# SECTION 1

# **Foundations**

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The foundation for reading and literacy starts long before children enter school and begin formal instruction. It emerges through the complex interactions of children's physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development. Research shows this development proceeds more or less in the same order for all children unless they have a disability and that most children learn to speak by age three and learn to read by age seven. Knowing the progression of literacy-related development from birth to age seven helps teachers and others recognize young children who are typically developing and those who are not. It also aids planning and support for children's learning by pointing out the developmental progression of skills acquisition.

By the time children attend school there are discernable differences in their language use and familiarity with print and other literacy-related activities. To help children be successful direct instruction is needed. In direct instruction, teachers focus attention on specific skills and provide lots of opportunity for practicing them. Research has helped target the most important skills.

The National Early Literacy Panel reviewed the findings of scientific research on literacy development and identified several skills essential to young children's literacy success (McGill-Frazen, 2010): expressive and receptive oral language, knowledge of the alphabetic principle, phonemic and phonological awareness, and knowledge of print concepts. These findings complemented those of the earlier National Reading Panel (NICHHD, 2000).

Children's development in these areas occurs through their encounters with language—both spoken and written. The most widely given advice for developing the skills needed for literacy is talk to and read to each child—early and often. Much of what must be learned can be experienced through listening and speaking and by engaging in dialogue around children's books. Children learn to anticipate and predict with books that have predictable phrases, sentences, and refrains. They learn to attend to ending sounds with rhymes and books that rhyme. They learn to express themselves, tell stories, and develop comprehension skills with wordless picture books.

While nestling side by side with an adult or older child and listening to stories being read aloud, children learn a host of important print and literacy concepts, including how to hold a book, when and how to turn the page, and the directionality of print from left to right and top to bottom. As they watch and listen, children begin to understand the one-to-one relationship between the word pointed to on the page and the spoken word. They also form the key understanding that print is speech written down. By talking about the stories they develop concepts of characters, setting, and story line. Exposure to many books helps develop children's listening comprehension skills, which are stepping stones for comprehending what they will soon read and enjoy on their own.

Play is child's work. Playing with language, especially through rhymes, helps children recognize the rhythm of words and sentences and discern whether two sounds are the same or not. Children's ability to recognize, separate, and manipulate sounds in a word is a foundation skill for reading, spelling, and writing. Using sound boxes to segment or break apart words into syllables and sounds has been found to be very effective in helping children understand sound-symbol relationships.

As children develop awareness of sounds and their spellings, they should be encouraged to write. In the beginning their writing will appear as squiggles and curlicues, but as they become

more familiar with the upper- and lowercase letters and their sounds from stories and rhymes, their writing will progress to more letter like symbols, to invented spellings not very related to sounds, and then to spelling and writing that use the sound-symbol relationships they know. Over time, and with learning to recognize some high-frequency words, children will use conventional spelling appropriate to their grade and age. These foundation skills set the stage for more formal study of phonics, context clues, and word study, as well as vocabulary development, comprehension, and other literacy skills.

All children benefit from active engagement and practice. Using active response activities for skills development gives every child the opportunity to learn. Active response exercises are effective with English language learners (ELLs) as well as English speakers and with children across skill levels. Their fast pace and gamelike quality make learning and practice fun.

This section of the book contains lists and materials for each of the aspects of reading and literacy foundations discussed. In addition, it includes tips to share with parents and others and a glossary of terms related to early literacy.

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### LIST 1. TYPICAL LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

The foundations for children's learning to read and write begin at birth. Research shows there is a gradual, multifaceted process of learning to understand and use language for thinking and communication. This process and its result are often referred to as *emergent literacy*. Though children do not take a lock-step path, studies show there is a general order of literacy development that can be described as typical whether the child is learning English, another language, or more than one language. Not all children reach milestones at the same age; however, most learn to speak by age three and learn to read by age seven. There can be quantitative as well as qualitative differences among children's development, even when they reach milestones at about the same time. For example, two children may begin to use two-word sentences by age two, but one might produce many more two-word utterances and have a larger repertoire of words to use than the other child.

Children discover language through play, exploration, and interaction with others. The most salient positive factor in language development is a language-rich environment that includes lots of interaction with parents and caregivers who engage children with the spoken word using songs, rhymes, and stories, lots of stories.

The following list shows the typical development of speech (producing sounds), language (attaching meaning to spoken sounds), reading, and writing in young children—important information for teachers and parents of preschool and primary grade children.

#### Zero to Six Months

- Use different sounding cries for different purposes
- Coo, babble, and make gurgling sounds
- Recognize and are soothed by caregivers' voices
- Smile when spoken to
- Focus on the sounds of the language they hear and imitate these sounds
- Attend to music and sounds made by toys
- Respond to their names
- Track source of sounds with eyes or by turning head
- Respond to changes in tone
- Include /b/, /p/, and /m/ sounds in babbling

#### Six to Twelve Months

- Develop physical control and skills: roll over, sit up, bounce, crawl, stand up, and walk
- Play pat-a-cake and peek-a-boo
- Babble in short and long groups of sounds like syllables
- Use babble and gestures to communicate wants
- Begin to respond to commands such as give me and come here
- Understand simple words for common things such as milk, shoe, dog, dolly
- Say first words such as mama, dada, car, doggie
- Begin to name objects and respond to request to show me

#### One to Two Years

- Use one- and two-word sentences purposefully
- Have vocabulary of about twenty words, mostly nouns, by first birthday and acquire about 250 by second birthday, including some verbs (*go, see*) and other parts of speech (*more, no, big, dirty, pretty*)



- Respond to simple directions or questions such as *Where is your cup?* and *Point to your nose*.
- Enjoy stories, rhymes, and songs with repetition
- Pose two-word questions such as *More milk?* for *May I have more milk?*
- Use many beginning consonant sounds
- Generalize labels to category of things such as *doggie* for all animals

#### Two to Three Years

- Can walk, run, jump, and climb
- Name many objects in environment
- Recognize that pictures are symbols, not the real thing, and can point to a picture of something in a book when requested
- Begin using pronouns (me, you, mine) and prepositions (in, on, under)
- Use two-, three-, and four-word sentences
- Ask adults to read them stories and can recognize favorites by their covers
- Talk about characters in books
- Imitate adult reading by holding and looking at books, turning pages
- Have between one thousand and two thousand words in spoken vocabulary by third birthday
- Use /k/, /g/, /f/, /t/, /d/, and /n/ sounds
- Articulate well enough to be understood by most people
- Distinguish between writing and drawing and make marks or scribbles that resemble letters
- Ask for names of objects for which they do not have word as in What's its name?
- Notice details in print such as the initial letter of their names

#### Three to Four Years

- Use three- and four-word sentences competently
- Begin using plurals and past tenses
- Understand questions dealing with their activities and surroundings
- Tell about own experiences and include description
- Understand and reply to questions that link circumstance to action such as *What do you do when you are hungry*?
- Can give name, age, and gender
- Know basic colors and shapes by name
- Retell some key details of stories read to them
- Imitate tone and cadence of adults while pretend reading
- Demonstrate knowledge of print concepts such as directionality and one-to-one correspondence between words printed and read
- Recognize lower- and uppercase letters and begin to write some letters
- Begin to match letters with sounds
- Begin to match written words with spoken words
- Demonstrate familiarity with beginning sounds and ending sounds that rhyme
- Begin to copy some words such as their names, mom, dad, I love you, family, a pet's name

#### Four to Five Years

• Know names of most things in their environment, including names of common animals, community helpers (*doctor, firefighter, and police officer*), school, church, store, numbers one to twenty, and so on



- Know and use relational prepositions correctly (*in, on, under, over, next to,* etc.)
- Have between 2,500 and 5,000 word vocabularies
- Can repeat four digits or four-syllable words
- Can produce most vowels and diphthong sounds
- Verbalize during and after activities using appropriate details and commentary
- Communicate with adults and other children readily
- Understand comparisons when visual objects are presented
- Understand and demonstrate knowledge of print concepts and phonological awareness such as print carries meaning, sounds are represented by letters, the order of letters in a word is important, roles of author and illustrator
- Attend to story and can answer the five W questions about it
- Articulate most sounds correctly and is understood by others even if articulation problem exists
- Read environmental print
- Tell a real or invented story and stay on topic
- Manipulate initial consonant sounds to make rhyming words
- Tell and understand puns or other jokes
- Dictate titles and sentences to go with drawings
- Begin to write sentences using known letter-sound associations, even if only using the initial sound of the words

#### Five to Six Years

- Understand and use time concepts such as *morning*, *night*, *day*, *tomorrow*, *yesterday*, *today*, *before*, and *after*
- Understand and provide common opposites such as top-bottom and big-small
- Use many descriptive adverbs and adjectives in speaking
- Articulate consonant and vowel sounds correctly with few exceptions and is understood by others
- Understand that writing is used for different purposes, such as signs, letters, stories, explanations, and directions
- Attend to and repeat sentences of up to nine words
- Follow a sequence of three directions
- Recognize words that rhyme, that have the same beginning sound or that have the same medial sound
- Define objects by how they are used such as towel, bed, table, jacket
- Begin to use compound and complex sentences
- Apply conventions of grammar to speech
- Know the regular sound-letter correspondences for consonants and short and long vowels
- Read simple controlled vocabulary texts and retell the story
- Write stories using known letter-sound associations and learned spellings of high-frequency words
- Use capital letters at the beginning of a sentence and end punctuation
- Have a sight vocabulary of 100 to 150 words
- Sound out new words with support
- Make predictions based on a story's title, illustrations, and parts read
- Understand and use common punctuation to guide oral reading intonation

#### Six to Seven Years

- Read and retell familiar stories
- Recall and discuss prior knowledge



- Use phonics and context clues to figure out unknown words
- Use word parts (prefixes, suffixes, root words) and similar known words to decode unfamiliar words
- Read familiar texts with fluency
- Give reasons for the actions of characters in a story
- Use a variety of repair strategies when they encounter a comprehension problem including rereading, slowing down, reading to the end of the paragraph
- Make, confirm, and revise predictions based on reading
- Write using regular spellings of sounds and learned spellings of high-frequency words
- Use references such as a word wall or picture dictionary to find the correct spelling of words as needed
- Write in complete sentences and use initial capitalization, commas, and end punctuation correctly
- Have a sight vocabulary of five hundred words or more
- Articulate clearly all sounds in the language
- Know the less common sound-letter correspondences including hard and soft sounds of *c* and *g*, blends, digraphs, and diphthongs, and use them in reading and writing
- Distinguish among different types of text including poems, fictional stories, fables, fairy tales, and informational text
- Recognize the main elements of a story including characters, setting, action
- Compare the characters, settings, or actions of two or more stories
- Write a story of three of five sentences in response to a picture prompt
- Choose appropriate and varied words in speaking and writing
- Write legibly in manuscript



### LIST 2. SPEECH SOUND DEVELOPMENT

Children's repertoire of oral speech sounds (phonemes) develops slowly over five to six years. This chart shows the age at which 75 percent of children have mastered each spoken phoneme. Sounds are shown using the \*International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA).

CONSONANTS SYLLABLE POSITION			VOWELS AND DIPHTHONGS			CONSONANT BLENDS						
IPA*	Conventional	Age	Age	Age	IPA	Conventional		Age	Blend	Age	Blend	Age
m		2	2	3	i	Long E	M <u>e</u>	2	pr-	5		
n		2	2	3	Ι	Short I	Is	4	br-	5		
η	(ng) sing		3	nt**	ε	Short E	M <u>e</u> t	3	tr-	5		
р		2	2	4	æ	Short A	<u>A</u> t	4	dr-	5	sl-	6
b		2	2	3	Λ	Short U	<u>U</u> p	2	kr-	5	SW-	5
t		2	5	3	ə	Schwa	<u>A</u> lone	2	gr-	5	tw-	5
d		2	3	4	α	Broad A	F <u>a</u> ther	2	fr-	5	kw-	5
k		3	3	4	э	Broad O	<u>O</u> ff	3	θr-	6	-ηk	4
g		3	3	4	v	Short OO	<u>L</u> ook	4	pl-	5	-ηg	5
r		5	4	4	u	Long OO	<u>M</u> oon	2	bl-	5	-mp	3
1		4	4	4					kl-	5	-nt	4
f		3	3	3					gl-	5	-nd	6
V		5	5	4					fl-	5	spr-	5
8	(voiceless) thin	5	nt	nt	ju	Long U	Use	3	-ld	6	spl-	5
γ	(th voiced) this	5	5	nt					-lk	5	str-	5
S		5	5	5					-lf	5	skr-	5
Z		5	3	3	ou	Long O	<u>Go</u>	2	-lv	5	skw-	5
ſ	(sh) shoe	5	5	5	au	Ou	<u>Ou</u> t	3	-lz	5	-ns	5
I	(zh) measure	nt	5	nt	eI	Long A	M <u>a</u> y	4	sm-	5	-ps	5
h		2	nt		aI	Long I	Ice	3	sn-	5	-ts	5
		5	nt		эI	OI	B <u>oy</u>	3	sp-	5	-mz	5
W		2	2						st-	5	-nz	5
j	(y) yes	4	4						-st	6	-ηz	5
t∫	(ch) chief	5	5	4					sk-	5	-dz	5
$d_{\mathfrak{T}}$	(j) just	4	4	6					-ks	5	-gz	5



### LIST 3. SOUND-AWARENESS BOOKS

Sound awareness books help young readers focus on recognizing and producing specific sounds. Repetition of a consonant sound in the beginning or ending position in words or of a vowel sound in the middle of words helps reinforce sound-symbol relationships—a critical foundation for emergent reading and writing. The following lists highlight books that focus on either consonant sounds or vowel sounds. They include old and new favorites enjoyed by children in preschool through grade 2.

