

Improving Reading Results

All about Easyread: notes from an English teacher and teaching consultant, Lynda Kempsey

As a parent of a ten-year-old who has reading difficulties and an English teacher of 28 years, I came across DM Easyread in an effort to help my son as he fell behind others at school, in spite of being verbally bright and curious about his learning. As a parent, I now see my son's reading weaknesses being addressed in these fifteen minute online lessons, which are tailored to his needs. It is really obvious that the lessons are based on thorough research and neurological approaches as he works his way through the games and reading activities.



He is currently on Lesson 142. I have told him he can stop the course now that his reading is much improved, but he said he would miss it. This is a boy whose shoulders would droop at the mere mention of books and reading - and that's quite a shock to mum when she is an English teacher!

The system takes readers right back to the start, using images called Trainertext to represent sounds. Gradually the Trainertext is taken away as decoding skills and fluency improve - amongst other things. He reads more fluently now and also writes more in a given time.

On their website, you can read about, and listen to, the eight main causes of reading difficulty. **Having gone through the facilitator training modules, I can truthfully say I learned more in two hours than in nearly three decades worth of CPD as an English teacher!**

DM EASYREAD FIXES:

1

SKIPPING WORDS

Skip words/lines of text, read single words better than a sentence, are inconsistent from day to day, and constantly gaze around the room instead of focusing

2

GUESSING WORDS

Guess short, easy words, lower comprehension accuracy than expected, atrocious spelling in free writing though spelling test performance ok

3

DECODING/BLENDING

Great decoding difficulty, mix up sounds when blending words together, poor fluency, possible general speech issues in past or short-term memory issues

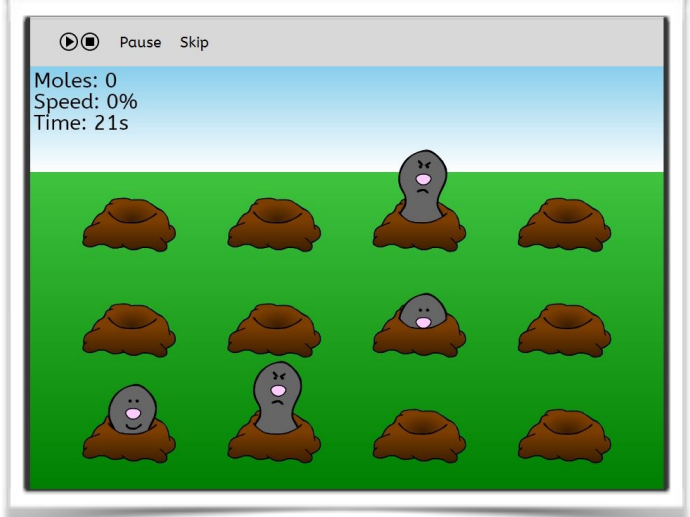
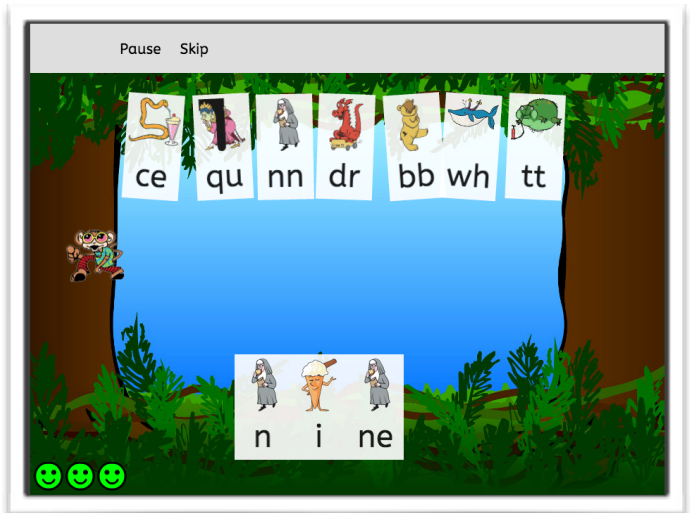
DM Easyread 6-11 was created to deal with all eight main causes of reading difficulty, but I thought I would mention the three patterns on the previous page, as they are evident in 80% of children who struggle with their reading: skipping words, guessing words, and decoding/blending issues. You will have seen those in your students. So the essential question is: what causes each pattern and what can be done about it?

The DM team have been researching these patterns for eight years and have developed quite simple, cost-effective and enjoyable solutions to all of them.

For instance, the cause of the difficulty in pattern 1 is a tracking issue connected to the coordination of the eyes. A simple set of short exercises each day can see a major improvement in a week or two. If it is left untreated, these children will probably struggle with reading their whole lives, which means they will struggle with learning and accessing the curriculum for the whole of their school life.

There is only one thing better than a classroom full of competent readers: being recognised for addressing the weaknesses that some of those readers had when you first met them.

We all know that the playing field is far from level when it comes to accessing curriculum. **Hand on heart, can you say that your intervention strategies address the reading difficulties faced by all of your pupils?**



DOES DM EASYREAD HAVE THE RESEARCH TO PROVE IT?

An independent randomized control trial of Easyread was run by the Open University in several schools across London from 2011-2013.

Results showed that children who were on average 2 years behind in reading age caught up to the national standard within 120 lessons. That's an average of 2 years reading age in around 6 months of daily lessons.

GET A FREE PILOT TRIAL

Visit <http://dm-ed.com/reading-help/6-11-school/>

or call the friendly DM team:

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