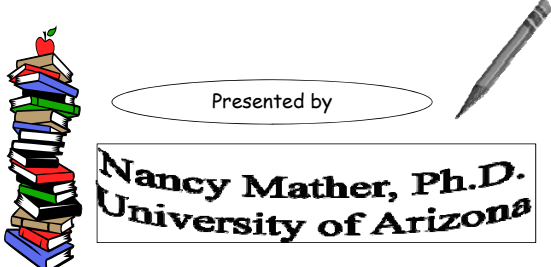


OSPA Annual 2008 Spring Conference

Understanding Specific Learning Disabilities:  
From Assessment to Interventions



Presented by

**Nancy Mather, Ph.D.**  
**University of Arizona**

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## Topics

- the history of specific reading disability, assessment and intervention
- the role of RTI in the assessment process
- the importance of cognitive and linguistic factors
- the development of basic reading and spelling skills
- the selection of effective interventions

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## Conclusions from Hinshelwood regarding Congenital Word-Blindness

- particular areas of the brain appear to be involved
- the children often have average or above intelligence and good memory in other respects
- the problem with reading is localized, not generalized to all areas of academic performance

Source:  
Hinshelwood, J. (1902). *Congenital word-blindness with reports of two cases*. London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson.

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### Central Themes from

#### Dr. James Hinshelwood (1902)

- the children do not learn to read with the same rapidity as other children
- the earlier the problem is identified, the better so as not to waste valuable instructional time
- the children must be taught by special methods adapted to help them overcome their difficulties
- the sense of touch can help children retain visual impressions
- persistent and persevering attempts will often help children improve their reading.

Source:

Hinshelwood, J. (1902). *Congenital word-blindness with reports of two cases*. London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd.

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### The Importance of Early Intervention Hinshelwood (1902)

- “It is evident that it is a matter of the highest importance to recognise as early as possible the true nature of this defect, when it is met with in a child. It may prevent much waste of valuable time and may save the child from suffering and cruel treatment...The sooner the true nature of the defect is recognised, the better are the chances of the child’s improvement” (p. 10).

Source:

Hinshelwood, J. (1902). *Congenital word-blindness with reports of two cases*. London: John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd.

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“Failure to learn to read as others do is a major catastrophe in a child’s life” (p.1).



Source:

Dolch, E. W. (1939). *A manual for remedial reading*. Champaign, IL: Garrard Press.

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## The Reading Index

See if reading achievement is in harmony with other achievements. The other measures are administered in order to determine the child's expectation in reading and to measure the discrepancy.

- 1) Chronological age
- 2) Mental age (based on the Stanford-Binet)
- 3) Arithmetic computation

Monroe, M. (1932). *Children who cannot read*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

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"It seems that we are measuring a discrepancy between reading and other accomplishments which may occur in either direction at any intellectual level" (p. 17)

"The reading defects may occur at any intellectual level from very superior to very inferior, as measured by intelligence tests" (p. 6).

Source:

Monroe, M. (1932). *Children who cannot read*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

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## Central Themes of Dr. M. Monroe

- different factors affect performance in different children
- children require intensive remedial training
- the training must continue until reading is in harmony with the child's other capacities and achievement
- methods must be modified to meet the needs of each individual
- problems arise in behavior and personality but disappear as reading improves
- some children of superior intelligence struggle to learn to read

Monroe, M. (1932). *Children who cannot read*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

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“The children of superior mental capacity who fail to learn to read are, of course, spectacular examples of specific reading difficulty since they have such obvious abilities in other fields.” (p. 23)

Source:  
Monroe, M. (1932). *Children who cannot read*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

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### Case 3: Betty

Betty represents a case of reading retardation in a very bright little girl. She was completing the second year in school without having been able to learn to read. When examined she was seven years and four months of age, with a mental age of ten years, I. Q. 135. Arithmetic measured high second grade. Reading and spelling measured very low first grade... She had a very engaging manner and had learned many ways of diverting attention from the fact that she could not read. When the reading tests were presented she pushed them aside and said, “Let’s don’t do any reading. I know some arithmetic games that are lots of fun...” When finally persuaded to attempt the tests she showed considerable emotional tension, clearing her voice, saying “ah” several times before attempting each word, and flushing over her obvious errors (p. 10).

