

The Last Word

Our readers say The Last Word column in *The Journal of Reading Recovery* is one of their favorite things to read. We need more of your great Reading Recovery stories. Please share in an email to vfox@readingrecovery.org.

Enjoy a few of the “No one outside of this job would understand this” gems shared on the Community Forum — especially fun during the past year of so many challenges!

COVID Quotes

Direct quotes from my student (who has known me for many years) that reflect our experience, together, during COVID ...

“Ms. Amy, that’s my marker! We aren’t supposed to touch the same marker! Quick, where’s the Virex?”

“I can still tell when I do something good (even with the mask on) because I can see your eyes and they do this (makes a squinty face).”

“Hey, you know the good thing about this? Since you can’t bring your coffee to the table, you can’t spill it on MY books.”

(And the COVID version of the “gotta go to the bathroom” avoidance move before writing segment): “I need a mask break. I am definitely going to pass out if we don’t step outside immediately so I can take my mask down.”

Amy Smith
Richmond, KY

For the (Lesson) Record

Ran out of time for NB (new book) because I was attempting to fix mask strings.

Heather Good
Dayton, OH

Or, if you’ve written on the lesson record: “Couldn’t record much on lesson record because my right hand was holding my phone as a light so that we could complete the lesson under the table with lights off and shades closed due to longer than usual unannounced lockdown drill. Benjamin enjoyed the experience, did very well with the new book, and asked if we could do this again tomorrow!” :)

Jeff Williams
Chagrin Falls, OH

Or, “familiar reading was less fluent as he was on the couch under a blanket.”

Leslie McBane
Columbus, OH

One of my students was quarantined with 5 siblings last month. During his first lesson at home, a little brother slowly crept into the picture behind us to listen to the books read aloud. By the second lesson, we had three listeners. By the end of the week, it was Storytime with Sam! He had an audience now, so we had to take time to negotiate at the beginning of every lesson which books his crowd would like to hear the most. It was time well spent. I wrote on the lesson record under familiar reading, “Market research.”

Braedan Schantz
Dayton, OH