HELPING STRUGGLING READERS

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In our everyday classroom scenario, we, as teachers, often encounter learners who have problems with regards to their reading abilities. These learners are referred to as struggling readers who often get low grades on their subjects because of this problem..... a problem which is needed to be addressed well for their benefit.

As an intermediate teacher, it is of great challenge to me to deal with such slow readers and make them read faster with comprehension. Using your remedial class hours and employing different techniques and strategies will help you a lot in making them read. Inductive method of teaching reading skills which involve teaching from the simple to complex skills in reading will also be of great help.

First, let them recognize the introductory sounds. Teach them the correct way of pronouncing a sound. Next, exposed them to the combination of sounds which includes vowel and consonant combination. After this, teach them the different advanced sounds. After mastering these, you can now use different supplementary exercises which will cover all the sounds that you had previously taught them. A review drill on what sounds they had learned on the last remedial session should be done before the start of new exercises.

Having a copy of all your remedial drills on reading and binding them will be useful. Think of your resources on how you can let your pupils have their own copy of it. Unlike the traditional chart method, they can take this copy to their home wherein they can practice during their vacant time. There are also reading exercises which can be downloaded from the internet. You can download these video materials and use them on your remedial reading classes to add up to their interest. Asking their parents’ help and
support is also a must. Make them realize that reading is important for their children’s scholastic achievement.

Having all the materials needed is not enough. The innate interest and willingness to learn how to read should come within themselves. It is your responsibility as a teacher to motivate them. If they will be properly motivated, nothing is impossible.

It takes a lot of patience, time, effort and dedication but reaping the results of making your struggling readers be the best reader they can be is a big relief, thus making you proud as their teacher.

References:

http://athome.readinghorizons.com/research/struggling-reader-101