Monroe, M. (1932). *Children who cannot read*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

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The rate of progress under remedial instruction was found to be a function of:

- the child’s intelligence
- age
- number of hours of training
- severity of the disability
- behavior and personality difficulties
- supervision of the remedial techniques
- (p. 157)

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“The remedial teaching of reading is a different problem from the usual teaching of reading to unselected children. The problem of educational instruction in reading is to find the methods which are best adapted to develop skill in reading in the majority of children. The problem of remedial instruction in reading is to find a possible method of learning for those children who not been able to learn to read by methods adapted to the group. The methods found helpful for reading-defect cases may not be necessary or advisable in ordinary instruction” (p. 113).

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“To be effective, remedial instruction in reading must be preceded by careful diagnosis” (Monroe & Backus, 1937).



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“Diagnosis is one thing; treatment is another. No one diagnosis applies to all cases; no one treatment will eradicate all trouble” (p. 117).

Stanger, M. A., & Donohue, E. K. (1937).  
*Prediction and prevention of reading difficulties*. New York: Oxford University Press.

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"Gains in the remedial work were accompanied in many cases by greater interest in reading and favorable changes in behavior" (p. 129).

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### A Major Problem: Inappropriate Reading Material

- scarcity of high interest books with simple reading vocabulary
- provision of reading books for only one grade level for each grade
- inflexible programs so that teachers cannot adjust the difficulty of the texts to the achievement level of the students

Monroe, M., & Backus, B. (1937). *Remedial reading*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

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"Furthermore, workbooks should be ordered in terms of the reading levels of the pupils in the room. No one can justify ordering thirty similar third-grade workbooks for the thirty dissimilar third-grade pupils found in any classroom in the country" (p. 525).

Source:

Betts, E. A. (1946). *Foundations of reading instruction*. New York: American Book Company.

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### Components of Effective Reading Instruction

- provided individually or in small groups
- delivered systematically at a regular time each day
- supported with a supply of books suitable to child's reading level
- instructed by specially trained reading teachers

Source: Monroe, M., & Backus, B. (1937). *Remedial reading: A monograph in character education*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

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### Performance on Specific Intellectual Abilities

“Sometimes children of good general intelligence show retardation in some of the specific skills which compose an intelligence test” (p. 22)

Monroe, M., & Backus, B. (1937). *Remedial reading*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

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“Moreover, it seems probable that psychometric tests as ordinarily employed give an entirely erroneous and unfair estimate of the intellectual capacity of these children” (p. 582).

Source:  
Orton, S. T. (1925). *Word-blindness in school children*. *Archives of Neurology and Psychiatry*, 14, 581-615.

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### Central Themes from Dr. Samuel Orton

- disabilities can be overcome by special training
- many of the children have a high degree of intelligence
- data must be collected regarding the effects of the training
- emotional factors are of primary importance

Source:

Orton, S. T. (1937). *Reading, writing, and speech problems in children*. New York: W. W. Norton.

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### Central Themes from Dr. Grace Fernald

- the difficulties can be partially or fully overcome with proper diagnosis and treatment
- methods have to be adapted to the child
- multisensory instruction is beneficial
- methods need to be applied before the child has failed

Source: Fernald, G. M. (1943). *Remedial techniques in basic school subjects*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

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### The Teacher of Brain-Injured Children

a discussion of the bases for competency

Syracuse University Special Education and Rehabilitation Monograph Series 7

William M. Cruickshank, Editor



Source:

Gallagher, J. J. (1966). *Children with developmental imbalances: A psychoeducational definition*. In W. M. Cruickshank (Ed.), *The Teacher of Brain-Injured Children* (pp. 23-43). New York: Syracuse University Press.

