

## Phrase-cued text passages

*Building Fluency* by Wiley Blevins

Fluent readers have the ability to group words together in meaningful units—by chunking and phrasing the text. Meaning often lies in a text’s phrases and not in individual words, so chunking text aids in comprehension.

### **How to create phrase-cued text passages:**

1. Select a passage on the child’s instructional reading level (approximately 50-250 words, depending on grade level).
2. Make a copy of the passage.
3. Mark the passage with a slash (/) at the end of each phrase break, and a double slash (//) at the end of a sentence.

For example: *During the winter / I like / to play / in the snow.//  
I like / to make / snowballs / and have / snowball fights /  
with my brother. // I also like / to make /snowmen.//  
But / my favorite thing / of all / is making / snow angels.//*

### **How to use phrase-cued text passages:**

Make two copies of the selected text passage, one marked with natural phrase boundaries, and the other one unmarked.