#### **Consonant Sounds**

- Benji's Blanket by Marc Brown
- Bertie and the Bear by Pamela Allen
- The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss
- Cat's Do, Dogs Don't by Norma Simon
- Crow Boy by Taro Yashima
- *Dig, Drill, Dump, Fill* by Tana Hoban
- Digging up Dinosaurs by Aliki
- Fish Is Fish by Leo Lionni
- The Gingerbread Boy by Paul Galdone
- Gobble, Growl, Grunt by Peter Spier
- Hats, Hats, Hats by Ann Morris
- A House Is a House for Me by Maryann Hoberman
- *How Many Bugs in a Box?* by David Carter
- *How Many Trucks Can a Tow Truck Tow?* by Charlotte Pomerantz
- Jamberry by Bruce Degen
- Joshua James Likes Trucks by Catherine Petrie
- Jump, Frog, Jump by Robert Kalan
- Koko's Kitten by Francine Patterson
- Lazy Lions, Lucky Lambs by Patricia R. Giff
- Mickey's Magnet by Franklyn Branley

- Mrs. Wishy-Washy by Joy Cowley
- The Napping House by Audrey Woods
- One Fish, Two Fish by Dr. Seuss
- Pancakes, Pancakes by Eric Carle
- Peter's Chair by Ezra Jack Keats
- Pingo the Plaid Panda by Loreen Leedy
- The Popcorn Book by Tomie dePaola
- Quick, Quack, Quick! by Marsha Arnold
- Red is Best by Kathy Stinson
- Sadie and the Snowman by Allan Morgan
- Shake My Sillies Out by Raffi
- *Sheep on a Ship* by Nancy Shaw
- Swan Sky by Keizaburo Tejima
- *A Tiger Called Thomas* by Charlotte Zolotow
- Tom and His Tractor by Leslie Wood
- The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle
- Where Does the Garbage Go? by Paul Showers
- Yummy, Yummy by Judith Grey
- Zella, Zack, and Zodiac by Bill Peet
- Zipping, Zapping, Zooming Bats by Ann Earle

#### **Vowel Sounds**

#### Α

All About Arthur by Eric Carle The Cat Sat on the Mat by Alice Cameron Jack and Jake by Aliki The Paper Crane by Molly Bang Skate, Kate, Skate by Patty Carratello Taste the Raindrops by Anna Hines

#### Ε

The Bee Tree by Patricia Polacco Emma's Pet by David McPhail Hester the Jester by Ben Shecter Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw Ten Sleepy Sheep by Holly Keller Who Has These Feet? by Laura Hulbert

#### L

*Iris Has a Virus* by Arlene Alda *Itchy, Itchy Chicken Pox* by Grace Maccarone *The Missing Mitten Mystery* by Steven Kellogg *Mrs. Brice's Mice* by Syd Hoff *Slim and Jim* by Richard Egielski *Whistle for Willie* by Ezra Jack Keats

#### 0

Flossie and the Fox by Patricia C. McKissack
Fox in Socks by Dr. Seuss
Hop on Pop by Dr. Seuss
Joe and the Snow by Tomie dePaola
Over in the Meadow by Olive Wadsworth
Toad on the Road by Susan Schade and John Buller

#### U

The Bug in the Jug Wants a Hug by Brian Cleary Duke the Blue Mule by Patty Carratello One Duck Stuck by Phyllis Root Sun Up, Sun Down by Gail Gibbons Tubby the Tuba by Paul Tripp Underwear by Mary Monsell



### LIST 4. RHYMING BOOKS

If you ask adults to recall a favorite book from their childhood, many will name a rhyming book and some will begin to recite it. Whether it's one of the Dr. Seuss classics or another, such as Bemelmans, *Madeline*, rhyming books have helped generations lay a foundation of phonological (sound) awareness and readiness for reading. They still do. In addition to focusing attention on the ending sounds of words, books that rhyme help children discriminate among sounds, recognize patterns, and develop memory skills—all important foundation skills for literacy. Perhaps their most important contribution is that they happily engage children in the pleasures of reading. This list contains the titles of more than one hundred rhyming books for young children to enjoy.

- Aliens Love Underpants by Claire Freedman
- Altoona Baboona by Janie Bynum
- *The Animals' Song* by David L. Harrison
- Baby Beluga by Raffi
- Baby Says "Moo!" by JoAnn Early Macken, illustrated by David Walker
- Bats in the Band by Brian Lies
- Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson, illustrated by Jane Chapman
- The Big Blue Spot by Peter Horowitz
- Big Honey Hunt by Stan Berenstain
- Bob & Rob & Corn on the Cob by Todd McQueen
- Bubble Gum, Bubble Gum by Lisa Wheeler
- Buzz Said the Bee by Wendy Cheyette Lewison
- By Day, By Night by Amy Gibson
- The Caboose Who Got Loose by Bill Peet
- A Camping Spree with Mr. Magee by Chris Van Dusen
- *Cat in the Hat* by Dr. Seuss
- Chick Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault
- Chicken Cheeks by Michael Ian Black
- Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type by Doreen Cronin and Betsy Lewin
- *Construction* by Sally Sutton
- The Cow Loves Cookies by Karma Wilson
- A Crowded Ride in the Countryside by Frank B. Edwards
- Dinosaur Roar! Board Book by Paul and Henrietta Stickland
- Do You Know Which Ones Will Grow? by Susan A. Shea
- *Down by the Bay* by Raffi
- Down to the Sea with Mr. Magee by Chris Van Dusen
- Drummer Hoff by Barbara and Ed Emberley
- *Duck in the Truck* by Jez Alborough
- Each Peach Pear Plum by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
- Everywhere Babies by Susan Meyers and Marla Frazee
- Farmer Joe and the Music Show by Tony Mitton
- Felicity Floo Visits the Zoo by E. S. Redmond
- *Five Little Pumpkins* by Iris Van Rynback
- Flashing Fire Engines by Tony Mitton, illustrated by Ant Parker
- Fox in Socks by Dr. Seuss

- *A Frog in the Bog* by Karma Wilson
- The Frogs and Toads All Sang by Arnold Lobel
- *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae
- Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors by Hena Khan
- Good Night, Sleep Tight by Mem Fox
- Good Sports: Rhymes about Running, Jumping, Throwing, and More by Jack Prelutsky
- Goodnight, Goodnight Construction Site by Sherri Duskey Rinker
- Granny Went to Market by Stella Blackstone
- Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss
- The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson and Ariel Scheffler
- Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What Is an Adjective? by Brian P. Cleary
- Have You Seen My New Blue Socks? by Eve Bunting
- Hello Toes! Hello Feet! by Ann Whitford Paul
- *Hilda Must Be Dancing* by Karma Wilson
- Horton Hears a Who! by Dr. Seuss
- The House Book by Keith Du Quette
- How Big Is a Pig? by Claire Beaton
- How Do Dinosaurs Eat Their Food? by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague
- How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague
- How Do You Hug a Porcupine? by Laurie Isop
- The Hungry Thing by Jane Slepian and Ann Seidler
- *Hush Little One* by John Butler
- Hush! A Thai Lullaby by Minfong Ho
- *Hush, Little Alien* by Daniel Kirk
- I Ain't Gonna Paint No More! by Karen Beaumont
- I Am Cow, Hear Me Moo! by Jill Esbaum
- I Know a Rhino by Charles Fuge
- I Like Myself by Karen Beaumont
- *I Went Walking* by Sue Williams
- If All the Animals Came Inside by Eric Pinder
- If I Built a House by Chris Van Dusen
- *Iggy Peck, Architect* by Andrea Beaty
- Is There Really a Human Race? by Jamie Lee Curtis, illustrated by Laura Cornell
- Is Your Mama a Llama? by Deborah Guarino
- *It's Hard to Be Five* by Jamie Lee Curtis
- Jamberry by Bruce Degen
- Jillian Jiggs by Phoebe Gilman
- *Kermit the Hermit* by Bill Peet
- A Leaf Can Be ... by Laura Purdie Salas
- Let It Fall by Maryann Cocca-Leffler
- Little Blue Truck by Alice Schertle
- The Little School Bus by Margery Cuyler
- Llama Llama and the Bully Goat by Anna Dewdney
- Llama Llama Home with Mama by Anna Dewdney
- *Mighty Dads* by Joan Holub

- The Monster Who Ate My Peas by Danny Schnitzlein
- Moo Baa La La La by Sandra Boynton
- Moose on the Loose by Carol P. Ocher
- Moses Supposes His Toeses Are Roses by Nancy Patz
- Mrs. McNosh Hangs Up Her Wash by Nadine Bernard Westcott
- My Granny Went to Market by Stella Blackstone
- My Truck Is Stuck! by Kevin Lewis, illustrated by Daniel Kirk
- *Nelly Gnu and Daddy Too* by Anna Dewdney
- The Night Parade by Lily Roscoe
- No Pirates Allowed! Said Library Lou by Rhonda Gowler Greene
- No Sleep for the Sheep! by Karen Beaumont
- No Two Alike by Keith Baker 2011
- Not Now! Said the Cow by Joanne Oppenheim
- One Big Pair of Underwear by Laura Gehl
- One Duck Stuck by Phyllis Root, illustrated by Jane Chapman
- One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish by Dr. Seuss
- One Little Mouse by Dori Chaconas
- Oodles of Noodle by Lucia Hymes and James L. Hymes Jr.
- Parts by Tedd Arnold
- Pretend You're a Cat by Jean Marzollo, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
- *The Recess Queen* by Alexis O'Neill
- The Secret Science Project That Almost Ate the School by Judy Sierra
- Seven Silly Eaters by Mary Ann Hoberman
- Sheep in a Jeep by Nancy Shaw
- Sheep, Sheep, Sheep, Help Me Fall Asleep by Alan Alda
- *Silly Tilly* by Eileen Spinelli
- The Sneetches by Dr. Seuss
- Stand Back Said the Elephant, I'm Going to Sneeze! by Patricia Thomas
- Steam Train, Dream Train by Sherri Duskey Rinker
- Straight and Curvy, Meek and Nervy: More about Antonyms by Brian P. Cleary
- Ten on the Sled by Kim Norman, illustrated by Liza Woodruff
- This Little Chick by John Lawrence
- The Three Ninja Pigs by Corey Rosen Schwartz
- *Tiptoe Joe* by Ginger Foglesong Gibson
- Today I Feel Silly & Other Moods That Make My Day by Jamie Lee Curtis
- Train Song by Diane Siebert
- Trashy Town by Andrea Zimmerman and David Clemesha, illustrated by Dan Yaccarino
- *Waking Beauty* by Leah Wilcox
- When Dinosaurs Go Visiting by Linda Martin
- Whose Toes Are Those? by Jabari Asim
- Wild about Books by Judy Sierra
- Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin by Lloyd Moss
- Zookeeper Sue by Chris Demarest



LIST 5. PREDICTABLE BOOKS

Predictable books are stepping stones in early literacy. Their structures enable young readers to follow along and participate in the reading of the story, holding their interest and aiding their comprehension.

In a *cumulative story*, each new thing or event is added to the previous ones and the list is repeated (*Bringing Rain to the Kapiti Plain* by Verna Aardema, 1981). A *circular story* weaves the plot so that the ending brings you back to the beginning (*If You Give a Moose a Muffin* by Laura Numeroff, 1991).

Some stories use a repeating *question-answer format* (*Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See*? by Bill Martin Jr., 1992). Others use a familiar sequence, such as numbers, seasons, or days of the week, to structure the story (*Chicken Soup with Rice* by Maurice Sendak, 1962).

Repeating pattern stories help children anticipate what is coming by repeating words, phrases, or other story elements (*The Little Red Hen* by Paul Galdone, 2006). Last, authors often use strong *rhyme schemes* that enable the reader to predict upcoming words or phrases (*Is Your Mama a Llama*? by Deborah Guarino, 1989).

The following books will engage your young readers happily in following story lines, predicting what's next, and joining in the reading.