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"Children with developmental imbalances are those who reveal a developmental disparity in psychological processes related to education ..." (p. 28). "The key characteristic that identifies this child to the observer is the substantial *difference* between the worst and the best of his developing intelligences, or the substantial intraindividual differences noted within the child. The children with large developmental imbalances can be counted on to cause considerable difficulties in any educational program which is based on the assumption that a child's developmental processes will be within narrow limits" (p. 29).

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"The information provided by this patterning of abilities is much more important than his single mental age score or language scores. While his Binet mental level is listed as between five and six years, his internal variation from three to eight years is the more important educationally diagnostic information. It not only establishes the fact of developmental imbalance, but it locates the areas of specific disability" (p. 29).

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"The single most important factor in planning for a child with a learning disability is an intensive diagnostic study. Without a comprehensive evaluation of his deficits and assets, the educational program may be too general, or even inappropriate. The diagnostic study should include an evaluation of sensory acuity, intelligence, language (spoken, read, written), motor function, educational achievement, emotional status, and social maturity (Myklebust, 1954)" (p. 50).

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“The implication is that it is necessary to have immediate access to all diagnostic findings because it is from these that the educational approach must be evolved. Sometimes teachers are required to begin remediation without adequate knowledge of the deficits and integrities. Although information can be obtained from personal contact with the child, precise planning is possible only when these observations are supplemented by detailed diagnostic information” (p. 51).

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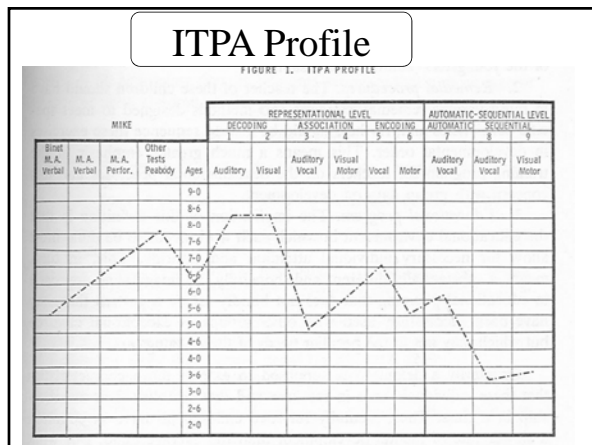
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“I like to define a learning disability as a psychological or neurological impediment to development of adequate perceptual or communicative behavior, which first is manifested in discrepancies among specific behaviors or between overall performance and academic achievement...” (p. 617).

Source:

Arena, J. (1978). *An interview with Samuel Kirk*. *Academic Therapy*, 13, 617-620.

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“A learning disability is like pornography... it’s hard to define, but you know it when you see it.”

Dr. Samuel Kirk

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“... the concept of dyslexia requires that the deficits displayed by such children not extend too far into other domains of cognitive functioning” (p.278). “In short, the key deficit in dyslexia must be a vertical faculty rather than a horizontal faculty--a domain-specific process rather than a process that operates across a variety of domains” (p.279).

Source:

Stanovich, K. E. (1993). *The construct validity of discrepancy definitions of reading disability*. In G. R. Lyon, D. B. Gray, J. F. Kavanagh, N. A. Krasnegor (Eds.), *Better understanding learning disabilities: New views from research and their implications for education and public policies* (pp. 273-307). Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co.

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“The diagnosis of dyslexia is as precise and scientifically informed as almost any diagnosis in medicine” (p. 165).

Source:

Shaywitz, S. (2003). *Overcoming dyslexia: A new and complete science-based program for overcoming reading problems at any level*. New York: Alfred Knopf.

