Is it OK for my child to skip over words he does not know?

Yes. It is often helpful for children to read past unknown words as this may give them a better idea of what the unknown word is. Often when a child is reading out loud, he will skip over an unknown word and silently read beyond it. Children are often taught to use this strategy as one way of trying to figure out a word. Since learning how to use this strategy may take a while, be sure to give your child enough time to figure things out if he wants to try. Skipping over words is only a problem if the child doesn't go back to the skipped word to try it again.