- 10 Bears in my My Bed by Stanley Mack, 1974
- Anansi Goes Fishing by Eric Kimmel, 1992
- Animal Numbers by Bert Kitchen, 1987
- Anno's Counting Book by Mitsumasa Anno, 1977
- The Baby Beebee Bird by Diane Redfield Massie, 2000
- Barn Dance by Bill Martin, Jr., 1986
- Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain by Verna Aardema, 1981.
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin, Jr., 1967
- Buzz, Buzz, Buzz by Byron Barton, 1973
- Can I Keep Him? by Steven Kellogg, 1971
- Chester's Way by Kevin Henkes, 1988
- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr., 1989
- Count and See by Tana Hoban, 1972
- Counting Wildflowers by Bruce McMillan, 1986
- The Cow Who Clucked by Denise Fleming, 2006
- *Dear Zoo* by Rod Campbell, 2007
- Do You Know What I'll Do? by Charlotte Zolotow, 1958
- Do You Know Which Ones Will Grow? by Susan Shea, 2012
- *The Doorbell Rang* by Pat Hutchins, 1986
- Each Peach Pear Plum by Janet and Allan Ahlberg, 1979
- *Farmer Duck* by Martin Waddell, 1995
- *Give the Dog a Bone* by Steven Kellogg, 2000
- Good Morning Chick by Mirra Ginsburg, 1980
- Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown, 1947
- The Grouchy Ladybug by Eric Carle, 1977
- Have You Seen My Duckling? By by Nancy Tafuri, 1984
- Have You Seen my My Cat? by Eric Carle, 1973
- Henny Penny by H. Werner Zimmerman, 1989
- The House That Jack Built by Rodney Peppe, 1985

- If the Dinosaurs Came Back by Bernard Mast, 1978
- If You Give a Moose a Muffin by Laura Numeroff, 1991
- If You Give a Pig a Pancake by Laura Numeroff, 1998
- If You Give Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff, 1985
- If You Take a Mouse to School by Laura Numeroff, 2002
- In 1492 by Jean Marzollo, 1989
- Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear? by Nancy Carlstrom, 1986
- The Lady with the Alligator Purse by Nadine B. Westcott, 1988
- Moira's Birthday by Robert Munsch, 1987
- Mouse Paint by Ellen Walsh, 1989
- My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann, 2002
- My Heart Is Like a Zoo by Michael Hall, 2009
- The Name of the Tree by Celia Lottridge, 1989
- Never Ever Shout in a Zoo by Karma Wilson, 2004
- One Fish Two Fish by Dr. Seuss, 1960
- One Hundred Angry Ants by Elinor Pinczes, 1993
- Over on the Farm by Christopher Gunson, 1997
- Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear? by Bill Martin, Jr., 1991
- *Shoes* by Elizabeth Winthrop, 1986
- Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang, 1983
- The Teddy Bears' Picnic by Jimmy Kennedy, 1987
- The Three Bears by Paul Galdone, 1972
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle, 1969
- There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly by Simms Taback, 1997
- This is the Bear by Sarah Hayes, 1986
- *Too Much Noise* by Ann McGovern, 1992
- Waving: A Counting Book by Peter Sis, 1988
- When Pigs Fly by Valerie Coulman, 2001
- Where Are You Going Little Mouse? by Robert Kraus, 1986
- Where There's a Bear, There's Trouble by Michael Catchpool, 2002
- Who's Counting? by Nancy Tafuri, 1986
- Whose Hat? by Margaret Miller, 1988
- Whose Mouse Are You? by Robert Kraus, 1970
- Whose Shoe? by Margaret Miller, 1991
- Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears by Verna Aardema, 1975



## LIST 6. BOOKS WITHOUT WORDS

Wordless picture books enable even very young children to enjoy stories and participate in their telling. With some guidance they can learn to "read" the pictures and develop a host of emergent literacy skills, including using vocabulary, sequencing, prediction, story line comprehension, characterization, inference skills, setting, and more. Wordless books can also be used to introduce young English language learners to common vocabulary in context. Early positive reading experiences through picture books motivate children to learn to read. Here are some new and old favorites for your classroom library.

- 1 Hunter by Pat Hutchins
- The Adventures of Polo by Regis Faller
- *Ah Ha!* by Jeff Mack
- Alligator's Toothache by Diane De Groat
- The Angel and the Soldier Boy by Peter Collington
- Animal Alphabet by Bert Kitchen
- Anno's Flea Market by Mitsumasa Anno
- Anno's Journey by Mitsumasa Anno
- Anno's Spain by Mitsumasa Anno
- Anno's U.S.A. by Mitsumasa Anno
- Another Story to Tell by Dick Bruna
- April Fools by Fernando Krahn
- Ball by Mary Sullivan
- A Ball for Daisy by Chris Raschka
- The Bear and the Fly by Paula Winter
- Big Ones, Little Ones by Tana Hoban
- Bluebird by Bob Staake
- Bow-Wow Bugs a Bug by Mark Newgarden and Megan Montague Cash
- A Boy, a Dog, a Frog and a Friend by Mercer Mayer
- A Boy, a Dog, and a Frog by Mercer Mayer
- The Boy, the Bear, the Baron, the Bard by Gregory Rogers
- *Carl Goes Shopping* by Alexandra Day
- *Carl's Birthday* by Alexandra Day
- Carl's Christmas by Alexandra Day
- Chalk by Bill Thomson
- *Changes, Changes* by Pat Hutchins
- Clementina's Cactus by Ezra Jack Keats
- The Conductor by Laetitia Devernay
- Creepy Castle by John Goodall
- The Creepy Thing by Fernando Krahn
- Deep in the Forest by Brinton Turkle
- Do You Want to Be My Friend? by Eric Carle
- The Farmer and the Clown by Marla Frazee
- Flora and the Flamingo by Molly Idle
- *Flotsam* by David Wiesner

- The Flower Man by Mark Ludy
- Follow Carl! by Alexandra Day
- Follow Me! by Nancy Tafuri
- Free Fall by David Weisner
- Frog Goes to Dinner by Mercer Mayer
- Frog on His Own by Mercer Mayer
- Frog, Where Are You? by Mercer Mayer
- Good Dog, Carl by Alexandra Day
- Good Night, Garden Gnome by Jamichael Henterly
- Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann
- The Great Cat Chase by Mercer Mayer
- The Grey Lady and the Strawberry Snatcher by Molly Bang
- *Happy Birthday, Max* by Hanne Turk
- Have You Seen My Duckling? by Nancy Tafuri
- *Hiccup* by Mercer Mayer
- *Home* by Jeannie Baker
- *Hug* by Jez Alborough
- The Hunter and the Animals by Tomie dePaola
- I Read Signs by Tana Hoban
- I Read Symbols by Tana Hoban
- Is It Red? Is It Yellow? Is It Blue? by Tana Hoban
- Island Dog by Rebecca Goodale
- Journey by Aaron Becker
- Junglewalk by Nancy Tafuri
- Last Night by Hyewon Yum
- The Lion & the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney
- *Little Star* by Antonin Louchard
- Looking Down by Steve Jenkins
- *Max Packs* by Hanne Turk
- Midsummer Knight by Gregory Rogers
- The Midnight Adventures of Kelly, Dot and Esmeralda by John Goodall
- *Mirror* by Jeannie Baker
- Moonlight by Jan Ormerod
- Museum Trip by Barbara Lehman
- Noah's Ark by Peter Spier
- One Frog Too Many by Mercer Mayer and Marianna Mayer
- Oops by Arthur Geisert
- Over, Under, Through, and Other Spatial Concepts by Tana Hoban
- Paddy Pork's Holiday by John Goodall
- Pancakes for Breakfast by Tomie dePaola
- The Paperboy by Dav Pilkey
- People by Peter Spier
- Peter Spier's Rain by Peter Spier

- *Picnic* by Emily Arnold McCully
- The Rabbit Problem by Emily Gravett
- Rainstorm by Barbara Lehman
- The Red Book by Barbara Lehman
- *Re-Zoom* by Istavan Banyai
- The Ring by Lisa Maizlish
- *Rosie's Walk* by Pat Hutchins
- Sea of Dreams by Dennis Nolan
- The Secret in the Dungeon by Fernando Krahn
- *Sector 7* by David Wiesner
- *Shadow* by Suzy Lee
- Sidewalk Circus by Paul Fleischman and Kevin Hawkes
- *The Silver Pony* by Lynd Ward
- *Snapshot Max* by Hanne Turk
- Snow by Isao Sasaki
- The Snowman by Raymond Briggs
- South by Patrick McDonnell
- Space Colony by Joe Burlson
- *The Surprise Picnic* by John Goodall
- Time Flies by Eric Rohmann
- *Trainstop* by Barbara Lehman
- The Tree House by Marije Tolman
- *Truck* by Donald Crews
- *Tuesday* by David Weisner
- *The Tunnel Calamity* by Edward Gorey
- The Umbrella by Ingrid Schubert
- The Umbrella by Jan Brett
- *Wave* by Suzy Lee
- Will's Mammoth by Rafe Martin
- Window by Jeannie Baker
- *The Yellow Balloon* by Charlotte Demantons
- Yellow Umbrella by Jae-Soo Liu
- Zoom by Istavan Banyai



### LIST 7. PRINT CONCEPTS

Early experiences with books help young children develop an awareness of print and concepts related to words, language, books, and reading that are important foundations for formal instruction. A child's interactions with adults and older students about books provide models that link books to excitement, enjoyment, ideas, and the pleasures of sharing. These same experiences can also focus attention on fundamental behaviors and print knowledge.

When reading to children, it is a simple matter to point out different parts of a book and call attention to specific details such as directionality, word boundaries, and punctuation marks. Later, ask the child to show you where to begin reading, where to go next when the page is done, and so on. Pointing under each word as you read helps children recognize the one-to-one correspondence between the written and spoken word. Having the child point as you read demonstrates his or her understanding.

The following list includes concepts of print for children in prekindergarten and kindergarten. Use the list to guide discussion during story time and as the basis for a print awareness assessment.

The student can do the following.

#### Recognize and can point to

- $\Box$  the front of the book
- $\Box$  the back of the book
- $\Box$  the book spine
- $\Box$  the title of the book
- $\Box$  the author's name
- □ an illustration or picture in the book (realistic)
- page numbers
- □ table of contents (for a collection of stories)

#### Understand and can explain roles of

- $\Box$  the author
- $\hfill \Box$  the illustrator
- $\Box$  the reader
- $\Box$  the audience

#### Understand and can demonstrate

- □ how to hold a book
- □ how to turn pages
- **u** reading from left to right in a line
- □ making a return sweep to next line
- □ reading from top to bottom of page
- □ reading from front to back of the book

#### **Understand that**

- □ spoken words can be written down
- □ the words tell the story
- □ the illustrations are related to the story but are not the story
- □ the one-to-one correspondence of words read and the printed words
- $\Box$  the order of the letters is important
- space separates words
- □ punctuation marks have a purpose

#### Recognize and can point to

- □ letters, words, and punctuation marks
- □ a word and a sentence
- □ the first and last letter of a word
- □ the first and last word of a sentence
- a period, a question mark, an exclamation mark, a comma
- □ a capital and a lowercase letter

#### Recognize and can name

□ all upper- and lowercase letters



### LIST 8. PHONICS AWARENESS

American English language uses twenty-six alphabetic letters in more than one hundred combinations to represent about forty-five speech sounds (the exact number depends on the specific regional variation). Phonics helps new and experienced readers make connections between letter patterns and the speech sounds for which they stand. It begins with an awareness and recognition of letters and sounds, then builds connections between them, starting with the most frequent and distinct correspondences.

Letter knowledge	Recognize, name, and distinguish upper- and lowercase letters.
Word segmentation	Recognize or separate individual words within a sentence. <i>Example</i> : "I went to the store." (five words)
Syllable segmentation	Recognize and separate syllables within words. <i>Examples</i> : Bill-y, Ton-ya, a-bout, talk-ing
Syllable blending	Listen to two spoken word parts and blend them into a single word. <i>Example</i> : let-ter $\rightarrow$ letter
Phonemic awareness—consonants	Tell whether the initial consonant sounds of two or more words are the same or different. <i>Examples</i> : mat/sat, big/beg, pay/pit/pen, lip/fit/like
	Tell whether the final consonant sounds of two or more words are the same or different. <i>Examples</i> : sat/sad, met/mat, five/hive, fin/stem/men
Phonemic awareness—Vowels	Tell whether the vowel sound in two or more words is the same or different. <i>Examples</i> : mane/cane; pin/pen; stick/stock/stuck
Phonemic blending	Blend two or more phonemes or speech sounds together to form a word. <i>Example</i> : $/t//o//m/ \rightarrow$ Tom
Phonemic segmentation	Separate and pronounce the individual sounds of a word. <i>Example</i> : cat $\rightarrow$ /c/ /a/ /t/
Rhyming	Recognize and produce rhyming pairs. <i>Examples</i> : tan/pan, big/pig, get/set; tap/map
Onset substitution	Remove the initial consonant sound from the beginning of a word and substitute it with another consonant sound to form a different word in a word family. <i>Example</i> : mat $\rightarrow$ /m/ + at, /s/ + at = sat, /f/ + at = fat; /k/ + at = cat



LIST 9. RHYMING WORDS

Rhyming is an important link to other emergent reading skills. Rhyming involves auditory attention and discrimination, the ability to manipulate beginning sounds to produce different words that have the same ending, and the ability to group or separate words by their sounds. Many studies have shown that children who are intentionally exposed to rhyming in their preschool years are more likely to be successful in early reading.

