



### Myth:

Children's reading fluency isn't as important as their comprehension.

### Fact:

Children's reading fluency is key to their ability to comprehend text and become highly skilled readers. Fluency is a key part of "Scarborough's Reading Rope" but it is not simply how fast children can read text. Readers must attain fluency at each strand of the rope to progress and achieve overall text fluency. Without achieving text fluency, children will be more labored, slower readers than necessary, requiring more critical thinking to comprehend text. When we ignore the importance of fluency, we deny children of the developmental skills necessary to achieve reading skills. Again, fluency is not how quickly children can read text. Speed is not fluency. Instead, fluency is when a reader can take all the strands of the rope and effortlessly pull them together to read and understand text.