Echo Reading

Introduction

In echo reading, the learner echoes or imitates a skilled reader. Echoing a skilled reader helps learners:

- gain confidence in reading aloud;
- learn sight words;
- read material that might be too difficult for them to read alone, and
- practice proper phrasing and expression.

Steps

1. Read a sentence or phrase to the learner.
2. Read with fluency and expression.
3. Have the learner track (point to the words in the book) while reading.
4. Have the learner read the same section after you finish.

Alternatives

1. Have the learner and teacher alternate sections.
2. Make a tape of what the skilled reader reads and leave blank spaces for the learner to repeat the utterances. Have the learner repeat the tape utterance in the time provided.

Advantages:

- Echo reading directly involves the child in the reading experience.
- Echo reading helps children understand that words in the book are the same words out loud when read.
- Echo reading enables a child who has difficulty reading to experience what it is like to read a story.
Tips

- Use a predictable or pattern book.
- Use a cue word or phrase such as, “Say it after I do” or “It's your turn” until the child understands what to do.
- Start by asking the child to repeat a word or a short phrase. Gradually increase the number of words you want the child to echo.
- If the child does not say the phrase back correctly, just repeat the correct phrase. Correcting the child may prevent him/her from wanting to participate.

http://wilearns.state.wi.us/apps/
http://www.familyschool.com/teachtips/Oralreadingtips.html