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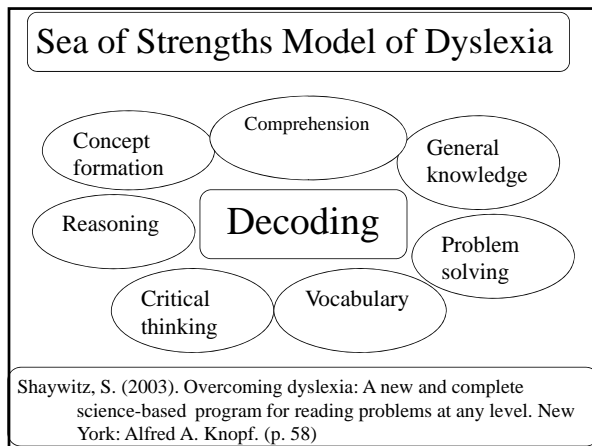
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### Two Main Concepts of Unexpected Underachievement

- Intra-ability discrepancies  
(discrepancies among abilities...the pattern of strengths and weaknesses... unexpected compared to other abilities)
- Ability-achievement discrepancy  
(a discrepancy between overall performance and specific academic achievement... unexpected compared to general ability or oral language)

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“In summary, by adopting verbal IQ as an aptitude measure, we would be closer to a principled definition of potential in the reading domain, that is, the academic level that would result from instruction if the person's dysfunction were totally remediated” (p. 290).

Source:  
 Stanovich, K. E. (1993). The construct validity of discrepancy definitions of reading disability. In G. R. Lyon, D. B. Gray, J. F. Kavanagh, N. A. Krasnegor (Eds.), *Better understanding learning disabilities: New views from research and their implications for education and public policies* (pp. 273-307). Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co.

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Verbal Ability as the Measure of Potential

By the end of elementary school:  
"Children should be able to  
comprehend, or construct, the meaning  
of what is being read at a level  
consistent with their general verbal  
ability." (p.55)

Source: Torgesen, J. K. (2000). Individual differences in  
response to early interventions in reading: The lingering  
problem of treatment resisters. *Learning Disabilities Research  
& Practice, 15*, 55-64.

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"The man is a king. Uh-oh. Hard words. I  
don't know how to spell those words. The  
man is rich. Another hard word. I don't know  
how to spell rich. What do I know how to  
spell? I can spell mom and dad. The mom is a  
queen. Oh I don't know how to spell queen.  
What do I know how to spell? Thin, oh I can  
spell thin."

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Definition of a Specific Learning Disability

General.

The term means **a disorder in one or more of the  
basic psychological processes** involved in  
understanding or in using language, spoken or written, that  
may manifest itself in an imperfect ability to listen, think,  
speak, read, write, spell, or to do mathematical calculations,  
including conditions such as perceptual disabilities, brain  
injury, minimal brain dysfunction, dyslexia, and  
developmental aphasia.

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The biggest discrepancy that exists is between the SLD definition and how we operationalize it.

Sources:

Hale, J. B., Naglieri, J. A., Kaufman, A. S., & Kavale, K. A. (2004). Specific learning disability classification in the new Individuals with Disabilities Education Act: The Danger of Good Ideas. *The School Psychologist*, 58 (1), 6-13, 29.

Kavale, K. A., Kaufman, A. S., Naglieri, J. A., & Hale, J. B. (2005). Changing procedures for identifying learning disabilities: The danger of poorly supported ideas. *The School Psychologist*, 59 (1), 16-25.

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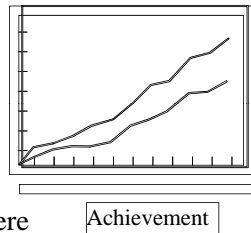
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### Ability-Achievement Discrepancies

Most states required a discrepancy between intelligence and achievement

Intelligence test results were used to predict potential for success and

achievement test results were used to represent actual school performance



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...the criterion set for the size of discrepancy that counts as a reading or writing disability is always arbitrary and varies widely among states and among schools within states. (pp.158-159)

Whether a child is or is not diagnosed as learning disabled depends on the state and the local criteria where a child lives or on the personal philosophy of an independent evaluator who assesses the child. (p. 164)

Source: Berninger, V. W. (1996). *Reading and writing acquisition: A developmental neuropsychological perspective*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

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**Why Would Students with LD have an Ability-Achievement Discrepancy?**

- Their abilities are better than their academic performance in specific domains (e.g., verbal abilities higher than reading, writing, or math).
- They have not received adequate help and intensive early intervention.
- They have strengths in specific areas that are measured by the ability test and weaknesses in areas measured by the achievement tests.