After exposure to books and nursery or other favorite rhymes that have strong rhythm and rhyme schemes, games and other activities that lead children to recognize and produce rhyming words are important. Here are some rhyming words to get them started. Remember, rhyming words end in the same sounds, not necessarily the same letter.

my	try	cry	die	fry
lie	fly	spy	sky	dry
make	take	bake	fake	flake
cake	steak	break	Jake	lake
day	stay	may	play	spray
pay	say	way	pray	tray
ball	Paul	call	fall	tall
wall	small	hall	stall	crawl
bell	fell	smell	spell	shell
tell	sell	well	yell	cell
need	seed	feed	lead	speed
bleed	weed	read	bead	freed
best	test	rest	messed	pressed
dressed	guest	nest	west	pest
sit	fit	bit	knit	spit
quit	hit	pit	split	lit
fine	dine	line	vine	spine
shine	nine	mine	pine	whine
Jill	fill	bill	pill	will
hill	kill	chill	sill	mill
bite	light	night	fight	kite
sight	bright	white	write	sprite
king	ring	sing	bring	wing
thing	sting	string	ding	spring
pot	got	hot	knot	rot
spot	shot	lot	cot	dot



store	floor	tour	more	core
	pour	four	door	chore
Bob	slob	knob	rob	cob
job	blob	snob	mob	sob
Chuck	duck	stuck	truck	muck
luck	tuck	cluck	buck	struck
jump	hump	stump	bump	dump
lump	pump	clump	grump	plump
go	slow	snow	throw	blow
dough	know	grow	show	sew
ate	date	plate	great	state
gate	late	wait	crate	skate
air	care	bear	chair	dare
stare	share	there	square	fair
Sam	am	jam	yam	ham
pam	bam	lamb	clam	slam
back	pack	sack	rack	quack
snack	black	whack	track	stack
bum	some	gum	hum	drum
plum	rum	chum	glum	strum
stop	cop	mop	top	pop
flop	drop	shop	chop	hop
ink	think	blink	stink	drink
wink	sink	link	pink	shrink
zip	lip	skip	dip	rip
flip	chip	ship	whip	trip



LIST 10. MINIMAL PAIRS

Minimal pairs are sets of words that differ by only one phoneme or sound. The difference may be in the initial, medial, or final position of the words as in *pit/bit, pit/pat,* and *pit/pin*. A single sound difference changes the word. Being able to distinguish sounds and produce each one is important to understanding spoken language, speaking, learning phonics, and spelling. Small-group or one-to-one practice with minimal pairs is especially helpful to students whose language background is not Standard American English. The following lists focus on sounds that students often find difficult to differentiate.

To practice producing the sounds, pronounce the word pair and then have the students echo your pronunciation. Repeat three times before moving on to the next pair. The repetition helps students correct their auditory discrimination before altering their sound production.

To practice sound differentiation, give students two cards, one labeled *same* and the other labeled *different*. Ask students to listen to the pairs of words and to hold up one of the cards to show whether they are the same or different. Intermix pairs of identical words with the minimal pairs. A sample discrimination practice set is provided in the following. When contrasting two sounds, practice with each presented first, as in *pig/big, big/pig*.

#### **Sample Practice Set**

bit/pit	big/big	pig/big	pat/pat	bat/pat
bet/pet	but/putt	bet/bet	putt/putt	but/putt
pit/bit	big/pig	pet/bet	putt/but	pat/bat

#### **Consonant Sounds**

b	bag tag	buy dye	bee key	bus Gus	bin fin
	ban van	bun sun	boom zoo,	back Zack	buy rye
	bat pat	bet pet	bin pin	bug pug	bath path
	bark park	bay pay	beep peep	beach peach	bye pie
	bee pea	beg Peg	big pig	bees peas	beep sheep
	boo zoo	back shack	bird third	bake shake	bees these
	but hut	bin chin	beef leaf	beep jeep	book cook
	Ben yen	ball wall	bun run	bunch lunch	base lace
hard c (k)	call Paul cat fat cap gap coat goat cook look call shawl cot yacht cat gnat	calm palm cast fast curl girl cold gold keep sheep cake lake kite white calf laugh	cone bone cool fool coal goal coast toast kick thick kin win code load kick Rick	kale bale kin fin card guard cap zap cat chat Ken when case race camp lamp	cool tool king zing cage gauge keel kneel cage wage cow wow coke yolk coal pole
ch	chin gin	cheap jeep	chest jest	cheer jeer	chill Jill
	chess jess	cello Jello	chip gyp	chose joe's	choke joke
	chunk junk	chive jive	cheese g's	cherry Gerry	chain Jane
	chop pop	chest best	chair bear	chew two	chip dip
	chair dare	cheer year	chick wick	chase race	chime rhyme
	chimp limp	chop mop	chase lace	chair mare	chalk hawk
	chest vest	chain vane	chose foes	charm farm	chum come
	chop cop	cheap keep	chin Lynn	chick Mick	chose nose



#### **Consonant Sounds (***Continued***)**

d	dim Tim	dusk tusk	den ten	Dee tea	door tore
	dip tip	down town	dart tart	die tie	dot tot
	dine pine	dough bow	duck buck	din kin	Dale bale
	deal peel	dark park	date Kate	den Zen	dial vial
	deep seep	deer veer	debt vet	dole coal	dig big
	down gown	dare care	deer fear	dough hoe	Dick thick
	dirty thirty	den then	Doug hug	dart heart	dye why
	dean mean	day yay	dill will	dig jig	deep jeep
f	fat vat	fan tan	fear veer	fender vendor	fine vine
	file vile	fail veil	fan pan	fee peel	fine dine
	fable table	fair pair	fold hold	fear deer	fall ball
	far car	fun done	fill dill	fit kit	fool cool
	fake cake	fame game	fed said	fade shade	foam gnome
	fawn yawn	fun one	fine shine	folk yolk	phone loan
	fog log	fees these	fade jade	fax Jack's	fight height
	fell yell	fog jog	foes those	funny money	foe sew
hard g	got pot	goo boo	gun pun	got tot	get vet
	gap cap	goat vote	go dough	guest vest	gear fear
	guard bard	gown down	goal coal	go foe	get yet
	gig rig	gave wave	guest rest	Gail rail	go woe
	goal roll	gourd lord	give live	goose juice	got hot
	gust rust	gave shave	gun sun	gum thumb	gape shape
	gill chill	gorge George	get jet	gear cheer	gill mill
	goat moat	got not	gear near	gale whale	go though
h	hop pop	hook book	hay bay	heart part	hi bye
	hub tub	hen pen	hast taste	horde cord	hold bold
	heat wheat	heap leap	hip whip	host toast	hear year
	hawk chalk	hum chum	hair pair	hatch latch	hoist moist
	horn corn	hush lush	hack back	host most	hail whale
	hoe though	hiss this	haze ways	hard yard	hole roll
	hello mellow	ham yam	hose shows	herd third	hank thank
	high why	hurt shirt	hash rash	head shed	hope nope
j (dg)	jig pig	jack back	joke poke	gin tin	jade paid
	jar car	jail tail	Jane pain	jet pet	joke yoke
	jump pump	Jill gill	Jake shake	jam lamb	Jen ten
	jeep heap	jaw thaw	job cob	jeans beans	jess less
	jest test	jeer beer	jelly belly	jeep weep	just gust
	gel cell	jade raid	jog log	jack's sax	jam yam
	jaw saw	jest vest	junk punk	germ worm	Jane lane
	jute shoot	Joan moan	Jake rake	joe though	jay they
1	lick pick	loss toss	light bite	lard guard	licks fix
	lace face	leap peep	lame fame	load toad	let bet
	lash cash	leaf thief	lark park	less guess	lash mash
	laugh half	load code	latch thatch	lane pane	locks fox
	loose goose	lock rock	lag gag	lip whip	leak peak
	leech peach	lunch bunch	link wink	lush hush	lay weigh
	line wine	lawn yawn	lone tone	leeks beaks	lick thick
	law thaw	lake take	lamb ram	lunch munch	linger finger

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#### **Consonant Sounds (***Continued***)**

r	rack lack	race lace	rice lice	reach leech	rain lane
	rink link	rocket locket	row low	red led	rug lug
	right light	rock lock	rate late	rush lush	ramp lamp
	rain pain	rig fig	rare fair	rocks fox	raid fade
	roll goal	rake cake	road toad	rule pool	rail pale
	rook nook	rug bug	reap jeep	rose those	rash cash
	runny money	rail shale	rook look	reef sheaf	ram lamb
	road load	rink think	rest nest	wrestle trestle	rat that
S	sip pip	sum yum	sob cob	sue you	soak coke
	seek leak	seep peep	sigh why	six licks	sour tower
	sight kite	sign line	sage page	surf turf	silly chilly
	sign mine	seal real	sunk junk	sign pine	sink rink
	sun pun	sink think	sash rash	source horse	seat Pete
	sack shack	scene bean	sum thumb	sage wage	sigh thigh
	sail tail	saw thaw	sage cage	seat sheet	sick wick
	sank thank	sink zinc	sock shock	sank bank	sour shower
sh	shy pie	show sew	shirt Bert	shack rack	shower power
	sheaf thief	shark park	shook rook	shine pine	shut rut
	shows rose	shower sour	shark bark	shoe chew	shine wine
	shoes choose	shack bake	shop chop	shore tore	she thee
	sheep peep	shock sock	shed wed	shop top	shell tell
	shark lark	shoe ewe	sheaf leaf	shy thy	share their
	show though	ship zip	shirt dirt	ship whip	shell cell
	shawl wall	shine sign	shy dye	shoot suit	chic leak
t	ten den	tick think	table fable	tax fax	tail veil
	table label	tore door	tank thank	test guest	table gable
	test west	tight white	town down	toss loss	ten then
	teal wheel	tool cool	took look	tart dart	torn thorn
	town gown	toast host	two chew	toes those	tie dye
	taping gaping	taste haste	tease these	typed wiped	ticket wicket
	tight bite	team beam	test nest	ted bed	tile vial
	teak week	tin gin	torn horn	tone moan	tax backs
Voiceless th	thick pick	third bird	thaw jaw	thirty dirty	thorn mourn
	thaw gnaw	thick wick	thanks banks	thick tick	thigh thy
	thumb dumb	think pink	thorn born	thief leaf	third nerd
	thick lick	thin fin	thatch patch	think mink	thief beef
	thimble nimble	thorn born	think link	three free	thunder wonder
	thumb yum	think kink	thumb numb	thirsty Kirsty	thread Fred
	thank tank	thumb come	thick sick	thief sheaf	thick kick
	thatch latch	thigh pie	thanks tanks	thumb gum	third gird
Voiced th	then wren	these wheeze	though row	their wear	they ray
	they yay	that gnat	those woes	then when	those nose
	there where	they may	though joe	this miss	thee knee
	that hat	those chose	that rat	then men	they lay
	then ken	thigh thy	though show	this kiss	thee lee
	those foes	these cheese	then Len	these knees	though sew
	those rose	thy lie	that cat	thee sea	that hat
	these g's	these mare	those hose	them hem	that vat



#### **Consonant Sounds (***Continued***)**

v	vet yet	van ran	vote wrote	veil rail	veal real
	vat gnat	veer year	vow cow	vet net	vine line
	vast cast	veal kneel	vein Wayne	veil kale	vet wet
	vein lane	vest guest	vie sigh	vine wine	V's wheeze
	v sea	vane sane	verse nurse	vie lie	veer deer
	vote note	vest west	vine shine	Vaughan yawn	vial mile
	V's these	vat chat	vent dent	vest best	vine pine
	veer gear	vile file	veil sail	vine sign	veer sheer
Ζ	Zack yak	zoom room	zip whip	zest west	Z's wheeze
	zoo Lou	zone lone	zinc rink	zip lip	zap wrap
	zest rest	Zen yen	zap map	Zack rack	zip rip
	Zen Len	zone Joan	zap yap	zit knit	zinc mink
	zone phone	zest nest	Zack Jack	zoos choose	zipper ripper
	Zen when	zap gap	zing ring	zit wit	zoo two
	zinc wink	zoo shoe	zeal veal	zest chest	zoo due
	zest guest	zoom boom	zing king	zap cap	zone cone

