





Poudre School District  
Word Identification Strategies

Strategy	Description
<p><b>Get your mouth ready</b></p>  <p>to make the first sound</p>	<p>Reminds beginning readers that the letters have sounds and they can start to figure out a word by making its first sound.</p>
<p><b>Stretch</b></p>  <p>then blend</p>	<p>Stretch a word out by saying the sounds one at a time, then saying them quickly to figure out the word.</p>
<p><b>Chunk</b></p>  <p>Look for parts you know</p>	<p>Readers see patterns in words, including common word parts.</p>
<p><b>Flip</b></p>  <p>Try the other sound</p>	<p>Vowels and some consonants (c, g) have more than one sound. If the first sound tried doesn't make a word, try the other sound.</p>

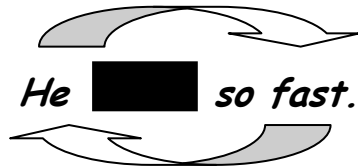
## Ask



Does it make sense?

Thinking about the meaning of what is read can help readers figure out words they don't know and can help them recognize when they have read a word incorrectly. The words should make sense and sound right – like language.

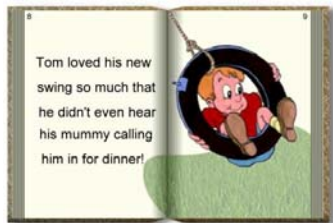
## Skip



then go back

Words later in the sentence could help a reader to figure out an unknown word. Skip a word to get more clues, then go back and reread.

## Use the pictures



Pictures can give clues that help a reader figure out an unknown word.