Removing Roadblocks to Reading: 10 Surefire Routes
by REGIE ROUTMAN

1. **Provide more time and choice to read every day**—first priority: genres, nonfiction, fiction, graphic texts, comics, news articles.

2. **Provide easier access**—include ebooks, audiobooks, and build a classroom library of culturally relevant literature—without leveling.

3. **Require less writing in response to writing**

4. **Encourage more book talk**—student, self-directed conversations; and book clubs (not just whole class).

5. **Provide more time for sustained silent independent reading**—the mainstay of a reading program, it also includes monitoring through conferring—especially one to one, teacher-student to ensure students understand what they read—which is more likely with other the other nine factors in place.

6. **Put guided reading in its rightful place**—students do most of the work; use guided reading as a temporary scaffold with flexible groups.

7. **Do more reading aloud**—a highly effective way to introduce new books and authors, build vocabulary and conceptual knowledge, and inspire a love of language.

8. **Ensure fluency for youngest readers**—use authentic literature with natural language, rereading, partner reading, Reader’s Theatre

9. **Do more shared reading**—especially of student- and class-authored texts through shared writing.

10. **Demonstrate the reading process**—model teacher as a reader: thinking aloud as you choose books, figuring out vocabulary, and demonstrating close reading, self-monitoring, rereading, questioning, strategizing, applying what we know, inferring meaning from text, and drawing from life experiences to deepen and extend meaning.

For full information on her work and resources, visit her website [www.regieroutman.org](http://www.regieroutman.org) and follow her on Twitter [@regieroutman](https://twitter.com/regieroutman)