

SCAMPER

What is "SCAMPER" and why is it important?

"SCAMPER" (Manzo & Manzo, 1990) is a strategy that helps you and your child create original stories to read. Repeated exposure to words in a variety of contexts improves your child's word recognition and fluency.

How can I use "SCAMPER" with my child?

"SCAMPER" is an acronym for: substitute, combine, adapt, modify or magnify, put to use, eliminate and reverse. This strategy encourages creative thinking as you and your child use it to develop original text.

After reading a text, you can rewrite it or portions of it using letter/sound associations that your child needs to practice.

For example, a "substitute challenge" that would provide practice in the short "u" sound would be to change Dr. Seuss' "The Cat in the Hat" to "The Mutt in the Hut." To use a "combine challenge," you and your child could combine two elements in the story such as the characters (two animals). The story would then be rewritten as the "The Cat and Rat in the Hat."