

Take a deep breath...

The purpose of this activity is to experience the effect of low decoding skills in students on the comprehension of text. The leading question is 'Was reading comprehension compromised by lack of fluency with decoding?'

Read the following passage aloud starting from the bottom of the passage reading backwards. Do your best reading.

.nworb emoceb seye eht ,detisoped si tnmegip
elbaredisnoc fI .roloc evitinifed sti semussa siri eht
,ecafrus roiretna eht no raeppa ot snigeb tnmegip eht
sA .roloc yarg-etals ro hsiulb a fo tceffe eht gnivig
yllausu ,eussit tneculsnart eht hguorht swohs reyal
tnmegip roiretsop ehT .siri eht fo ecafrus roiretna eht
no tnmegip on ro elttil si ereht htrib tA

- 1 At birth, eye color comes from what layer of the eye? _____
- 2 When does the eye show its definitive color? _____
- 3 What needs to be in place for eyes to become brown? _____

The Point:

Too much concentration on decoding, even when you know the words, takes 'brain power' and deters the comprehension of the passage. Therefore, fluency and automatic recognition of words is critical to comprehension.