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#### **Vowel Sounds**

vower St	Junus				
āă	bake back	fade fad	cape cap	fate fat	plane plan
	base bass	rain ran	haze has	snake snack	tape tap
	played plaid	rake rack	shame sham	made mad	ate at
	brain bran	mate mat	slate slat	same Sam	Kate cat
	gale gal	lace lass	aid add	cane can	bait bat
āĕ	bait bet	late let	gate get	pain pen	main men
	aid Ed	raid red	rake wreck	fail fell	mate met
	paper pepper	fade fed	wait wet	date debt	Nate net
	Yale yell	sale sell	lace less	Wayne when	shade shed
	taste test	wade wed	waist west	trade tread	shale shell
ēĕ	bead bed	bean ben	heed head	deed dead	beet bet
	meat met	Pete pet	seat set	teen ten	mean men
	keen Ken	dean den	feed fed	weed wed	read red
	deal dell	jean Jen	peep pep	feel fell	seal sell
	need Ned	lead led	weak wed	speak speck	speed sped
ēĭ	Pete pit	meat mitt	read rid	lead lid	deal dill
	feet fit	deep dip	seen sin	feel fill	team Tim
	sleep slip	seek sick	seat sit	leave live	heal hill
	week wick	teen tin	wheeze whiz	keen kin	sheep ship
	sleek slick	bean bin	fleet flit	leap lip	heap hip
ĪĬ	like lick	hide hid	slide slid	sight sit	dime dim
	side Sid	fine fin	wine win	bite bit	dine din
	light lit	time Tim	fight fit	sign sin	ripe rip
	quite quit	pike pick	might mitt	spite spit	kite kit
	heist hissed	mice miss	pipe pip	stripe strip	diaper dipper
īā	pie pay	lie lay	rye ray	pine pain	sign sane
	buy bay	dye day	sty stay	high hey	line lane
	rise raise	time tame	rice race	spice space	height hate
	right rate	light late	spy spay	spry spray	ply play
	ride raid	dime dame	prize praise	guise gaze	my may
īă	kite cat	might mat	fight fat	dine Dan	mine man
	dime dam	fine fan	Mike Mack	like lack	climb clam
	brine bran	died dad	flight flat	ripe wrap	grind grand
	lice lass	mice mass	bride brad	plied plaid	bite bat
	stripe strap	bike back	riper wrapper	tide tad	yipes yaps
ōŏ	road rod	hope hop	goat got	wrote rot	dote dot
	folks fox	holy holly	note not	joke jock	poke pock
	slope slop	smoke smock	soak sock	cope cop	Joan John
	robe rob	cloak clock	cone con	toad Todd	node nod
	coat cot	mope mop	tote tot	code cod	roan Ron
ŌĪ	doe dye	toe tie	low lie	so sigh	go guy
	road ride	load lied	crows cries	flows flies	note night
	boat bite	coat kite	sewed side	float flight	bloat blight
	tone tine	dome dime	phone fine	load line	moan mine
	sown sign	phoned find	stow sty	flow fly	crow cry



#### Vowel Sounds (Continued)

VUWEL .	Sounds (Continueu)				
ūŭ	cube cub	tube tub	cute cut	dune done	Jude Judd
	mute mutt	Luke luck	rune run	dude dud	duke duck
	fuel full	puke puck	mule mull	root rut	stewed stud
	mood mud	boot but	roof rough	boon bun	gloom glum
ă ĕ	pack peck	mass mess	dad dead	sand send	ham hem
	sat set	lad led	vary very	lag leg	batter better
	mat met	land lend	bag beg	rack wreck	band bend
	dance dense	pat pet	land lend	Dan den	bad bed
	pan pen	laughed left	past pest	sad said	tan ten
ăĭ	pan pin	ban pin	knack nick	span spin	can kin
	sat sit	lacks licks	cat kit	Dan din	fan fin
	stack stick	pack pick	cast kissed	panned pinned	ram rim
	draft drift	wax wicks	track trick	Tammy Timmy	tax ticks
	slam slim	drank drink	dad did	lack lick	fat fit
ă ŏ	hat hot	pat pot	cat cot	bag bog	racket rocket
	hag hog	mass moss	lack lock	map mop	sacks sox
	rat rot	sap sop	flack flock	fax fox	Nat not
	rack rock	cad cod	axe ox	add odd	jack jock
	black block	pad pod	chap chop	jag jog	Mack mock
ă ŭ	rag rug	calf cuff	ankle uncle	fan fun	sang sung
	back buck	branch brunch	gal gull	damp dump	ram rum
	lag lug	track truck	slam slum	stack stuck	stamp stump
	patter putter	dance dunce	rang rung	ramble rumble	dank dunk
	badge budge	rash rush	bank bunk	ran run	bash bush
ĕĭ	let lit	pet pit	set sit	fell fill	hem him
	check chick	ten tin	spell spill	pen pin	tell till
	hell hill	peg pig	etch itch	when win	bed bid
	weather wither	left lift	mess miss	dead did	rest wrist
	better bitter	bell bill	lest list	sense since	peck pick
ĕŏ	pep pop	den don	fender fonder	ted Todd	read rod
	check chock	net not	deck dock	beg bog	bend bond
	said sod	penned pond	pet pot	leg log	keg cog
	yet yacht	debt dot	fleck flock	red rod	Ned nod
	flex flocks	ken con	fend fond	friend frond	get got
ĕ ŭ	bed bud	pep pup	best bust	dead dud	bet but
	meddle muddle	pen pun	pedal puddle	check chuck	deck duck
	desk dusk	dell dull	flesh flush	dense dunce	bench bunch
	peg pug	leg lug	Meg mug	crest crust	rest rust
	wrestle rustle	ready ruddy	settle subtle	best bust	jest just
ĬŎ	pit pot	tip top	clip clop	kit cot	lip lop
	nib knob	kid cod	Sid sod	knit not	slip slop
	flick flock	tick tock	lick lock	fib fob	jib job
	click clock	nick knock	picket pocket	stick stock	ship shop
	rickets rockets	spit spot	slit slot	hip hop	drip drop



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#### Vowel Sounds (Continued)

ĬŬ	pin pun	bin bun	rim rum	pink punk	sink sunk
	sin sun	din done	biddy buddy	stint stunt	drink drunk
	bid bud	tin ton	fin fun	shrink shrunk	kiss cuss
	lick luck	trick truck	stick stuck	hint hunt	gist just
	miss muss	tress truss	mitt mutt	spin spun	bid bud
ŏŭ	pot put	lost lust	lock luck	mom mum	jots juts
	boss bus	model muddle	rot rut	knot nut	shot shut
	dog dug	hot hut	gosh gush	cob cub	knob nub
	pop pup	shot shut	robbed rubbed	spotter sputter	rob rub
	cot cut	dock duck	smog smug	robber rubber	sob sub
ŏ aw	odd awed	don dawn	not naught	pod pawed	pond pawned
	tot taught	cot caught	sod sawed	body bawdy	clod clawed
	hock hawk	stock stalk	knotty naughty	fond fawned	collar caller
ŭ aw	done dawn	dug dog	sun sawn	hunch haunch	lunch launch
	cull call	gull gall	fun fawn	punch paunch	bubble bauble
	cruller crawler	bus boss	flood flawed	thud thawed	bud baud
ŭ oĭo	tuck took	luck look	buck book	huff hoof	shuck shook
	stud stood	putt put	Huck's hooks	cud could	puff poof



### LIST 11. WORD SEGMENTATION

Children's ability to recognize and manipulate the different sounds in a word is a key skill in beginning reading, spelling, and writing. Over many years researchers have found that pairing a physical action with segmenting a word into its component sounds helps students differentiate sounds, segment words into their component sounds, and recognize sound-symbol correspondences more easily. The following technique makes the segmentation of words into individual sounds a multisensory experience involving auditory, visual, and kinesthetic-tactile senses.

The procedure is simple. The student is given a paper strip or sheet with two squares printed on it, each square being large enough to fit a marker or token. Next, the student listens to a word pronounced slowly and repeats it, moving one token or marker into a box for each sound heard. Given a two-phoneme word such as *it*, the student would move, one two tokens into each of the two boxes. Practice segmenting words using this technique for five to ten minutes daily to focus on sounds being taught as well as those previously learned. As skills develop, move to longer and less frequently used words.

Tips for practice exercises, lists of practice words, variations for using this technique, and templates for two-, three-, and four-phoneme words are provided in the following.

#### **Tips for Practice Exercises**

- 1. Have same-color bingo markers or tokens available and prepare paper strips with two, three, and four squares of a size to fit the markers or tokens. Laminating them makes them reusable for many weeks.
- 2. Model the process by saying a word slowly, articulating it sound by sound; for each sound, move a bingo marker into the next slot, left to right. [Be sure you are seated beside the student so the order of the sounds in the words and the order of placing the markers are correct or use a document camera to show the class.]
- 3. Do a think-aloud to explain what you are doing. "I will stretch out the word while I am saying it so I can listen and hear all of its sounds. I will move a marker into its box when I hear a different sound. I will put only one marker in each box, so I can see how many sounds the word has."
- 4. When the student understands the process, give the student markers and the strip with boxes. Tell the student to listen to the word as you say it, and then say it with you s-l-o-w-l-y. Then have the student repeat the word slowly moving a marker into a corresponding box for each sound.
- 5. Progress through words of increasing difficulty, beginning with words having two or three phonemes to words having six phonemes.
- 6. Progress from the teacher saying the word, stretching it, and having the student repeat the stretched word, to the teacher providing the word and the student stretching it to isolate the sounds.

#### Variations for Segmenting Words into Sounds

- 1. Show a picture for the word to help students remember the word they are working on.
- 2. Prepare worksheets with multiple sets of boxes to accommodate up to ten words per page.
- 3. Work with a small group of two to five students with each having his or her own markers and box strips. Students will repeat the word together, stretching it out and moving the markers into appropriate boxes.
- 4. Set up the exercise on a smart board and allow students to take turns sliding an icon into each box.
- 5. For advanced students, instead of moving markers, have students write the appropriate spelling of the phonemes in the boxes. For example, *rain* has three phonemes. The student will write *r*, *ai*, *n* in the three boxes. *Note*: Vowel and consonant digraphs (*ch*, *ow*, *th*, etc.) will have two letters in one box.
- 6. Use two colors of markers, one for consonant sounds and one for vowel sounds.
- 7. For advanced students, use the same technique to divide words into syllables.



### **Practice Words**

The following practice words are grouped in general teaching order beginning with short vowels and regular consonants. *Note*: Each letter of a blend has its own box; the two letters of a digraph have only one box.

Two-phonem	e words (VC)					
am	an	as	at	ax	Ed	if
in	is	it	on	OX	up	us
Three-phone	me words (CVC	) <b>ă. ĕ.</b> ĭ				
dad	Sam	had	tap	sad	cat	bed
sat	let	get	hen	men	sit	can
did	van	ran	jam	map	fat	lip
win	hat	cab	pit	mix	fix	pet
ten	bag	dan	rat	net	hid	fed
dip	him	bat	zip	pen	six	set
man	red	wet	set	lit	nap	mat
Three phone	me words (CVC	)ăŭ				
Bob	mud	hum	fun	run	cut	nut
dug	top	hug	got	rob	mop	рор
bus	rub	job	rug	fox	dot	sub
hop	but	hog	mom	nod	not	cup
mug	fog	box	jog	sun	yum	pot
hot	tub	bug	cop	cot	log	pup
			<b>I</b>		- 0	LL
		~				
Four-phonen crab	ne words (CCVC drip	frog	lends trap	snap	clam	Brad
slam	glad	club	stem	clap	slip	flip
drop	plum	stop	grab	drum	spot	crib
trip	slim	trot	flop	clip	clop	plot
flag	slid	plan	sled	swim	trim	skip
skin	clog	slot	snip	slap	spin	flat
SKIII	clog	3101	smp	siap	spin	nat
	ne words (CVCC				1.	• .
mist	hint	sank	bent	test	limp	just
best	cent	link	felt	land	bump	fact
dump	tilt	wink	went	lift	gust	lamp
lint	nest	mend	rest	belt	held	dent
sand	gift	must	mint	lump	bend	tent
bunk	hunt	sunk	tank	hunt	pink	send
sank	hand	pond	dust	sift	vest	list



Three-phoneme words (CVC) with vowel digraphs						
rain	keep	feet	read	seem	paid	wait
neat	soap	deal	tail	leaf	meat	weak
coat	beat	wait	loaf	load	fail	mail
goal	loan	goat	feel	week	jail	coal
moan	rail	pain	sail	foam	toad	gain
Three-phonem	e words (CVCe)	)				
make	five	pete	line	hope	June	note
home	made	ride	rule	tune	vote	mine
name	tube	late	time	mile	rake	joke
bite	wave	fine	same	life	size	vine
like	gave	bike	came	side	wide	wife
hide	bone	base	pole	state	nine	pipe
wipe	ripe	poke	dave	kite	rake	gate
tape	save	game	cake	date	lime	dime
Thuss phonom	a wanda with aa	nganant dignanh				
that	bath	nsonant digraph chat	with	much	wrap	such
					-	
chin	rush	fish	hush	then	ring	dish
shut	this	than	thin	wing	whip	knot
whim	song	knit	chip	lash	dish	math
sing	cash	lung	rash	Josh	path	Beth
mush	wish	inch	ship	shot	shop	chop

#### Sound Squares Template

A full-size version of these templates is available for free download at the book's website.



