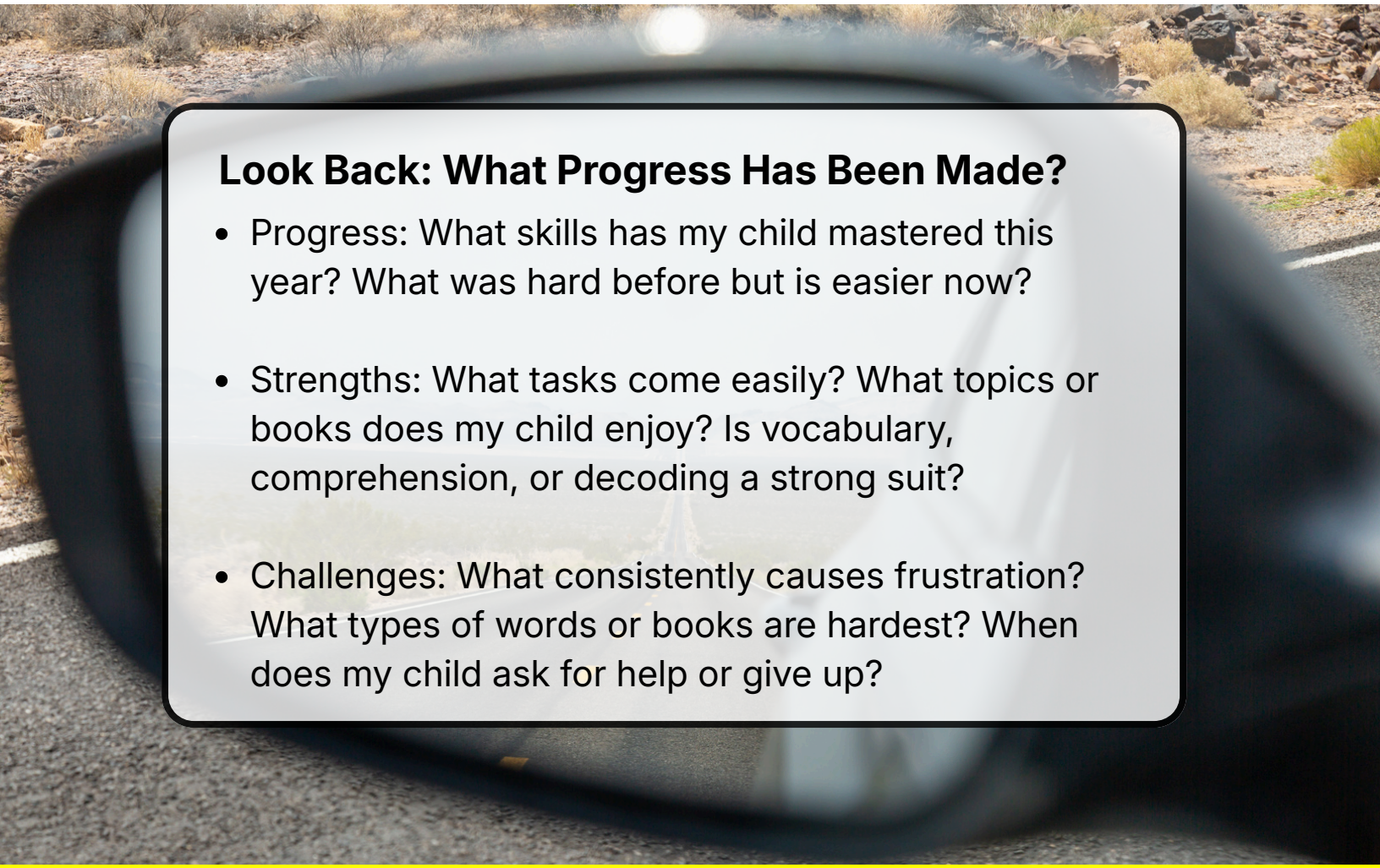
CHECK YOUR MIRRORS

ROUTE TO READING

MONITORING YOUR CHILD'S READING PROGRESS

Just as drivers check their mirrors to see what's behind them before moving forward, caregivers need to look back at their child's reading journey to know where to go next.



Look Back: What Progress Has Been Made?

- Progress: What skills has my child mastered this year? What was hard before but is easier now?
- Strengths: What tasks come easily? What topics or books does my child enjoy? Is vocabulary, comprehension, or decoding a strong suit?
- Challenges: What consistently causes frustration? What types of words or books are hardest? When does my child ask for help or give up?

SHARE YOUR OBSERVATIONS

Be specific when sharing what you notice and talk often with school staff about progress. Don't wait for parent-teacher conferences — check in regularly.

National Center on Improving Literacy

For more free literacy resources, visit improvingliteracy.org.

The research reported here is funded by a grant to the National Center on Improving Literacy from the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, in partnership with the Office of Special Education Programs (Award #: H283D210004). The opinions or policies expressed are those of the authors and do not represent views of OESE, OSEP, or the U.S. Department of Education. You should not assume endorsement by the Federal government. Copyright © 2026 National Center on Improving Literacy.