



Tips and Strategies

The strengths of the SEE-N-READ™ reading tool are in its simplicity and universal design.

SEE-N-READ™ Reading Tool Benefits

- **Fluency** - SEE-N-READ helps readers smoothly focus on and track the text they are reading, thereby building their capacity to read accurately and quickly.
- **Comprehension** – Because students using SEE-N-READ do not need to focus as much on “keeping their place”, they are more able to concentrate on the meaning of the text (“Where” versus “What”).

Tracking - SEE-N-READ provides users with a tool to smoothly track from left to right while reading text.

Tracking skills, or the ability to control the fine eye movements required to follow a line of print, are especially important in reading. Children with tracking problems will often lose their place, skip or transpose words, and have difficulty comprehending because of their difficulty moving their eyes accurately.

When we read, our eyes don't move smoothly across the line. Instead, our eyes make a series of jumps and pauses as we read. The small jumps between words or groups of words are called saccades. The brief pause we make while looking at the words is called a fixation. After a fixation, we move our eyes to the next word or group of words—another saccade.

This very precise coordination of jumps and pauses is controlled by our central and peripheral visual systems. Our central vision processes what we're seeing in clear detail and defines what we're looking at. Our peripheral, or side vision, simultaneously locates surrounding objects and let's us know where to look. (These two systems are sometimes referred to as the “Where is it?” and “What is it?” systems.) In reading, our central vision processes the word, while our side vision locates the following word and tells us where to aim our eyes next. The integration of these two systems is what allows us to efficiently move our eyes along a line of print without overshooting or undershooting, or mistakenly aiming our eyes at lines above or below. If there is not continuous, fluid, simultaneous integration between these two systems, reading will be jerky, loss of place will be common, and comprehension will be poor (www.ChildrensVision.com).

- SEE-N-READ's clear reading window allows the eye to focus on the appropriate line of text (“Where is it?”) by helping students to control their field of vision while reading.
- SEE-N-READ takes away the visual “noise” on a page by highlighting the line being read and filtering out surrounding visual (figure-ground) distractions.
- The shaded area above and below the clear reading window allows readers to read within the context of information being read; i.e.; if desired, the readers can see upcoming or re-read prior text without losing their place (“Where is it?”)
- SEE-N-READ reduces distractions that readers experience with other types of tracking devices such as index cards, bookmarks or rulers.
 - Opaque tracking devices block the flow of downward vision, negatively impacting comprehension and the natural flow of the reading process. Additionally, these makeshift devices do not suppress “figure/ground” interference above the line being read. Bookmarks with graphics or text are “busy” which is distracting to the reader and interferes with smooth reading transition.
- SEE-N-READ supports the natural process of reading by allowing readers to seamlessly scan ahead (“Where and what is it?”) thereby enhancing reading fluency.

- SEE-N-READ helps to reduce eye strain by reducing the glare between a white page and dark print on a page.
- This tool can reduce 'pattern glare' which causes words to appear to "move on the page", a common comment from struggling readers in more severe situations.
- SEE-N-READ'S universal design allows a broad audience of readers to benefit from using this tool without modification or customization. The spectrum of users ranges from emergent to advanced readers.

SEE-N-READ™ Reading Tools "Getting Started" Techniques

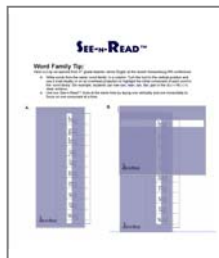
- Classroom Teachers find that providing a disciplined or structured approach for the use of SEE-N-READ helps students to more quickly realize its benefits. For example, use the SEE-N-READ during:
 - Teacher directed small and large reading activities
 - Student silent reading activities
 - Specific small and large group activities requiring focused reading or direction oriented skills
- Teacher modeling –Modeling the use of the tool helps students to recognize the value and benefits of using the SEE-N-READ. Modeling for students also establishes good reading habits.
- Overhead Projector - easily highlight reading passages to maintain the attention of the entire class.
 - When reading or modeling a reading skill, use the SEE-N-READ™ to highlight the line of text being discussed or to model how to use the tool.
- Lay the SEE-N-READ on the page and Simply Read!

