

The Reading Universe Taxonomy

Our taxonomy presents the essential reading skills, shows how they're connected, and lays the groundwork for teaching all students how to read and write.



SIMPLE VIEW OF READING — Word Recognition x Language Comprehension = Reading Comprehension

ASSESSMENT — Reliable tools used to measure students' progress and provide information to help guide instruction

WORD RECOGNITION

The ability to see a word and know how to pronounce it without consciously thinking about it

PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

A group of skills that enable you to recognize and manipulate parts of spoken words

Articulation +

The accurate production of a word or word part

Syllables

Part of a word organized around a single vowel sound

Syllable Awareness +

Onset-Rime

An entry skill to early phonemic awareness that builds an understanding of rhyming

Onset-Rime +

Rhyming +

Phonemic Awareness

The ability to recognize and manipulate individual sounds within a spoken word

Phoneme Identification +

Phoneme Segmentation & Blending +

Phoneme Manipulation +

PHONICS

The relationship between spoken sounds and letters

Sound-Letter Correspondence

Letter Names & Sounds +

Phonics Patterns

Short Vowels +

Closed Syllables +

Glued Sounds

'am', 'an', 'all', 'ng', 'nk'

Open Syllables +

Spelling with 'c' vs. 'k' +

Consonant Digraphs

'sh', 'ch', 'th', 'wh', 'ph'

Blends +

'-ck' Spelling Rule +

FLOSS(Z) Spelling Rule

'-ff', '-ll', '-ss', '-zz'

'y' as a Vowel +

Magic 'e' +

Soft 'c' and Soft 'g' +

R-Controlled Vowels

'ar', 'or', 'er', 'ir', 'ur'

Vowel Teams & Diphthongs +

'-tch' Spelling Rule +

'-dge' Spelling Rule +

Consonant '-le' +

Schwa +

Irregularly Spelled High-Frequency Words +

Multisyllable Patterns

Syllable Division +

Prefixes +

Suffixes +

LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION

The ability to derive meaning from spoken and written words

Building Student Knowledge +

All the information students acquire over time to understand lvgc and comprehend text

Knowledge +

WORDS

The building blocks of spoken and written language

Word Meanings & Relationships

Vocabulary +

Morphology +

SENTENCES

Combinations of words that form a complete thought, statement, question, or exclamation

Language Structures

Grammar +

Syntax +

CONNECTED SENTENCES

The use of multiple sentences, oral or written, to share ideas and information

Text Structures

Informational Text +

Narrative Text +

CRITICAL THINKING STRATEGIES

Using higher-order thinking skills to analyze, synthesize, or evaluate oral or written information

Comprehension Monitoring +

Reasoning & Inferencing +

Retelling, Summarizing, Synthesizing +

Perspective Taking +

READING COMPREHENSION

The ability to derive meaning from written words

Readers' Skill & Knowledge +

Text Considerations +

Strategies & Activities +

The Sociocultural Context +

FLUENCY — The ability to read accurately with automaticity and expression

Accuracy, then Automaticity +

Reading or decoding words correctly and at an appropriate rate

Expressive Text Reading +

Reading aloud with emotion that demonstrates understanding of the author's intent

WRITING — The act of putting thoughts into print using transcription and composition skills

Transcription

Spelling +

Handwriting & Keyboarding +

Critical Thinking

Stages of the Writing Process +

Generating Ideas, Gathering Information +

Syntax

Sentence Writing +

Punctuation +

Text Structure

The Three Main Types of Writing +

Paragraph Writing +

Patterns of Organization +

Transition Words & Phrases +

Writing Craft

Word Choice +

Task, Audience, Purpose +

Literary Devices +

FEATURES OF STRUCTURED LITERACY INSTRUCTION — A systematic and explicit approach to teaching reading based on research

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