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### LIST 12. ACTIVE RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

An active response activity is one that engages all students in the learning exercise at the same time. In a traditional question-and-answer session, the teacher calls on one student at a time. As a result, each student may have a one-in-fifteen or one-in-twenty opportunity to respond and get feedback. In an active response activity, the teacher asks a question, makes a statement, or shows a flashcard, and all students answer by holding up a response card. For example, using *yes-no* response cards, students would hold up either the *yes* card or the *no* card to answer questions, such as, *Is today Friday? Is this a vowel?* In this way, every student has the opportunity to respond to and get feedback on every task.

Active response activities are useful for groups of varying skill levels. They are also an effective way to include English language learners before they feel confident enough to respond singly. Using a variety of active response cards, students can practice and demonstrate their acquisition of target phonics knowledge, vocabulary, comprehension skills, idioms, language structures, and more. Active response can be used as a review, either with true-false or multiple-choice responses. Prompts can be spoken or shown as cards or slides.

### **ACTIVITY: PROCEDURES**

- 1. Photocopy the set of active response cards you want to use (yes-no, true-false, same-different, before-after, 1-2-3-4, A-B-C-D) onto heavy paper called *index stock* (or *card stock*) making one set for each student. Use a different color for each response (e.g., green—yes, red—no).
- 2. Distribute a set to each student. Explain how the cards will be used in class. Model putting the cards face up on the desk. Then demonstrate how to select and *show the answer*. Yes-no example: Ask: *Are peaches a type of fruit?* Tell students they are to show the answer quickly and that you will check that all have answered before moving on. Show the *y*es card to the class. Tell students the signal you will use for them to return their cards to the desk (head nod or *OK* comment). Then ask the next question: *Are peas a type of fruit?* Show the *no* card. Use your signal and then return the card to the desk. When students indicate they understand how to participate in the activity, begin the practice exercise.
- 3. Begin slowly and wait until everyone has responded, picking up the pace when everyone has understood the question-response pattern. Repeat challenging items throughout the session to enable students to correct an earlier wrong response and show their learning.
- 4. Provide a plastic sandwich-sized bag with a zipper lock to each student and write the student's name on the bag with a waterproof marker.

Following are examples of active response activities using yes-no, true-false, same-different, beforeafter, 1-2-3-4, or A-B-C-D) response cards.

#### **YES-NO RESPONSE CARDS**

Is Hector a boy? Is Anna a boy? Do birds fly? Do cats bark? Are baby lions called kittens? Can you use a paddle to write? Do you see with your ears? Is this blue? (Show card or object.) Is this California? (Point to *x* state on map.) Is this breakfast? (Show picture of meal.) Is this a sweater? (Show picture of clothing.)

#### Same-Different Response Cards

The sounds at the beginning of pit-pen The sounds at the beginning of sight-slight The sounds at the beginning of big-pig The sounds at the end of pat-pad The sounds at the end of bang-bank The sounds at the end of hit-hid

#### **Before-After Response Cards**

Study: before or after a test? Practice: before or after a performance? Pay: before or after picking a sandwich? Wet: before or after the rain? Sleepy: before or after nap?

#### **True-False Response Cards**

Ms. Polk is the science teacher. It is raining today. It snowed yesterday. The custodian cleans the school. Rene has red hair. The American flag has twenty-five stars. George Washington is president. New York City is the capital of New York.

#### 1-2-3-4 or A-B-C-D response cards\*

Where do you sleep? 1. table, 2. desk, 3. bed, 4. lamp Which one goes with parties? 1, 2, 3, or 4 (show pictures) I have a toothache. Call: A. the nurse, B. the dentist, C. the clerk, D. the minister The boy in the story had: A. a dog, B. a cat, C. a monkey, D. a pony

\*To minimize memory issues and focus on vocabulary knowledge, show the images with their corresponding letter or number using presentation software.

#### Variations

- **ELLs**. Students can respond aloud as well as showing the card (works well with young children). ELL students benefit from patterned sentences. For the previous example, you might have them respond by showing their cards and saying: Yes, peaches are a type of fruit, or No, peas are not fruit.
- **Content subjects.** In content subjects, response cards can be prepared for any yes-no, true-false, or multiple-choice question.



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A full-size version of these templates is available for free download at the book's website.

Yes	No		
true	false		
same	different		
А	В		
С	D		
before	after		
1	2		
3	4		



## LIST 13. HANDWRITING CHARTS

The ability to recognize upper- and lowercase letters by name is an important foundation skill in early literacy. Letter features and production are also a part of early exploration of sounds and the symbols we use to represent them. Young students need lots of practice forming letters. The two styles of manuscript printing presented in the following are simple and enable an easy transition to their cursive cousins. Although some schools have deemphasized cursive handwriting in their curricula to make room for keyboarding skills, all students should be given the opportunity to transition and practice cursive handwriting. These two writing systems are here to help.



Zaner-Bloser Manuscript Alphabet

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Zaner-Bloser Cursive Alphabet From Zaner-Bloser Handwriting © Zaner-Bloser, Inc. Used with permission from Zaner-Bloser, Inc. All rights reserved.




D'Nealian Manuscript Alphabet

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D'Nealian Cursive Alphabet

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## LIST 14. READING AND LANGUAGE TIPS FOR PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Parents are children's first reading and language teachers. Young children develop early reading and language skills naturally through play, conversation, and imitation. Helping children get ready to read is easy, fun, and rewarding. Here are fifty ways parents and others can make a positive difference in a child's early learning and literacy development.

- 1. Read to your child every day. It's never too early to start. Even before they understand words, children respond to the flow and sounds of language.
- 2. Recite or sing nursery rhymes and children's songs often, even to very young children. Rhythm, rhyme, and music stimulate children's brains and help them recognize and respond to sound patterns.
- 3. Talk to your child as much as possible. The more words a child hears the more he or she understands.
- 4. Point out and name things in the child's environment: *Look! There's a butterfly. See the yellow butterfly? Can you say but-ter-fly? There's another butterfly. Now we have two butterflies!* Repeating the word helps children learn to recognize its sound pattern and link it to the image.
- 5. Pick a variety of books to share including rhyming books, picture books, and predictable books that repeat key words or phrases. Pick books on topics the children enjoy and on topics that are new to them. This keeps children interested and expands what they know.
- 6. Read and reread favorites. Rereading helps develop children's memory for the story, an awareness of how words and sentence work, and other skills, such as recognizing a story's beginning, middle, and ending.
- 7. Don't be surprised if the child begins to recite parts of a favorite story with you. This demonstrates interest in the story and the development of memory and language skills. Show your approval with praise: *Wow! What a good memory you have!*
- 8. Use picture books without words to help the child learn to interpret pictures and tell a story. Pictures give a lot of information to children that an author could not provide using the limited number of words that a new reader knows.
- 9. Point to the words as you read them. After a while, have your child point to each word as you read. This process helps children learn to read from left to right, from the top of the page to the bottom, and to turn to the next page and start at the top left again. Pointing while reading has also helped children match the sound of the spoken word to the visual image of the word.
- 10. Use the pictures in books to help your child understand the story. Have your child point to details in the pictures and tell you about them.
- 11. Let your child "read" you the pictures in a familiar picture book. Ask questions: *What happens next? Then what? Where did it go? How do you know that?* Questions like these help children connect meaning to print.
- 12. Use book words when talking to your child. Point out the book's cover, the title (the name of the story), the author (the name of the person who wrote the book), the illustrator (the name of the person who drew the pictures), the pages (each sheet of paper in the book,), and so on. Knowing these book-related words enables the child to talk about books. *Oops, there's jelly on the cover! Read* Llama Llama Red Pajama, *please, Mommy!*
- 13. Look at magazines, brochures, store flyers, or other print media with your child. Ask him to tell you what he sees in the pictures.
- 14. Share your delight in the world around you by pointing out interesting sights. For example, *Look at that beautiful seashell. See the pretty colors inside? Is that pink or orange?* Using descriptive words and pointing to details helps build a child's word knowledge and ability to notice little things as well as big things.



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- 15. Help develop attention and memory using books with lots of repetition by pausing for your child to supply the repeated word.
- 16. Engage your child in conversations about her day, her likes and favorite things, the weather, the garden, the family, or any topic. The more a child speaks the more practice she has thinking and putting her thoughts into words to express herself. This practice builds language skills that will help her to read and to write.
- 17. Encourage your child to "read" signs and graphics in your neighborhood and places you visit often. In no time, children learn to identify their favorite fast-food restaurants, stop signs, exit signs, and particular stores and products by their logos and names. Linking meaning to a visual image (red exit signs, male and female icons for restrooms, or the words Kix, Coke, and Pepsi) is a precursor to reading.
- 18. Help preschoolers make their own books by picking out pictures in discarded magazines to cut and paste into "books." Some book ideas: a yellow book (all things yellow), a happy book, a fast book, a sleepy book, a numbers book, a people book, a hungry book. Sorting and picking things that belong to the same category helps children make logical connections.
- 19. Pick a letter for the day. Draw a large one, then have your child find more of them on a page from a discarded magazine. Your child can mark the letters with a washable highlighter.
- 20. Read the weekly supermarket ads with your child, using them as a way to teach the names of fruit, vegetables, and other food and household items.
- 21. Enlist your child's help "writing" a grocery shopping list. Allow him to use child-safe scissors to cut out pictures of food items and to glue them to paper with a glue stick to make a shopping list.
- 22. Use the pictures in books to expand your child's vocabulary. Provide synonyms for words he or she knows. (*Sometimes we call that a ... Do you know another name for ...*)
- 23. Help your child organize knowledge by reviewing related words. (*What other car words can you think of? Food words? Feeling words?*)
- 24. Take your child to story time at your local library or bookstore—sharing books with other children increases enjoyment and connects children in a different social setting.
- 25. Give your junk mail to children to pretend read. Imitating reading behaviors develops children's interest in reading and makes them pay attention to the details of what readers do (how to hold a book or paper, turning pages, etc.).
- 26. Try tongue twisters in the car as you travel. They focus attention on specific sounds and improve children's speech. Start slow, then speed up. Tongue twister competitions always end in laughter.
- 27. Provide paper and pencils and encourage your child to pretend to write while you are writing a shopping list, paying bills, writing greeting cards.
- 28. When reading to your child, stop periodically and talk about what has happened so far. Ask your child to tell what he or she thinks will happen next, then read to find out.
- 29. Help your child get a library card in his or her own name as early as your library allows. Have your child help pick a special place to keep the library card so it doesn't get lost or damaged. This will show it is valuable.
- 30. Use a book to begin a conversation about a difficult life topic, such as a trip to the hospital, the birth of a sibling, divorce, the death of a grandparent.
- 31. Treat books as though they are special. Your child will also.
- 32. Offer choices for your read-aloud time: *Which would you like today? A story about a family on a trip or a story about a boy and his new friend*?
- 33. Read with expression to help communicate meaning as well as hold interest.
- 34. Give books as presents or to commemorate a special event.
- 35. Record some favorite books so you can read to your child, even if you are not home or are busy.
- 36. Start your child's use of reference books early with a picture dictionary.

FOUNDATIONS

- 37. Set an example as an avid reader. Let your child see you reading a book, magazine, the newspaper, an online article, or e-mail.
- 38. Take a photo of your child having fun and print it or paste it to a piece of paper. Then, have your child dictate a title or caption for the picture. Over time, encourage your child to suggest a phrase, then a sentence, and eventually a three- to five-sentence story about the experience. Practice reading the captions together.
- 39. Make a costume for your child based on his or her favorite book character.
- 40. Make rebus recipe cards (using small pictures and diagrams) and help your child make a favorite snack by reading the recipe. Some are available on the web or in bookstores.
- 41. Help your child recognize cereal names and other common food stuff and help read the labels in the supermarket.
- 42. Show your child how to act out a story character's part with a finger puppet, dolls, or action figures. Then both of you take parts and tell the story together with your puppets or dolls.
- 43. Encourage response to stories by providing different kinds of art materials and ideas for creating after-reading artwork, for example, finger paint, paper-plate masks, sponge paintings, and potato stamps.
- 44. Take favorite books or books on tape in the car, on vacation, to grandparents' homes, wherever you travel. Children's travel restlessness is often easy to overcome with a familiar favorite story.
- 45. Encourage and respond to children's interests by helping them pick out books on special topics, for example, pets, dinosaurs, bugs, horses, building things, how things work.
- 46. Use new sights and experiences as teaching tools for new words. Explain new things, tell stories about new places, tell the names of new objects and their uses.
- 47. Discuss the difference between real and make-believe. Can animals talk like people do? Are there really magic stones?
- 48. Use a book character as the theme for a birthday party.
- 49. Use similes to help define a new concept. This helps bridge something your child knows to understanding something new. *It's like a train but it has* ...
- 50. Play "before and after" for a familiar sequence. For example: *Do you put your shoes on before or after your socks? Do you get a bowl before or after you pour your cereal?* Have your child ask you before and after questions as well.