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Though the formula method may have some appeal because it requires less clinical competence and judgment, the fact remains that reducing an important diagnostic decision to a mathematical equation gives a false sense of objectivity to a contrived procedure that is still essentially subjective. (p. 274)

Source: Simpson, R.G., & Buckhalt, J. A. (1990). *School Psychology International*, 11, 273-279.

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**"(6) SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITIES.—**

**"(A) IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 607(b), when determining whether a child has a specific learning disability as defined in section 602, a local educational agency **may** take into consideration a discrepancy between achievement and ability in oral expression, listening comprehension, basic reading skill, reading comprehension, mathematical calculation, or mathematical reasoning.

**"(B) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.**—In determining whether a child has a specific learning disability, a local educational agency may use a process that determines if the child responds to scientific, research-based intervention as a part of the evaluation procedures described in paragraphs (2) and (3).

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## RTI

- Response to Intervention
- Responsiveness to Intervention

### Inadequate Response to Intervention

### Limited Response to Intervention

When provided with good instruction aimed at their needs, children with SLD do learn...

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## What RTI Can Do

- Be an effective component of the prereferral process.
- Raise awareness and application of the most effective interventions.
- Ensure that ineffective instruction is not the reason for a student's difficulties.
- Encourage accountability for the progress of all students.
- Encourage team problem solving when progress is limited.
- Reduce unnecessary referrals to special education.

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## The Dangers of Sole Reliance on RTI for Identification of SLD

- The cause(s) of the limited response to treatment will not be well understood by teachers, parents, and the student.
- Implementation has only been widely explored for early reading
- Students with above average abilities and SLD will likely not be identified.
- SLD will be confused with all forms of poor learning and underachievement.
- The category of SLD will be eliminated.
- Individuals with SLD will be misunderstood and denied the accommodations and interventions they need to be successful.

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If applied in isolation, RTI methods will not increase diagnostic sensitivity and specificity, but will result in a generic “learning problems” category, comprising a considerable portion of the population.

Source:

Hale, J. B., Naglieri, J. A., Kaufman, A. S. & Kavale, K.A.  
(2004). Specific learning disability classification in the new Individuals with Disabilities Education Act: The danger of good ideas. *The School Psychologist*, 58, 6-13.

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As a field of study matures, its language gets more specific, not less. Less specific language or more general terms without an increase in more specific subterms is a pretty reliable indication of regression, not advances, in any field of work.

Excerpted from e-mail sent to: [spedpro-bounces@list.mail.virginia.edu](mailto:spedpro-bounces@list.mail.virginia.edu), James Kauffman, Thursday, October 19, 2006, Title: Tiresome.

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Hasn't Special Education always been based on RTI principles?

- Identify children who are struggling
- Determine why they are struggling
- Select interventions
- Monitor their progress
- Revise the interventions as needed
- Monitor progress

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"When I was working as a school psychologist some 50 years ago and received a referral from a teacher about a child who was having trouble learning, the very first thing I did was to visit the teacher to inquire about the problem. I wanted to know what the child was having trouble with. I wanted to know what the teacher had tried that did not work and most importantly, I wanted to know what had been done that had worked.

At that time I had never heard of Response to Intervention (RTI) and I certainly would not have predicted that there were going to be initials to describe what has always been good practice, as a 'new' procedure" (p. 151).

Source: Zach, L. J. (2005). Déjà vu all over again: The current controversy over the identification of learning disability. *The School Psychologist*, 59, 151-155.

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"The single most important factor in planning for a child with a learning disability is an intensive diagnostic study. Without a comprehensive evaluation of his deficits and assets, the educational program may be too general, or even inappropriate. The diagnostic study should include an evaluation of sensory acuity, intelligence, language (spoken, read, written), motor function, educational achievement, emotional status, and social maturity (Myklebust, 1954)."

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Dr. Alan Kaufman

... there is a demand for the comprehensive assessment to drive intervention. This is the way it has always been, and this is the way it will always be because the referral questions for children with SLD have always asked, What is wrong? And how can we help? These questions demand differential diagnosis, a large part of which is determined by the cognitive abilities present in the individual child (p. 211).

