
Michigan's Multi-Tiered System of Supports Technical Assistance Center
April, 2023 – Version 1.2

Echo Reading

This document provides the what, why, and how of using Echo Reading in secondary classrooms.

What is it?

Echo reading is a whole-group reading strategy in which the teacher or lead reader reads a portion of the text (e.g., a direction, caption, sentence, or short paragraph) with the group, then reads the same portion aloud and in unison.

Why do it?

Echo reading provides all students with a chance to successfully read text in portions after hearing it read aloud by a competent reader. This is especially helpful for text that contains new or challenging words or unfamiliar terminology. It is also a useful procedure when appropriate prosody and inflection need to be modeled.

How to do it

The teacher explains that s/he or a lead reader will read portions of the text aloud to the students, and that students should follow along in their texts as they are read. When the teacher stops reading, students should chorally reread that same portion of text, matching the teacher's prior cadence, inflection, and prosody. (This may need to be modeled initially.)

Expectations:

1. All students remain seated and follow in text as the teacher or lead reader reads.
2. Students reread the same portion of text at an appropriate rate and volume, keeping voices together.

Michigan's MTSS Technical Assistance Center is funded by the Michigan Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs.