



When you're reading a book for pleasure or for information, chances are you will come to an unfamiliar word or two. You probably look closely at the letters and listen carefully to the sounds, saying the word slowly, because it is second nature to you as a reader to read accurately. Accuracy is not second nature to beginning readers. It is something that needs to be taught using a variety of strategies.

Your child has been introduced to the accuracy strategy ***Use Meaning and Context to Confirm***. When readers come to a word they don't know, it's important to slow them down and teach them to check for meaning. Readers must constantly think and monitor meaning, or confirm. Does what they read make sense?

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD WITH THIS STRATEGY AT HOME?

1. Listen to your child read. When they come to a word they're unsure of, remind them to ask three questions.
 - Does the word you are reading look right? Look at the letters (graphemes).
 - Does the word you are reading sound right? Listen to the sounds the letters and letter combinations make (phonemes).
 - Does it make sense? Use meaning and context to confirm (comprehension).
2. Break down the process:
 - Have them stop reading when meaning breaks down.
 - Tell them to look at the letters and say the sounds or look for word parts within words.
 - Remind them to ask, "Does it makes sense?"
3. To help your child become aware of using this strategy, give them a piece of paper and tell them to make a tally mark each time they check if what they are reading makes sense. This will serve as a physical reminder for them to continue checking for meaning.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AT HOME!