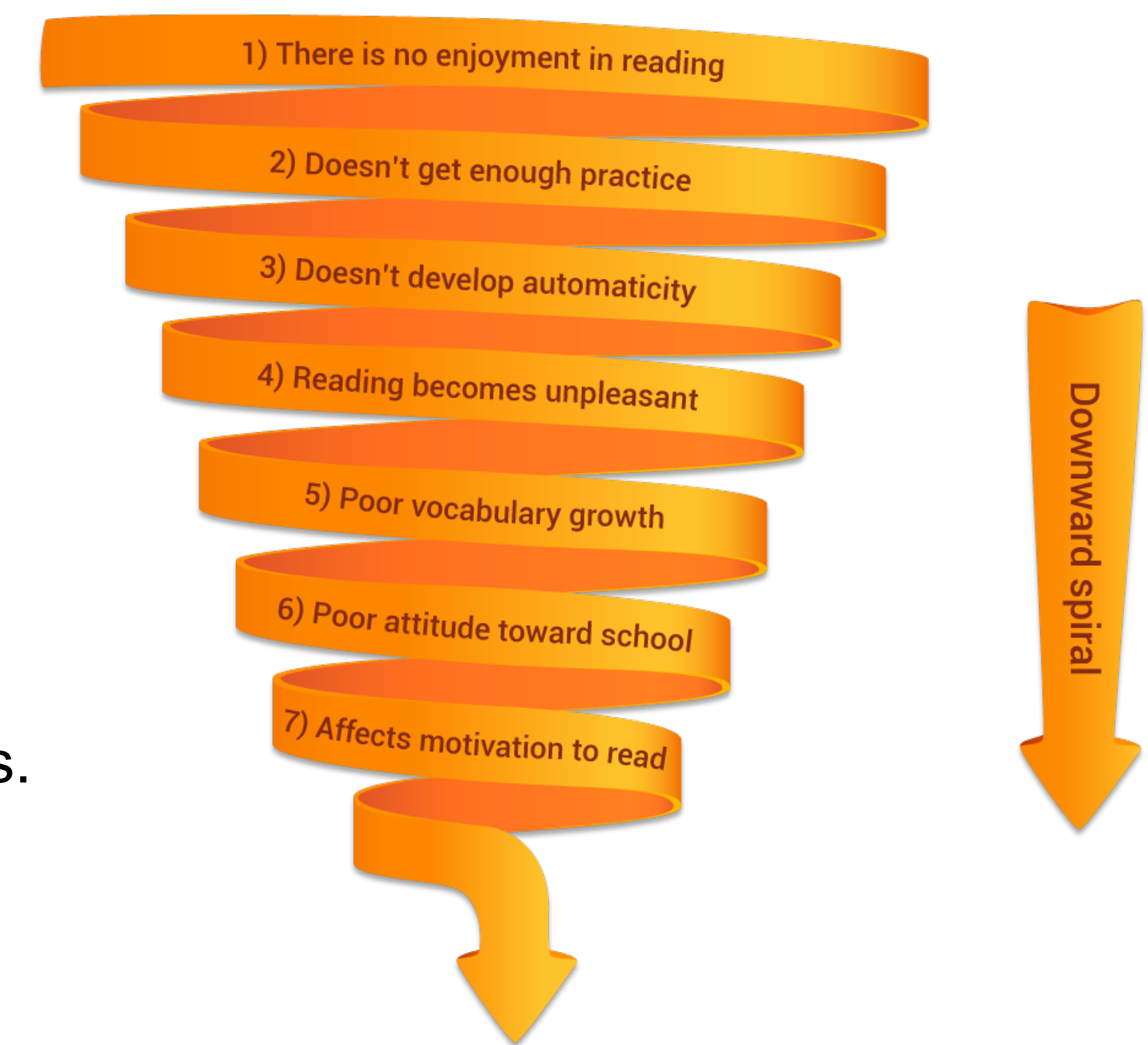


Public Schools and Reluctant Readers

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Background

- School librarians and teachers are faced with reluctant readers throughout their tenure in education. The question that both parties must answer is “How do I move my student from a reluctant reader to an enthusiastic reader?”
- A reluctant reader can mean someone who hasn’t found a genre they like, they’re bored with the class book choice, unsure where to begin in finding a book, has a learning disability, can’t visualize the story, or anything that makes them not all that interested in reading.¹
- School librarians and teachers need to work together to create an atmosphere that is engaging and encouraging for all students.



Review of Literature

- Reading aloud the stories to your class including inflection of voice to capture attention of the students.
- Reader’s Choice³: Allowing students to choose their book for reading encourages interest.
- Mentor Texts⁵: Choose a book that is accessible and relatable, such as a picture book, to assist students in learning about important writing skills. This will take away the hesitancy and fear generally associated when faced with a novel.
- Develop the library’s collection: The collection should include books encompassing as many genres, reading levels, and grade levels for all types of students to choose from.
- Design of library and classroom: Create an inviting and comfortable space.
- Class libraries⁴: A classroom library allows for easy in-class access, it works alongside main library.

Core Values of the School Library

1. The school library is a unique and essential part of a learning community.
2. Qualified school librarians lead effective school libraries.
3. Learners should be prepared for college, career, and life.
4. Reading is the core of personal and academic competency.
5. Intellectual freedom is every learner’s right.
6. Information technologies must be appropriately integrated and equitably available.²

Conclusion

- A reluctant reader can become an enthusiastic reader when exposed to various intervention techniques.
- Everyone in their lives has been a reluctant reader at one time or another.
- To help students move from being a reluctant reader to an enthusiastic reader involves cooperative work between librarians and teachers.
- As librarians, who are passionate about books and reading, it may involve being the first person to initiate some of the practices and building the relationship with both teachers, administration, and students.

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READ

20 MINUTES A DAY

STUDENT A
reads at home

20
min/day

STUDENT B
reads at home

5
min/day

STUDENT C
reads at home

1
min/day

THEY WILL HEAR

1,800,000

282,000

8,000

WORDS PER YEAR

THEY WILL HAVE READ FOR

851

212

42

HOURS BY 6TH GRADE

AND ON STANDARDIZED TESTS,
THEY WILL LIKELY SCORE BETTER THAN

90%

50%

10%

OF THEIR PEERS

Source: <http://readdbq.org/2014/11/19/read-20-minutes-day/>