



**SMART TIPS**  
**Improving Achievement in READ 180 Topic Software**

***READING ZONE***

1. Encourage students to always **START** in the Reading Zone.
2. If students need Spanish support, use the **SETTINGS** icon to activate.
3. Monitor students to ensure that they record the passage daily in the Reading Zone. Use the Student Segment Status Report (p. 100) and refer to column 4 – Total Passage Reads.
4. Encourage students to double-click on the highlighted Power Words.
5. Point out to students that their personal study words in the Word Zone will also be highlighted in the Reading zone.
6. Encourage student to use the Decoding Tip that highlights important phonic elements and provides a strategy for applying it to the word.
7. Tell students that the computer tracks the first response for vocabulary and comprehension questions. So be smart and click on the Passage if unsure of the answer. This helps students to practice using resources to be more strategic in READ 180 and in all other classes.
8. In the Student Reading Report (p. 82) a cumulative total number of words is tracked, providing motivation and evidence of success. Tell students to look at that everyday. The words collected are based on the amount of times students use the highlighter to read the passage.
9. Check the Student Diagnostic Report (p. 96) to see the number of specific comprehension questions asked and the % correct.

***WORD ZONE***

1. Student study words will be determined by the assessment taken initially. Once 5 strategic words are determined they will be the study words and will reappear in later segments to ensure automaticity. Students will complete 7 different activities in the Word Zone.
2. View student's study words by checking the Student Word Zone Report (p. 102).
3. Remind students in the Word Match activity when recording, to speak distinctly so that they can easily match their recording with the word.
4. Periodically you may need to circulate to monitor these activities.
5. The Speed Challenge will recycle previous study words. Students may not move ahead until their words are mastered.

***SPELLING ZONE***

1. The software times student responses and counts words not spelled within 30 seconds as incorrect.
2. Encourage students to click Spelling Clinic buttons (word, sentence, tip, parts, spell it). Important information will be identified i.e. blends, inflectional endings, digraphs, common phonograms, etc.