



## **Reading - To, With, and By**

A skilled reader will read many words in each block. He/she will only dwell on each block for an instant, and will then move on. Only rarely will the reader's eyes skip back to a previous block of words. This reduces the amount of work that the reader's eyes have to do. It also increases the volume of information that can be examined in a period of time. A slower reader will become bogged down, spending a lot of time reading small blocks or words. He/she will skip back often, losing the flow and structure of the text and overall understanding of the subject. This irregular eye movement will make reading tiring. Slower readers tend to dislike reading, and may find it harder to concentrate and understand written information. A common mistake that adults make is to insist that a child read a whole book. It is far better to help a child re-read a short section to excellence. A short section is one or two pages from an easy book or one paragraph from a higher level book. If the section is on the correct readability level for a child, he/she should make no more than one or two mistakes per twenty words. Any more than that will cause him/her frustration and will actually block his/her reading progress. Do not make him/her read it cold turkey either or they will sound like a car starting up on a winter morning - bumpy and hesitant. We do not want children to practise bumpy & hesitant reading. That is why we should do the following:

### **To, With, and By**

1. Read the short section to him/her twice.
2. Read the same section with him/her twice.
3. Finally, ask him/her to read it by themselves twice.