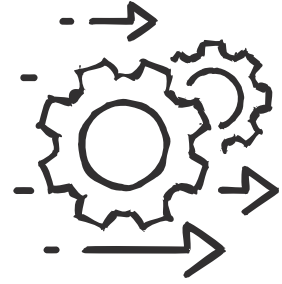


Name:

## Getting fluent

More practice helps!



Suppose your reading rate is not that fast.

You may miss some words as you read.

When you read out loud, it may not sound smooth.

### How can your reading improve? Practicing with a partner helps!

- The first time you read a passage out loud is a “cold read.”
- In a cold read, the words and ideas are still new to you.
- You may stumble or slow down.

### What happens after the cold read?

- You practice the passage different ways.
- Then you do a “warm read.”
- The warm read should be smoother and faster.

# Reading in phrases

When you read fluently, you read in phrases.

Phrases are groups of words that make sense together.

Here is a sentence from the passage, “Zero Tolerance.”

“Look, I made a gun!” shouted Josh.

If you read this sentence without good phrasing, it might sound like this:

Look . . . I . . . made . . . a . . . gun . . . shouted . . . Josh.

With good phrasing, you pause between groups of words. It sounds like this:

“Look . . . I made a gun!” . . . shouted Josh.

When you read in phrases, it sounds like talking.

## Day One

# Zero Tolerance

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

“Look, / I made a gun!” / shouted Josh. // Second grader Josh / was eating breakfast at school. // He bit his Pop Tart / into the shape of a gun. // He pretended to threaten his classmates / with his half-eaten Pop Tart. // Josh was suspended for two days. //

Fifteen-year-old Dontadrian / posed for a picture / holding up his thumb and two fingers. // He says he was showing the number three. // He wore number three on his football jersey. // His assistant principal / said he was making a gang sign. // Dontadrian was suspended for five months. //

Both boys were suspended / because of “zero tolerance” policies. // Schools have to give harsh punishments / for certain behaviors. // Threatening with a gun / means suspension or expulsion. // Zero tolerance policies / are supposed to protect students / from school violence. // But do they hurt more than they help? //

Boys get suspended four times as often as girls. // Boys do misbehave more often. // But they also face harsher punishments than girls, / even for the same behaviors. // There is a racial gap, / too. // Black students are twice as likely to be suspended / as White students. // Suspension has harmful outcomes. // Students who are suspended / are more likely to drop out of school. //

Some schools want to cut down / the number of suspensions. // But can teachers manage students’ behavior / without suspending some students? // One teacher said, / “We can’t go from zero tolerance to zero discipline.” //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.