

Dear Families,

Learning about reading will be an important goal for your child this year. We will work on this each day in school, but you have an important role to play at home, too!

Welcome to the Fast Start program! Fast Start is a set of short poems and word play activities for you and your child to do together. Each week a new poem and activity page will be sent home.

This is the Fast Start Routine:

1. Read to your child.
2. Read with your child.
3. Listen to your child read (or recite).
4. Do an activity.

Together we will help your child become a strong and successful reader!

What is Fast Start?

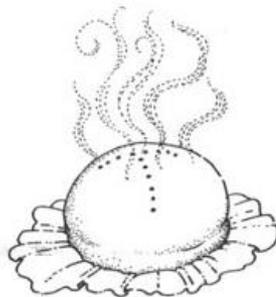
Fast Start is a simple, engaging way for teachers to involve families in their children's initial steps toward becoming literate. It's an at-home, parent-child reading routine for grades Pre-K-2, designed to improve childrens' early literacy, word recognition, comprehension, and fluency abilities.

Padak, Nancy & Rasinski, Timothy. (2005). *Fast Start for Early Readers*. Scholastic.

Padak, Nancy & Rasinski, Timothy. (2008). *Fast Start Getting Ready to Read*. Scholastic.

Pat-a-Cake

**Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake,
Baker's man,
Bake me a cake
As fast as you can.
Pat it and prick it
And mark it with a T.
Put it in the oven
For Tommy and me.**



★ Looking at Words and Letters

- 1. Ask your child how many lines are in the poem. Invite him or her to number the lines.
- 2. Ask, *Which is the longest line? How many words does it have?*
- 3. Ask your child to find uppercase B. Say, *Which word is Baker? Circle it. Which word is "Bake"? Underline it.*
- 4. Have your child point to the first and last word in the poem, and then count all the words.

★ Playing With Sounds

- 1. Say, *I'll say two words. You tell me if they rhyme:*

man, can

can, cake

cake, bake

- 2. Say, *Listen while I stretch out the sounds in these words. You tell me the words:*

p . . . aaa . . . t (pat)

m . . . aaa . . . nnn (man)

b . . . aay . . . k (bake)

- 3. Say, *I'll say two words. You tell me if they start the same way:*

man, mark

cake, bake

pat, put

★ Beginning to Read

- 1. Write the following words on index cards or small slips of paper. Ask your child to sort them into two groups: long "a" words and short "a" words.
pat, man, fast, and (short "a") cake, bake, baker's (long "a")
- 2. Ask your child to circle the words in the poem that start with the sound "b." Repeat with "p."
- 3. Write the word *man* on a sheet of paper. Ask your child to name other words that rhyme with *man* (*Ann, ban, can, Dan, fan, pan, ran, tan*). Together, write these new words.
- 4. Together, choose two or three words from the poem. Add them to your word wall and practice these words daily. Or, add them to your child's word bank (a collection of words on cards, one word per card).

Teacher Talks: Tim Rasinski on Emergent Literacy



Nationally-renowned fluency expert Timothy Rasinski discusses ways to help young children develop their reading fluency, word recognition, and overall comprehension.

Timothy Rasinski

Home

Products

Blog

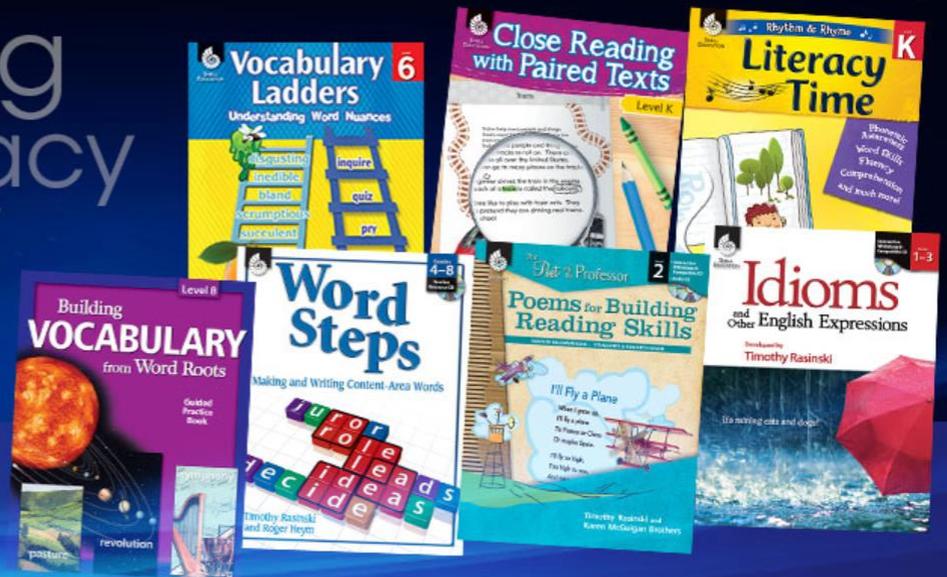
Resources

References



Timothy Rasinski, Ph.D.
Professor of Reading Education
Reading and Writing Center
Kent State University

reading
literacy
fluency



Exciting Fast Start News

The Journal of Educational Research published an article this year that included Fast Start data from K.R. Hanchey!

Mrs. Crosby, a Reading Interventionist Teacher at K.R. Hanchey, organized the collection of the Fast Start data & contributed to the article.