## LIST 15. LANGUAGE ARTS GLOSSARY FOR PARENTS AND OTHERS

Every field and profession has its own specialized vocabulary, including reading and the other language arts. As teachers, we learn our key terms from textbooks, research articles, and colleagues in schools. By contrast, parents, aides, volunteers, and others are often confronted with our terminology through their children's homework, websites, report cards, and answers to the perennial parent inquiry, "What did you learn in school today?" Even the title of this list can raise questions: What are language arts? Isn't a glossary the same as a *dictionary*?

The following definitions explain, in nontechnical language, terms frequently used in reading and language arts instruction. Use them on your class website, in communications with families about current and upcoming learning goals, and during orientations with aides and others. They may also be helpful to adults who did not complete their education in the United States.

affixes	Affixes are word parts that are added to either the beginning of a word (prefixes such as <i>un</i> - and <i>pre</i> -) or the end of a word (suffixes such as <i>-ing</i> and <i>-able</i> ). See <i>prefixes</i> and <i>suffixes</i> .
alphabetic principle	The alphabetic principle refers to an understanding that oral language is made of speech sounds and that written language uses specific letters to represent those speech sounds.
antonyms	Antonyms are words that have meanings opposite to each other. These word pairs are antonyms: <i>most-least, cry-laugh, front-back,</i> and <i>fresh-stale</i> .
association	An association is a connection between things. In reading, making associations among ideas or parts in text is a basic task of comprehension. It enables the reader to identify a main idea and supporting details or words that contribute to a theme or setting.
atlas	An atlas is a book of maps.
auditory acuity	Auditory acuity means the ability of the ear to hear accurately across the range of sounds used by humans.
auditory discrimination	Auditory discrimination means the ability to tell one sound from another, for example: <i>pit/pat, big/bit</i> .
authentic assessment	An authentic assessment is an evaluation or test that uses a real-life task to check someone's knowledge and skills.
automaticity	Automaticity means a reader's ability to read words without appearing to make an effort to figure them out; the ability to know words as soon as they are seen.
balanced reading instruction	Balanced reading instruction focuses students' attention on comprehension, or gaining meaning from, print from the beginning of reading instruction. Even when students can read only a limited number of words, they are encouraged to discuss and respond to what the words say. Balanced reading programs use phonics to teach word recognition skills and begin writing instruction as soon as students know some letter-sound associations.
basal readers	A basal reader is a textbook used for reading instruction. The word <i>basal</i> means basic. Basal readers are often simply called <i>readers</i> or <i>reading books</i> . A basal reader contains short stories and informational pieces that are appropriate for each skill and grade level.
FOUNDATIONS	



BDA strategies	BDA stands for <u>before</u> , <u>during and <u>a</u>fter. Students learn a number of thinking strategies to use before reading, during reading, and after reading to help them recognize words and understand the text.</u>
best work portfolio	A best work portfolio is a collection of a student's work that includes the stu- dent's best work to date and is updated as skills and knowledge progress. Best work portfolios are often used at the end of the school year to evaluate progress made.
blending	Blending means to put parts together to make a whole. In reading, we blend individual sounds to make words.
book words	Book words are the labels used for different parts of a book. They include the title, the author's name, the illustrator's name, page numbers, spine, illustrations, cover, table of contents, headings, and so on.
breve	A breve is a mark printed or written above a vowel to show that it is a short vowel. A <i>short</i> $a$ is spelled like this $\check{a}$ and has the sound of the $a$ in the word $c\underline{a}t$ .
closed syllable	A closed syllable ends in a consonant sound and its vowel has a short sound as in s <i>ĭt</i> .
comparison	A comparison is a statement that tells how two or more things are alike.
compound word	A compound word is formed by connecting two words together. <i>Homework, headache, ice cream,</i> and <i>merry-go-round</i> are examples of compound words.
comprehension skills	Comprehension skills include recognizing a main idea and its supporting details, sequencing or putting events in a logical order, making inferences, pre- dicting, locating evidence or facts to support an idea, and adjusting reading speed to the material to be read.
consonant	A consonant is a letter of the alphabet that represents a brief speech sound. These are consonants: <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> , <i>d</i> , <i>f</i> , <i>g</i> , <i>h</i> , <i>j</i> , <i>k</i> , <i>l</i> , <i>m</i> , <i>n</i> , <i>p</i> , <i>q</i> , <i>r</i> , <i>s</i> , <i>t</i> , <i>v</i> , <i>w</i> , <i>x</i> , and <i>y</i> .
content neutral prompt	A content neutral prompt is one that encourages and guides students' thinking but does not give the answer to the question asked. Examples of content neutral prompts include <i>What happened next? Why do you think the character did that?</i> <i>Tell me how the problem was resolved.</i>
context clues	A context clue is a hint that a writer gives to help readers understand the mean- ing of important vocabulary in text.
contrast	A contrast is a statement that tells how two or more things are different.
controlled vocabulary text	A controlled vocabulary text is a book for new readers that uses a limited num- ber of words that occur frequently in the language and that are decodable using consistent spelling patterns. See <i>decodable texts</i> .
decodable text	A decodable text is a book for new readers that uses a limited number of words that occur frequently in the language and that are decodable using phonics. See <i>controlled vocabulary</i> texts.
decoding	Decoding is the communication process by which we unlock or discover the ideas or meaning represented by words or symbols. See <i>encoding</i> .

denotation and connotation	Denotation means the dictionary definition of a word. Connotation means the feeling or idea that a word gives in addition to its dictionary meaning. For example, these words all mean a place to sleep: <i>bed, cot, crib, bunk, sack,</i> and <i>cradle.</i> Each of these words is appropriate in some, but not all, circumstances.
derivational suffix	A derivational suffix is a word part that can be added to the end of a word to change its meaning and make a new word. For example, adding the derivational suffix <i>-able</i> to <i>drink</i> makes the word <i>drinkable</i> ; adding the suffix <i>-ful</i> to <i>hope</i> makes the word <i>hopeful</i> .
dictionary	A dictionary is a reference book containing words listed in alphabetical order and providing information about word meanings, pronunciation, and origins.
digraph	A digraph is a two-letter symbol that represents one speech sound, for example, the digraph <i>ph</i> represents the sound /f/.
diphthong	A diphthong is a two-letter symbol that represents a single vowel sound that seems to glide from the first sound into the second sound, for example, the diphthong <i>oi</i> that represents the vowel sound in <i>oi</i> l.
directed reading thinking activity (DRTA)	DRTA is a reading instruction sequence that encourages students to think about what they are reading. The sequence starts by asking students to predict what the story is about based on its title and other clues; next students read to find out whether their predictions were accurate. The process of prediction and reading to find out is repeated throughout the text.
ELA	ELA is an abbreviation of English language arts.
ELLs	ELLs is an abbreviation of English language learners and refers to students who are learning English as a second or possibly third language.
emergent literacy	Emergent literacy refers to children's early activities of awareness, exploration, and imitation of language, reading, and writing that evolve over time toward standard language use and conventional reading and writing.
encoding	Encoding is the communication process by which we express ideas using words or symbols. See <i>decoding</i> .
English language arts (twenty-first century)	The six English language arts for the twenty-first century are reading, listening, viewing, writing, speaking, and presenting.
English language arts (traditional)	The four traditional English language arts are reading, writing, listening, and speaking.
environmental print	Environmental print is print found in the physical environment around us and includes signs, labels, billboards, logos, and so on.
expressive language arts	The expressive language arts are those used to express ideas, feelings, and infor- mation. They are writing, speaking, and presenting. See <i>receptive language arts</i> .
fable	A fable is a short story that often has animals as characters and that teaches a lesson. An example of a fable is the story about the tortoise and the hare.
fact	A fact is an idea that is shared and has evidence to support it.



fairy tale	A fairy tale is an imaginary story about fairies, elves, and magical deeds.
fiction	Fiction is writing that is based on invented information.
figurative language	Figurative language is language that cannot be understood literally. Authors use figurative language to help readers visualize or picture what is being described.
fluency	Fluency in reading has three elements: accurate word recognition, appropriate speed, and changes in intonation that show understanding of what is being read.
folktales	Folktales are stories passed from one generation to another through story- telling. Folktales include fairy tales, myths, and legends.
frustration level	Books and other reading material are at a student's frustration level if many words are unknown and need to be sounded out. When students struggle with recognizing words and have to stop frequently to sound them out, they can lose track of the meaning and will have difficulty explaining or retelling what was read. Books that are too far above students' word knowledge or decod- ing skill level will be frustrating and may cause students to dislike and avoid reading.
genres	Genres are the categories of literature including fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. Each has many subcategories.
glossary	A glossary is an alphabetical list of key words with their definitions as they are used in a specific book or field.
graphic organizers	A graphic organizer is a visual display that shows the relationships among facts, concepts, ideas, or other types of information.
growth portfolio	A growth portfolio is a collection of a student's work that shows the develop- ment of knowledge and skills over a period of time.
hearing	Hearing is the physical sense by which sound is perceived as a result of sound waves hitting membranes in the ear.
high-frequency words	High-frequency words are those that are used most often. They are usually taught to young children as sight words because they are very useful and because many are not phonically regular.
homonyms	Homonyms are words that sound alike but have different meanings.
idioms	An idiom is a phrase that cannot be understood from the meaning of its indi- vidual words. For example, <i>It was raining cats and dogs</i> .
independent level	Books and other reading material are at a student's independent level if nearly all the words (nine out of ten) are easily recognized and the student has no difficulty explaining or retelling what he or she has read. The independent level is best for reading for pleasure. Reading books at the independent level helps students develop reading speed and accuracy.
inference	An inference is meaning that is implied or based on information not explicitly stated. Some inferences are based on hints in the text; others are based on the reader's knowledge.

inflectional suffix	An inflectional suffix is added to a word to change its grammatical form and use. Inflectional suffixes do not change the core meaning of the word. These are the most frequently used inflectional suffixes: -s or -es (indicate plural) -y, -ish, -ic, -like, -ese (indicate adjectives) -ly (indicates it is an adverb) -ed (indicates past tense)
	-ing (indicates present participle—going on in the present)
informational text	Informational text is written material that explains something. Books about animals, the weather, and trains are examples of informational texts.
instructional level	Books and other reading material are at a student's instructional level if most of the words (eight out of ten) are easily recognized and the student can figure out the rest with a little help. The student should also be able to explain or retell what he or she has read. Reading at the instructional level gives students opportunities to learn new words and skills but is not so challenging that they want to avoid reading.
KWL chart	A KWL chart is a graphic organizer that identifies what students already <u>know</u> , <u>want to learn</u> , and have <u>learned</u> .
L1 and L2	L1 means a person's first language or home language. L2 means the second language that a person is learning.
language experience approach (LEA)	The language experience approach is an early reading strategy often used in $P-2$ classes. The steps include have a group experience, discuss it, dictate story, review story, reading story (teacher, then teacher with students), reread story and parts, cut copy into strips, match to whole story, reread, cut strips into words, manipulate words, and put words in word book.
legend	A legend is a type of folktale handed down from one generation to another. Leg- ends are usually based in fact. They change over time but retain their meaning and cultural symbolism.
levels of text	Based on a student's reading skills, library books and other reading materials will be just right for reading without help (independent level), best for reading with a teacher or other more skilled reader (instructional level), or too difficult for the student (frustration level). See <i>independent level</i> , <i>instructional level</i> , and <i>frustration level</i> for more information. See also <i>listening level</i> .
Lexile measures	Lexile measures refer to two different things. The first is a Lexile measure of a specific text. It is an estimate of the level of difficulty it presents to a reader and is based on a computer application that uses word frequency and sentence length to determine a score. The second measure is a score based on a student's standardized test results that estimates his or her reading ability. Lexile mea- sures are intended to match students with reading material at a level of difficulty appropriate to their abilities.
listening	Listening is a mental process that focuses on sounds heard by the ears, interprets the sounds, and derives meaning from them.



