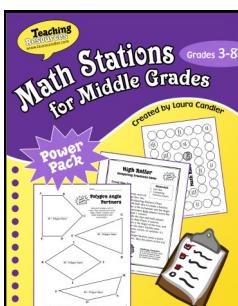
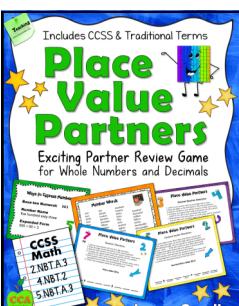
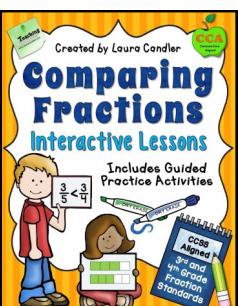
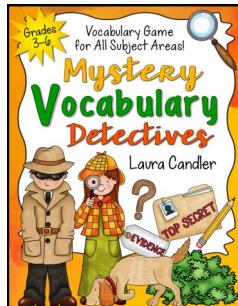
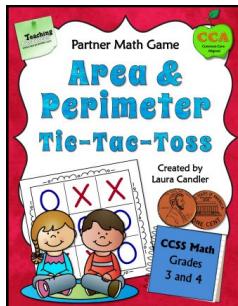
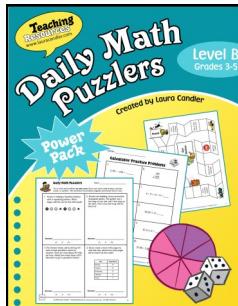
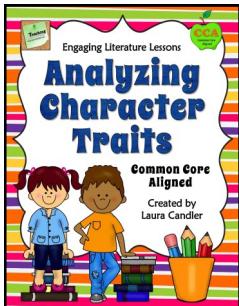
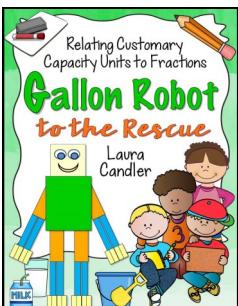
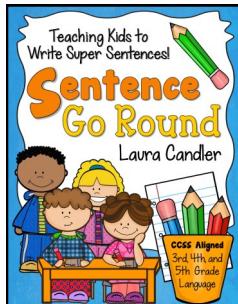
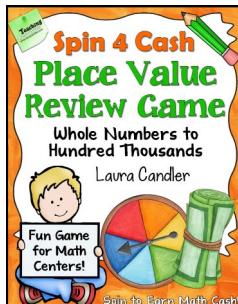
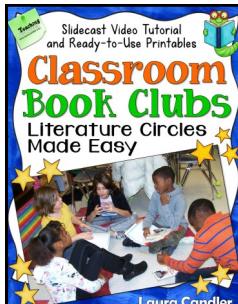
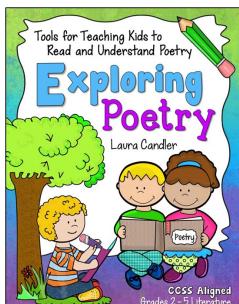
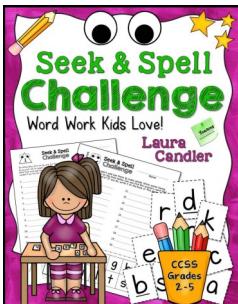


Date →

WPM →

Level →

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