Calling Letters

This is the third in a series of activities where you name what you see. As you practice you will have to go faster. When you read you have to look at words and say what they are, so being able to name things quickly is helpful for reading.

Step 1. One row of letters

You need to look at the computer now.

From the menu at the top of the screen, click on 'mode' then click on 'normal'. Click on 'rows' and click on '1'.

There will be a row of letters on the screen. You have to look at the first letter (on the left side) and say what it is. Then say what the next letter is. Keep 'reading' the letters across the line.

Your goal is to read the letters across a whole line without losing your place.

Notes for helpers:

When the first row has been read, change to a new row of letters by clicking on 'new'. Keep changing the row of letters as each one is 'read'.

Step 2. Two, three or four rows of letters

Click on 'rows' then click on '2', then set 'rows' to 3 or 4 as improvement occurs.

Now there will be 2 rows of letters on the screen. '**Read**' the letters. Click on **new** when you have read each line. If you can do two rows without losing your place, try 3 rows then 4 rows. Your helper can change the number of rows on the screen by clicking on the 'rows' menu at the top of the screen.

Your goal is to read the letters on each of the 4 lines without losing your place.

Step 3. Jumping letters

Click on 'mode' then click on 'jumping letters'. Click on 'beat/flash rate' and click on '1.4 seconds'. Keep rows at 4.

Look at the left side of the screen. A letter will come on the screen, then disappear. You have to say the letter. After this, another letter will come on the screen next to where the first letter appeared. Say the letter. Keep saying the letters as the come on the screen. Your goal is to say every letter that appears on the screen in all four rows. If this is difficult and you can't keep up with the letters, decrease the flash rate to 1.6 seconds and try again. Once you can keep up, increase the flash rate again. Keep increasing the flash rate as you improve. Try 1.2, then 1.0, etc... seconds, changing the speed by clicking on the 'beat/flash rate' tab at the top of the screen.

Your goal is to say the letters at a speed of 0.9 seconds or better.

Step 4. Letters with a beat

Do not attempt reading the letters with a beat until you can read the jumping letters at a speed of 1.0 second or faster.

Click on 'mode' then click on 'to a beat'. Click on 'beat' and click on '1.0 second'.

There will be 4 rows of letters on the screen. You have to 'read' the letters across each row, saying a letter on each beat. Your helper can change the letters to 4 new rows when you are finished by clicking on 'new' at the bottom of the screen.

If you are over 8yrs old change the beat to 0.50 seconds and try to read the letters in time to the faster beat.

Your goal is read the letters exactly in time to the beat, without losing your place.