listening level	Books and audio recordings are at a student's listening level if the student can listen to and understand most of the words and ideas presented. Students' listen- ing levels do not take into account their reading skills. They are an indication of the level of vocabulary and concepts students can understand. Sometimes listen- ing levels are used to estimate the gap between where students are based on their current word recognition skills and where they could be if their reading skills are improved.
literacy	Literacy is the use of the six language arts to process and communicate feelings, ideas, and information.
literacy coach	A literacy coach is a reading specialist who provides support and professional development for teachers. A literacy coach may suggest instructional methods or strategies for helping struggling students and support the classroom teacher as she or he uses the new approach.
logography	Logography refers to <i>reading</i> a logo or symbol and getting meaning. Most young children can pick out their favorite restaurant by its logo, for example, recognizing a McDonalds restaurant by its <i>golden arches</i> not by the word <i>McDonalds</i> .
long vowel sound	There are six long vowel sounds in American English:
	$\bar{a}$ as in <u>a</u> pron, $\bar{e}$ as in <u>equal</u> , $\bar{n}$ as in <u>i</u> ce cream,
	$\overline{0}$ as in <u>opal</u> , $\overline{u}$ as in r <u>u</u> le, $\overline{00}$ as in moon.
	The long vowel sounds have many different spellings. For example, $ \bar{a} $ is spelled a, <i>ay</i> , <i>a_e</i> , <i>ai</i> , <i>ei</i> , and <i>eigh</i> .
	See short vowel sound, syllable patterns.
macron	A macron is a mark printed or written above a vowel to show that it is a long vowel. One of the spellings of the <i>long</i> $e$ is $\bar{e}$ . It has the sound of the $e$ in the word <u>e</u> qual.
morpheme	A morpheme is the smallest unit of sound with meaning. For example, the suffix <i>-er</i> is a morpheme that means <i>one who does</i> . It adds this meaning when it is attached at the end of a word as in <i>work</i> + $er = worker$ .
morphology	Morphology is the study of word parts (roots and affixes) and how they are arranged to form words. See <i>root word, affixes</i> .
myth	A myth is a fictional explanation of how parts of our world came to be and work, such as why there is night and day. Myths are handed down from generation to generation. Greek and Roman myths are best known, but most cultures have myths.
narratives	A narrative is a type of writing that tells a story. Narratives can be based on true facts (nonfiction) or they can be based on imagined events and characters (fiction).
narrator	A narrator is the person telling a story.
nonfiction	Nonfiction is writing based on real people, things, places, or events.
onomatopoeia	Onomatopoeias are words that sound like their meanings. For example, <i>Bam! Bam! I heard the cabinet doors slam shut.</i>
open syllable	An open syllable ends in a vowel sound; the vowel sound is long in the word $g\bar{o}$ .



opinion	An opinion is a person's thoughts about something that may not have evidence to support it.
orthography	Orthography refers to spelling patterns and the specific order of letters in words.
pangram	A pangram is a sentence that uses all the letters of the alphabet. Pangrams are used for handwriting and keyboarding practice or assessment.
paraphrase	A paraphrase is a retelling of something using our own words. A paraphrase is like a synonym for text.
phoneme	A phoneme is a speech sound. American English uses about forty-five different sounds. Phonemes are represented by letters. To show that we mean the sound and not the letter, we write phonemes between forward leaning lines (/). This is how we write the sound that goes with the letter $b$ : $/b/$ .
phonemic awareness	Phonemic awareness means a person recognizes the sounds of speech as differ- ent from other sounds around them.
phonemic substitution	Phonemic substitution means replacing one phoneme, or speech sound, with another. See <i>phonogram</i> .
phonics	Phonics is the system of sound-to-letter relationships used in a language.
phonogram	A phonogram is a spelling pattern. It is made of a vowel plus a final consonant sound. Phonograms are also called <i>rimes</i> . To make a word with a phonogram, you add a consonant to the beginning of the phonogram. The consonant is called the <i>onset</i> . See <i>consonant</i> , <i>vowel</i> , <i>rime</i> , <i>onset</i> , and <i>word family</i> .
phonological awareness	Phonological awareness is the recognition that sounds form spoken words and that the order of sounds changes the words. It also includes recognition of rhymes, syllables, beginning (onset) sounds of words, and ending sounds of words.
point of view	Point of view refers to who is narrating or telling the story: A story told from a <i>first-person</i> point of view uses the word <i>I</i> as in <i>I opened the door</i> . In writing with a <i>second person</i> point of view, the author or the main character talks to <i>you</i> as in <i>To stay healthy, you must get enough exercise</i> . In writing that has a <i>third-person</i> point of view, the narrator seems to be watching from outside the story and uses <i>he, she, it,</i> and <i>they</i> in the telling the story as in <i>First, he opened the window and helped her climb in</i> .
prediction	A prediction is a statement about the future based on information and events already known. Predictions can be based on information stated in the text or the knowledge and experiences of the reader or information from both the story and the reader.
prefixes	Prefixes are morphemes, or letters or groups of letters that have meaning. When a prefix is added to the beginning of a word it changes its meaning. For example, when the prefix <i>un-</i> , which means <i>not</i> , is added to the word <i>happy</i> , the word that is formed, <i>unhappy</i> , means <i>not happy</i> .
readability level	The readability level of text is an estimate of its level of difficulty or complexity. Readability measures usually consider the difficulty of the vocabulary words and the difficulty or complexity of the sentences. Lexiles measures, DRP levels, and the Fry Readability Graph are three commonly used measures of readabil- ity levels.
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reader-response strategies	Reader-response strategies are the way a person reacts to reading or listening to a text. Each person interacts with the work differently. Some strategies used to encourage and record these responses include having students draw pictures, write about it, and act out parts.
reading	Reading is the thinking process through which we construct meaning from print.
reading specialist	A reading specialist is a teacher who has advanced education, usually a master's degree, in the field of reading or literacy instruction. A reading specialist can evaluate students' reading skills and identify areas of strength and areas that need improvement. Reading specialists are also skilled in research-based strategies to remediate or improve reading achievement for individual students. Reading specialists often provide instruction in reading to small groups or individual children in addition to the instruction provided in the students' classrooms.
receptive language arts	The receptive language arts are those that provide information to the individual. They are reading, listening, and viewing. See <i>expressive language arts</i> .
repair strategies	When readers notice that they do not understand what they are reading, they can use a variety of strategies to repair their comprehension including rereading a section; reading to the end of the sentence or paragraph and thinking about it; looking back at an earlier section; checking a fact, word, or idea; slowing down their reading; looking at the illustrations; using a reference; or asking a question.
repetition	Repetition means to say or do something again. In literature, repetition is used for emphasis.
resource room	A resource room is a separate classroom where students who are having diffi- culty learning to read or do math may go for part of the school day to have extra individualized or small group instruction in the area of difficulty.
retell	To retell a story means to restate the story using the same or different words but preserving the story and much of the detail. Retelling is an effective way to check students' reading comprehension.
rhyme	Rhyme occurs when two or more words end with the same sound.
rhythm	Rhythm is the regular, repeated pattern of sounds or movements.
root word	A root word (also called <i>base word</i> ) is the main part of a word that carries the meaning. A root word is the base to which prefixes and suffixes can be added. For example, we can add a prefix and a suffix to the root word <i>tell</i> :
	re+tell = retell
	tell+ing = telling
	re+tell+ing = retelling
running record	A running record is an oral reading assessment that gives information about a student's skills in word recognition, fluency, and reading comprehension. For a running record, the student reads a passage aloud while the teacher marks a copy to show how the student read each word. The student then retells the passage as an indicator of comprehension.

scaffolding	Scaffolding means the support and guidance given by the teacher that enables a student to do what he or she could not do without the support.
schema (pl. schemata)	A schema is a packet of information about a topic that is based on a person's experiences and stored in his or her brain. Schemata fill in missing details in understanding and enable readers to make predictions and inferences based on the logical relationships they understood from past experiences.
segmentation	Segmentation means taking something apart or separating it into its parts. In reading, we segment sentences into words, words into syllables, and syllables into speech sounds.
semantics	Semantics refers to the particular meanings of words.
sequence	Sequence refers to the time order, logical order, or pattern of occurrences.
	Sequence helps readers draw conclusions, see cause and effect, and make predic- tions. Some words that signal sequence include <i>first, second, next, before, after,</i> <i>last, then.</i>
shared reading	Shared reading is an experience in which students read with a teacher or other competent reader. In shared reading the teacher usually reads first and then rereads with students. Shared reading enables students to participate in reading materials they cannot read on their own.
short vowel sounds	There are six short vowel sounds in American English:
	/ă/ as in <u>a</u> t; /ĕ/ as in s <u>e</u> nd, br <u>ea</u> d; /ĭ/ as in <u>i</u> n, s <u>y</u> nc;
	/ŏ/ as in <u>o</u> n; /ŭ/ as in h <u>ug;</u> and /ŏo/ as in b <u>oo</u> k, p <u>u</u> sh
	See long vowel sounds, syllable patterns.
signal words	Signal words are used by the author to help readers understand how text is orga- nized or what is important. Signal words can show order ( <i>first, second, before,</i> <i>next</i> ), cause ( <i>because, since</i> ), contrast ( <i>but, however</i> ), sameness ( <i>like, also</i> ), or results ( <i>therefore, so</i> ). Signal words are also called <i>transition words</i> .
simile	A simile is a comparison of two things using the word <i>like</i> or <i>as</i> . For example, Her golden hair shone <i>like the sun</i> . It was <i>as smooth as silk</i> .
suffix	A suffix is a letter or group of letters that are added to the end of a word or word stem to change its meaning or alter its use. See <i>derivational suffix</i> and <i>inflectional suffix</i> .
summarize	To summarize, the reader retells the main idea and important points of a story in a logical sequence, combining and condensing description and rewording the text.
syllable	A syllable is a pronounceable word part that has a vowel sound. Every syllable must have a vowel sound and may also have consonant sounds. A vowel by itself can be a syllable as in $a \bullet ble$ , but a consonant by itself cannot be a syllable.
syllable patterns	A syllable pattern is the arrangement of vowels (v) and consonants (c) in the syllables of a word. The pattern helps determine how to pronounce the word.
	Syllable patterns for long vowel sounds: cv, vcv, cvcle
	Syllable patterns for short vowel sounds: vc, cvc, cvccvc
	See open syllable and closed syllable.
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synonyms	Synonyms are words that have similar meanings. For example:
	look, glance at, see; supply, provide, furnish; help, aid, assist; heal, mend, cure; carry, tote, lug; children, youngsters, tots
syntax	Syntax refers to the rules for using different types of words, called <i>parts of speech</i> , in sentences. Another word for syntax is <i>grammar</i> .
tall tale	A tall tale is a humorous story based on a real person who is said to accomplish amazing things far beyond what is possible, for example, stories about Johnny Appleseed or Paul Bunyan.
transition words	Transition words are used by the author to help readers understand how text is organized or what is important. Signal words can show order ( <i>first, second, before, next</i> ), cause ( <i>because, since</i> ), contrast ( <i>but, however</i> ), sameness ( <i>like, also</i> ), or results ( <i>therefore, so</i> ). Transition words are also called <i>signal words</i> .
virgule	A virgule is a forward-leaning line that is used to write sounds. To show that we mean the sound (a phoneme) and not the letter that represents the sound, we write phonemes between virgules (/). This is how we write the sound that goes with the letters $sh$ : $/sh/$ .
visual acuity	Visual acuity means the ability of the eyes to see accurately in the range of visual expected for humans.
visual discrimination	Visual discrimination means the ability to tell one thing from another by site, for example, tell one letter from another as in $P/R$ .
voiced consonant	Voiced consonants are consonant sounds produced using the vocal cords and include $v$ , $th$ , $z$ , and $zh$ (as in <i>measure</i> )
voiceless consonant	Voiceless consonants are consonant sounds produced without using the vocal cords.
vowel	A vowel is a letter of the alphabet that represents a speech sound that allows air to flow. These are vowel letters: $a, e, i, o, u$ . The letters $u, w, y$ are sometimes used to show vowel sounds as in <u>auto</u> , <u>awful</u> , and <u>my</u> .
vowel teams	A vowel team is made of two vowel letters that together make one sound. These are some of the vowel teams: <i>ay, ai, aw, ea, ee, ew, ie, oa, oe, oi, oo, ou, ow, oy,</i> and <i>ue</i> .
word family	A set of words formed by adding different beginning sounds to a spelling pat- tern or phonogram ( <i>-ack: back, sack, black, tack,</i> etc.). See <i>onset, rhyme,</i> and <i>phonogram.</i>
word shapes	Word shapes are visual shapes created by the letters that spell a word. Length and shape are used by readers to help recognize words. For example, if you saw the outline but not the letters for these words, you could easily tell which shape was <i>the</i> and which was <i>elephant</i> .
word wall	A word wall is a visual tool that supports independent reading and writing. As words are learned they are listed alphabetically on a wall or board so that students can refer to them for spelling and as reminders of known words.