



## QuickReads Technology Tutorial Guide: The Instructional Routine

### What Is QuickReads Technology?

QuickReads is a research-based, classroom-validated program to increase fluency, build vocabulary, and improve comprehension. QuickReads passages are short, high-interest, non-fiction texts social studies and science topics designed to be read meaningfully in one minute.

QuickReads Technology is a student's personal reading partner delivering the QuickReads content and guiding students through the validated instructional routine while providing instant feedback and monitoring progress.

### Current Version

The current version of QuickReads Technology is Version 3. The most patch release of Version 3 includes a voice customization process to provide improved speech recognition when listening to students read.

### Program Icons

After you install QuickReads Technology you will see two icons on your desktop. The square icon provides access to the administration tool, and the round icon to the QuickReads program.



QuickReads Administration



QuickReads

### Getting Started

Before using QuickReads, be sure you have created users. If you have not yet created users, be sure to view the In-Service On Demand Tutorial on QuickReads Technology: Set Up to learn how to create teacher and student users in the QuickReads Administration tool.

In addition to having the software installed and users created, you will need to have a library content CD of any level available. You do not need a library content CD if you are using the Network Edition. You also need the microphone headset attached to the computer with the pink plug in the microphone jack and the orange plug in the headset jack. If you are using a Macintosh computer, be sure you attach the headset directly to the supplied USB adapter and attach the USB adapters two connectors to the computer following the directions supplied with the USB adapter.

## Sign In

After double-clicking the round *QuickReads* icon, click on your student name, type in your password\*, and click **OK**. You will now be in the *QuickReads* library.

\*If you did not assign a password for your student user, you will click on your name and then click **OK**.

## Passage Selection

All three books of content are available in the library. Each book has six topics. Each topic has five connected passages.

For those who have previously used the program, they will begin working where they left off during the previous session. When first beginning on a level, you will need to select a topic by clicking on the topic title and then selecting a passage by clicking on a passage title. After previewing the illustration and listening to the caption for that passage, click on the **Read It Now** button to go to the passage screen.

## Overview of the Instructional Routine

Completing the instructional routine for one passage should take about 15 minutes to complete after signing in. The instructional routine is comprised of three reads of a passage. This outline provides an overview of tasks to be completed during each of the three reads. These activities are listed on the Laminated Instruction Card, which is provided with the product.

- First Read
  - Word Help
  - Read and Record
  - Play Back and How Am I Doing?
- Second Read
  - Read To Me
  - Think – What does the author want me to remember?
- Third Read
  - Read and Record
  - Play Back and How Am I Doing?
  - Review Questions

## The First Read

The First Read begins with Word Help; notice that the **Word Help** button is red, which designates the active button. During the First Read, engage your background knowledge and think about what you know about the topic. Preview the text looking for new and challenging words. Any word can be clicked on to hear the pronunciation. The underlined words link to the glossary which provides the word's pronunciation, definition, and provides the word in a context sentence. Spanish Language support is also available from the **Español** button if that option has been enabled.

Next, click the **Read and Record** button and complete the quick microphone check. Note that you will be required to complete a voice customization process the first time you use the software. This creates a unique voice profile which improves speech recognition. After completing the microphone check, click Read and Record again to begin recording your reading. The computer will provide interventions for words you do not know. The computer will also

provide an intervention if it does not hear you clearly pronounce words as you read.

Immediate feedback is available once completing your recording by clicking **Play Back** to listen to yourself read and **How Am I Doing** to check for accuracy. The PDF graphic organizers can also be printed from the library content CD or the Network Manager for Network Edition users.

## The Second Read

The Second Read is the modeled read. Click the **Read to Me** button to listen to an English speaker reading the passage at the words per minute goal rate. After listening to the entire passage, think about what the author wants you to remember about the topic.

## The Third Read

The Third Read is the timed read. Click the **Read and Record** button to record reading the passage again.

Following the Third Read, click the **Now** button to answer the review questions. If you decide to answer the questions later, you must read and record the passage again to gain access to the review questions. The review questions appear in a pop up window allowing you to view and refer to the passage text. You must select answers until you select the correct response, but you are scored on your initial response. We recommend that you read the fifth passage in each topic last to more accurately reflect your comprehension of the entire topic since it contains additional **Connect Your Ideas** questions.

## The Progress Report

After you complete the review questions, your progress report will appear showing your reading rate and accuracy. You may view your progress report for a passage at any time by clicking on **Options** in the menu bar and selecting **Progress Report**.

A mastery star is awarded when the passage is read at or above the goal rate AND a you receive 100% on the review questions. The progress report also displays the words you clicked on during **Word Help**. The asterisk indicates that Spanish Language support was accessed for that word. There are also two boxes that display challenging words during the first read of the passage and during the most recent reading of the passage.

## Additional Readings

There is no limit to the number of times you may reread the passage or listen to a passage. **Play Back** will play the most recent recording of any specific passage even if the entire passage was not recorded. For those using the Network Edition, however, you have access to the data and recordings of every passage via the Network Manager.

## Selecting the Next Passage or Sign Out

Now that you have completed the instructional routine, you can return to the library and select the next passage in the topic or sign out. In the default Choose-A-Topic Mode, you must complete the full instructional routine for all passages in the topic before moving on to a new topic.