The article is entitled "A Three Year Study of a School-Based Parental Involvement Program in Early Literacy".

The authors of the article are Sue Crosby, Nancy Padak, Timothy Rasinski, Nancy Padak and Kasim Yildirim.

VOLUME 40 NUMBER 1

2012

The Journal of Educational Research

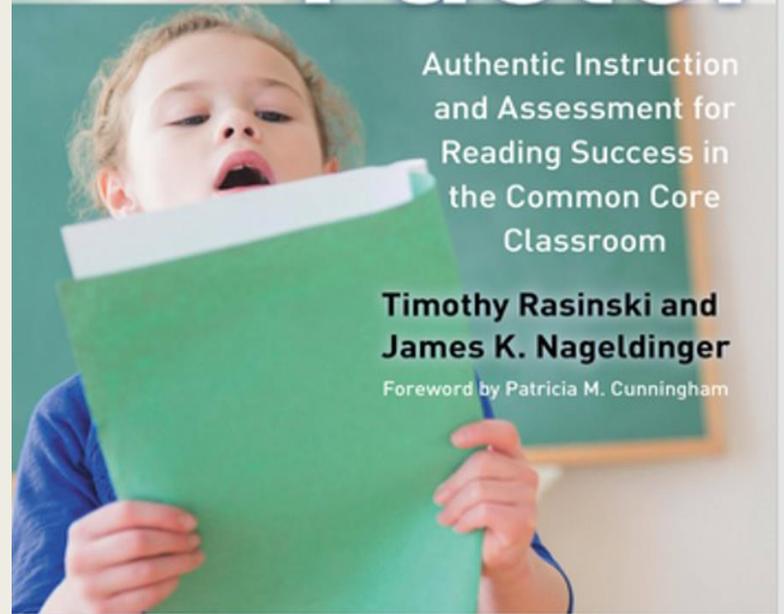
- ▶ **Multisensory Classroom and Student Learning: Experiences and Effect in Physical Education**
John G. Williams, Scott G. Roberts, William H. Holt, and
Tara C. Smith
- ▶ **Individualized Direct Therapy: Impacts on Academic and Emotional Difficulties**
John Cook and Robert J. Geary
- ▶ **Comparing Two Methods of Writing Instruction: Effect on Kindergarten Students' Writing Skills**
Teresa O'Hara Jones, W. Ray Reynolds, and James H. Hoyle
- ▶ **Teacher Stress: The Mediating Role of Collective Efficacy**
Michael A. Johnson
- ▶ **Summarizing Prior Knowledge Through Metacognitive Strategies: An Example in Chemistry Instruction**
Michael J. Shavelle and Paul H. Kirschner
- ▶ **Book Reviews**

The Fluency Factor

Authentic Instruction
and Assessment for
Reading Success in
the Common Core
Classroom

**Timothy Rasinski and
James K. Nageldinger**

Foreword by Patricia M. Cunningham



Common Core State Standards in Literacy Series



December 2013

Beauregard Parish school uses rhymes to help with literacy



Mrs. Sue Crosby, a Reading Interventionist Teacher at K.R. Hanchey is once again a published author! She co-authored the article "Family Involvement in Reading What Parents and Caregivers Think", with Fast Start creator, Timothy Rasinski, Janis McTeer & William Rupley.

Congratulations



SCHOLASTIC GRADES K-2

FAST START for Early Readers

A Research-Based, Send-Home Literacy Program With 60 Reproducible Poems and Activities That Ensures Reading Success for Every Child

by Nancy Podak, Ed.D. & Timothy Rasinski, Ph.D.

Includes:

- 60 Poems & Companion Activities
- 30 Fun Start Stickers
- Reproducible Certificates & Bookmarks
- Parent Letters (in English & Spanish)
- Reading Logs

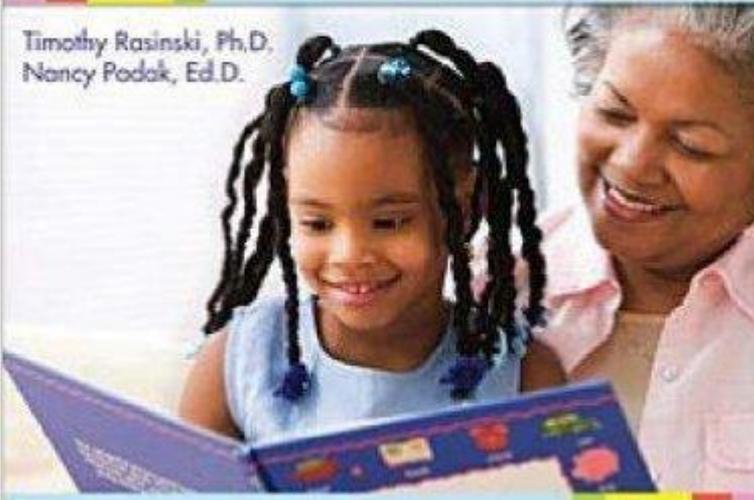


Easy EARLY INTERVENTION That Really Works!

SCHOLASTIC Grades PreK-K

Fast Start Getting Ready to Read

Timothy Rasinski, Ph.D.
Nancy Podak, Ed.D.



A Research-Based, Send-Home Literacy Program With 104 Reproducible Poems & Activities That Ensures Reading Success for Every Child