



## Module Five

### Handout: Rhythm & flow

Picture books are designed to be read aloud so it's extremely important that they read easily and flow readily.

Always read your work aloud! And get others to read it to you.

- Highlight words or sentences that continually trip you up.
- Don't try to be too clever or formal. Keep sentences simple.
- Use more alliteration or short, clipped sounds in faster parts of your story.
- Use long vowel sounds to slow text down in slower parts of the story.
- When you paginate, try having less words on a page, especially at the interlude and climax.
- See if you can sing your work. Always a good test!
- Try turning your work into a dummy book (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KG-DxxChC8g>) and see how your text is working across the page turns. Can you add more suspense by leaving something unsaid on a page?

