Graphing Oral Fluency is an activity I created for my own 5th grade classroom. This packet consists of student directions, materials organization labels, 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. You can store the materials in a large plastic bag or container and place one of the labels on the packet for easy reference.

Before asking students to complete this activity with a partner, introduce it to your students in a whole group or small group setting following the directions on page 3. Be sure to explain that reading fluently doesn’t mean reading as quickly as possible; fluent readers also read smoothly and with expression.

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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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Selection Title and Reading Level</th>
<th>Reading Trial</th>
<th>ER* Score</th>
<th># of Words Read</th>
<th># of Words Missed</th>
<th>Words Per Minute (WPM)</th>
<th>Average WPM</th>
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*Expressive Reading (ER) Rubric

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