

Software Quick Guide Speed Reader from Davidson

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Speed Reader helps learners become faster readers. It works on improving basic eye movement while reading, as well as providing timed and paced reading options.

Step 1: Students should sign in if they and the teacher want a record of their progress. Otherwise, clicking on Visitor will start the program.

Step 2: It's enjoyable and helpful for students to begin with a few minutes of Reading Warm-Ups. These are character and word recognition exercises that encourage focusing on the middle of the page. Students can start with letters and progress to words. This should only be done for the first few minutes.

Step 3: Students can alternate between activities that improve basic eye movement and those that work on faster-paced reading. In either event, teachers should help students select a reading passage that is at the appropriate difficulty level and that is of interest.

- The Eye Movement section groups words in a reading, encouraging the eyes to focus on more than one word at a time. Newspaper Reading puts the text into two columns, improving the use of peripheral vision as learners scan down the column rather than across the line of text.
- Before students try a Paced Reading, they should do a Timed Reading to see how fast they currently read. They can take their speed from the Timed Reading and apply it to the Paced Reading. With a familiar topic or reading, the Paced Reading should be set slightly faster than the current reading speed.

Teacher Tools: Teachers can add their own readings with comprehension questions by selecting Instructor Mode from the initial Registration Screen.

*For more information about using Speed Reader, see Chris Freeman's page at http://www.nvcc.edu/home/cfreeman/Ultimate%20Speed%20Reader_files/frame.htm or Deborah Healey's page at <http://oregonstate.edu/dept/eli/egypt/speedreader.html>.
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