SEE-N-READ Reading Techniques

- Small group reading – Use the SEE-N-READ when working in small groups.
 - Fluency monitoring – If the teacher has a concern regarding a student's fluency, SEE-N-READ provides a way to pinpoint the type of mistakes the student is making. Have students read orally, one at a time. As they read, the teacher will be able to see if there is a horizontal tracking issue due to the fact that using SEE-N-READ removes the vertical tracking component. Furthermore, the teacher can more readily identify specific mistakes being made, such as word pattern or letter-sound relationship difficulties while a student is reading specific text. This helps the teacher to more easily discern if there is a tracking, phonic, fluency, etc., issue impacting a reader.
- Whole group reading – Students use SEE-N-READ while reading text in a larger group.
 - SEE-N-READ removes the vertical tracking variable and allows readers to more effectively focus on the text ("*What* is it?") rather than struggling to keep their place on a page ("*Where* is it?"). This feature enhances a reader's ability to concentrate and improve the strategic processing of text.
 - SEE-N-READ is especially helpful while reading expository text. Expository texts* are notorious for causing gaps in comprehension due to the inherent complexities in the style of text.
 - *Expository Text– The comprehension of expository text is more difficult for virtually all readers. Exposition usually deals with less familiar content and involves more complex and varied structures (Williams, 2000). The range of complexity of various expository text structures means that students need to master several

different text structures (e.g., description, sequence, compare/contrast, pro/con, cause-effect, and problem-solution (Williams, 2000).

- SEE-N-READ enables the teacher to see, at a glance and from across the room, who is following along with the assigned oral group readings.
- Students are more confident and willing to read orally because it helps them keep their place.
- Independent/Silent reading – Students use SEE-N-READ while silently reading text.
 - SEE-N-READ gives readers the confidence to read on their own;
 - Readers can set their own reading pace
 - Users can comfortably read within the context, thus supporting a more natural reading style
 - SEE-N-READ enables teachers to visually track the progress of students as they silently read.
- Word Family Tips:
 - Write words from the same 'word family' in a column. Turn the tool to the vertical position and use it (individually or on an overhead projector) to highlight the initial consonant of each word in the 'word family' (for example, students can see bag, gag, lag, etc in the SEE-N-READ ReadBar™).
 - Use two SEE-N-READ tools at the same time by laying one vertically and one horizontally to focus on one consonant at a time.



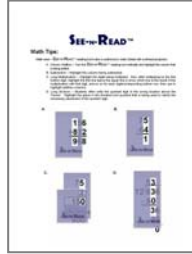
SEE-N-READ Writing Technique Suggestions

- Use the Document Size SEE-N-READ™ reading tool to help writers “near-point” copying from a *draft* to a *formal* written assignment.
 - Allow students to place the document size SEE-N-READ™ over a *draft* copy while re-copying to a formal draft. This performance support process helps writers more easily and accurately complete a formal writing assignment.
 - Reading specialists and teachers say that writing mistakes are dramatically reduced in the formal draft.

SEE-N-READ Math Technique Suggestions

- Math uses – SEE-N-READ is also a useful tool in math (Great with overhead projector).
 - Column Addition – Turn the SEE-N-READ vertically and highlight the column that is being added.
 - Subtraction – Highlight the column being subtracted.
 - Long Multiplication – Highlight the digits being multiplied. Also, after multiplying by the first bottom digit, highlight the first line below the equal line to show which line is the result of the multiplication with that digit, and so on for each digit/corresponding bottom row; then use to highlight addition columns.

- Long Division – Students often write the quotient digit in the wrong location above the “house”. Highlight the place in the dividend and quotient that is being used to clarify the necessary placement of the quotient digit.
- SEE-N-READ can help students and teachers track problem solutions together by students using the SEE-N-READ at their desk while teachers use a SEE-N-READ as they teach on an overhead or in front of the class.



SEE-N-READ™ Reading Tool Uses with Junior and Senior High Students

- Junior and Senior High Teachers introduce the SEE-N-READ™ reading tool as a “cool” Book Mark that allows students to know exactly where they left off by highlighting the line in the book.
- Then they add... “...and look what else you can do to read easier and faster.” As they model using the SEE-N-READ™ reading tool.

SEE-N-READ™ Reading Tool ELL Uses

- Allows students to control their field of vision while reading.
- Helps students to keep their place while reading.
- Helps students from becoming overwhelmed by a page of English text.
- Highlight important ideas and concepts
- Aids in the retention of key concepts and information.
- Emphasize vocabulary words by placing SEE-N-READ over each word as students read either silently or orally.
- Improve silent reading by helping students to easily track “where” they are on a page, thus allowing students to concentrate more on “what” they are reading.
- Improves “read aloud” skills by enabling students to more easily keep their place while reading.

SEE-N-READ Administrative Uses

- Teachers use the Document Size SEE-N-READ in grade books to easily locate and track student grades.
- Teachers/administrators easily and accurately read detailed data such as standardized test scores.
- Administrators use Document Size SEE-N-READ to find and track information in spreadsheets.

References

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SEE-N-READ Personal Contributions

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- Engler, Jacob (November, 2005). Fifth Grade Teacher, Lisle Illinois.
- Kary Johnson (April, 2008). Bilingual Reading Specialist
- Smith, Jennifer (March, 2004). Fourth Grade Teacher, Lisle, Illinois.