Fluent readers can decode with few errors and can understand text quickly. They recognize most words and read them with automaticity. Fluent readers also see and read words in groups or chunks, instead of reading word by word. To become fluent, children need many opportunities to hear good readers reading aloud. The must be able to recognize most of the words they read so they don’t have to stop to decode, and they need lots of practice reading aloud and rereading familiar text. When fluent readers read orally, they sound natural, as if they are speaking, and they read with good expression and comprehension.

**Fluency**

Below are two fun activities to help improve student’s fluency.

1. **I Can Read** – Students use pictures and words cut out of magazines and newspapers to create their own *I Can Read* books. Have your child choose eight or ten words he can read fluently. Glue each word and a matching picture, either cut out or drawn by the child, on a separate piece of paper. Bind the pages together into a book any way you like. Students can practice reading these by themselves, with a buddy, a parent, or a grandparent.
2. **Songs and Rhymes** – Children enjoy silly songs, chants and jump-rope rhymes and can usually repeat them fluently. Capitalize on this skill by using Miss Mary Mack, Tony Chestnut, My Aunt Came Back and other old favorites for fun fluency practice. Remind your child to use the same fluent voice when he reads.

Mrs. Shauna Endress, Title I Reading