



# “Read-Aloud Buddy” Guide

Boost your proofreading by bringing in a buddy! Whether it's a friend, a family member, or even a pet, reading out loud with company makes editing more fun and effective.

## Why Use a Read-Aloud Buddy?

- **Fresh Ears:** Someone else may catch mistakes your brain skips.
- **Keeps You Focused:** You're less likely to speed through reading when someone is listening or watching.
- **Adds Fun:** Pets and kids make great low-pressure listeners.

## How to Choose Your Buddy

- **Human Buddy:**  
Ask a friend, family member, or fellow writer to listen.  
They don't need to edit—just listen and alert you if something is confusing or sounds wrong.
- **Pet Buddy:**  
Dogs, cats, or any pet that likes your voice can help! Finnegan volunteers to help!  
No feedback required—the act of reading out loud still makes errors stand out.

## Tips for a Successful Read-Aloud Session

1. **Pick a Quiet Spot:** Limit distractions so you can focus on the words and your buddy.
2. **Go Slow:** Don't rush. Speak at a clear, steady pace.
3. **Mark Mistakes:** Pause when you stumble or something sounds off. Jot down the mistake or mark it as you go.
4. **Repeat Tough Spots:** Go back and read unclear sentences again. If your buddy seems puzzled, rewrite the section.



5. **Reward Your Buddy:** Thank your friend with a treat or praise. If your buddy is a pet, offer extra ear scratches or a snack.

## **Sample Script**

"Hey, can I read something out loud to you and get your thoughts on anything that sounds weird or unclear? Just let me know if you notice anything off!"

## **Make It a Habit**

Build regular read-aloud sessions into your editing process for cleaner, clearer writing. Over time, you—and your buddy—will get even better at catching hidden mistakes.