

Talking Dictionary

What is "Talking Dictionary" and why is it important?

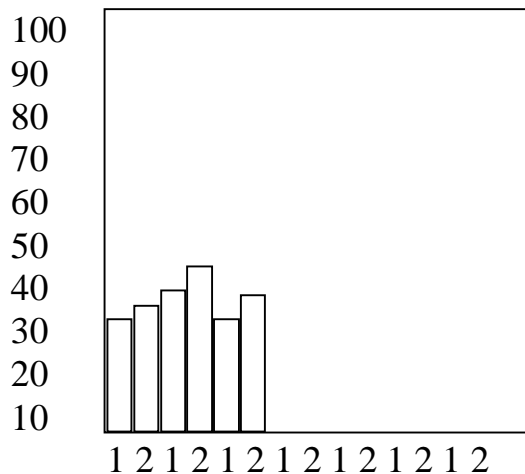
"Talking Dictionary" (Ballard, 1978) is a strategy that helps your child become a fluent reader. With this strategy, he reads a passage twice. Rereading the passage increases word recognition because your child re-encounters commonly used sight words as well as unfamiliar words. Word recognition only becomes automatic with frequent exposure to words.

How can I use "Talking Dictionary" with my child?

From a selection of several fairly easy books, allow your child to choose a book to read. Ask your child to read aloud for two to three minutes. If your child encounters an unknown word, supply the word for your child rather than having him "sound it out."

As your child reads the passage, keep track of the number of words he reads correctly. Have your child repeat this procedure, rereading the passage for the same amount of time as the first reading. Again, keep track of the number of words read correctly.

Once your child has read through the passage twice, graph the number of words read correctly from the first and second readings. The number of words read correctly will usually be higher on the second attempt. Repeat this activity each day and graph the results until your child completes the book. Each day, begin at the place he stopped reading the day before.



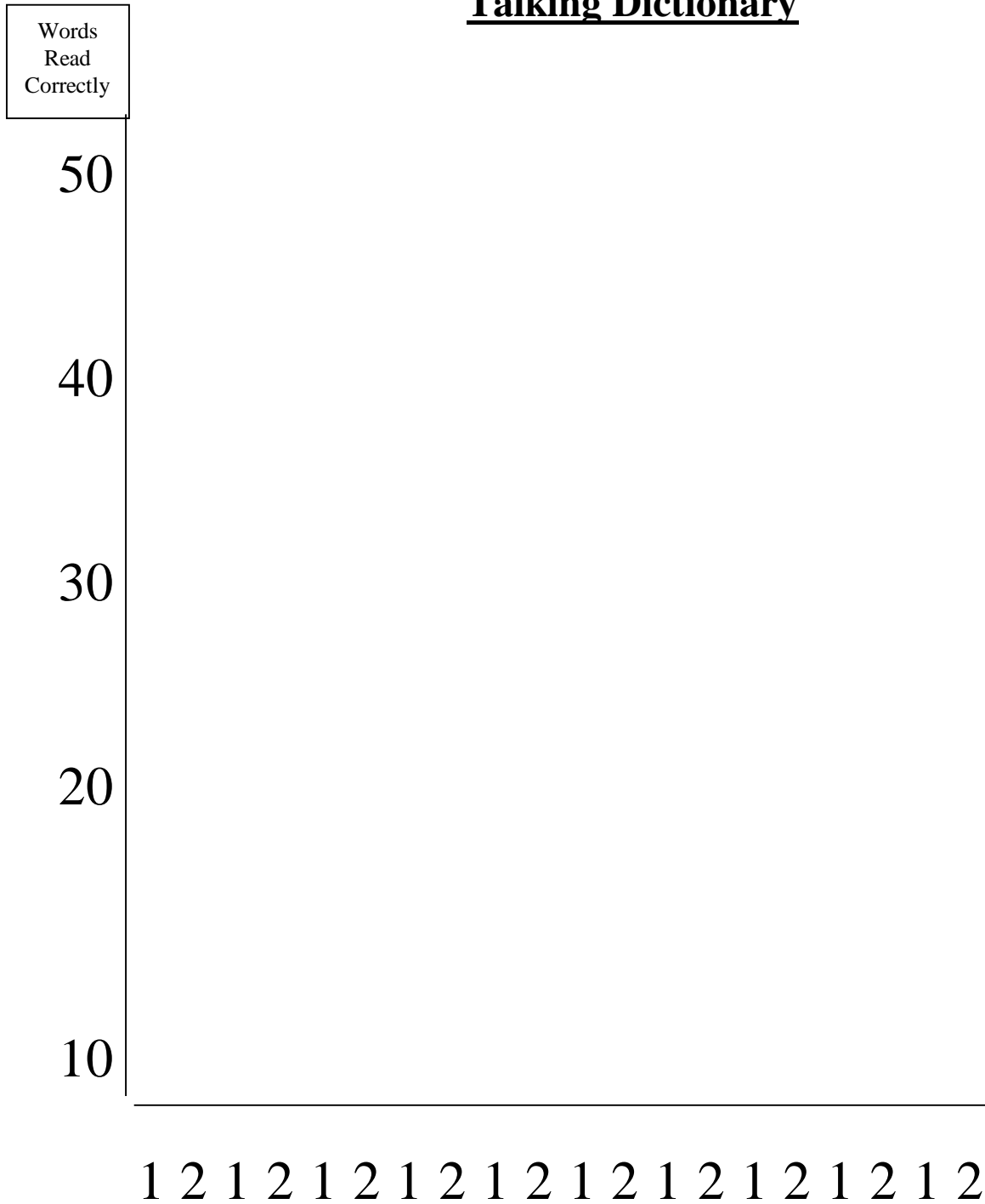
Talking Dictionary

Words
Read
Correctly

100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10

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