Source: Kaufman, A. S., Lichtenberger, E. O., Fletcher-Janzen, E., & Kaufman, N. L. (2005). *Essentials of the K-ABC-II Assessment*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

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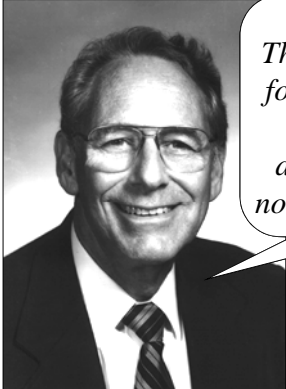
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*The primary purpose for testing should be to find out more about the problem, not to just get a score.*

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| Ability-Achievement RTI                            |  |
|--|--|
| Requires a discrepancy between ability-achievement | Requires a discrepancy between classroom and actual performance    |
| Doesn't clarify the reasons for failure            | Doesn't clarify the reasons for failure                            |
| Unexpected underachievement relative to ability    | Unexpected underachievement relative to evidence-based instruction |
| Within the child                                   | The child within the environment                                   |

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Regulations IDEA 2004, August 14, 2006

§300.309(a)(2)(ii) permits consideration of:

The child exhibits a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance, achievement, or both, relative to intellectual development, that is determined by the team to be relevant to the identification of a specific learning disability.

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Learning disabilities are specific patterns of cognitive strengths and weaknesses (intra-individual discrepancies) that differentially impact the development of various aspects of achievement.

Learning disabilities are disorders in the basic psychological processes...

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|  | Ability-Achievement                                     | Intra-Ability   |
|--|---|---|
|  | A discrepancy between ability-achievement               | A discrepancy among varying abilities                   |
|  | Does not clarify the reasons for failure                | Helps clarify the reasons for failure                   |
|  | Unexpected underachievement relative to overall ability | Unexpected underachievement relative to other abilities |
|  | Focuses on full-scale scores                            | Focuses on factor, cluster, and subtest scores          |

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|                                 | RTI                               | COG Assessment    |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Place in the evaluation process | Prereferral                       | Referral          |
| Focus                           | Group                             | Individual        |
| Type of evaluation              | Screening and progress monitoring | Comprehensive     |
| Nature of assessment            | Simple and narrow                 | Complex and broad |
| Implementation                  | School-wide support               | Specialists       |

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| RTI      COG Assessment |                          |                                   |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Purposes                | Identify low achievement | Identify and diagnose LD          |
|                         | Intervene early          | Identify strengths and weaknesses |
|                         | Help children            | Help children                     |

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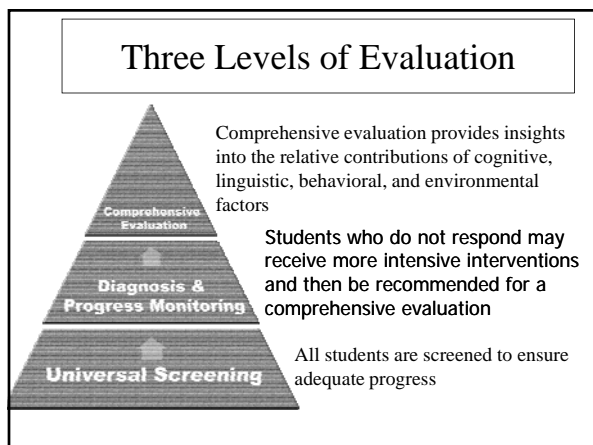
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"If these tests will give us a basis from which we can start to understand a child's difficulties, they will have justified the time spent on them. Anything which helps educators or parents to *understand* any phase of development or lack of development is of immeasurable value" (p. 189).

Source:  
Stanger, M. A., & Donohue, E. K. (1937). *Prediction and prevention of reading difficulties*. New York: Oxford University Press.

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## LD Identification

- Consider pre-referral intervention data.
- Consider ability-achievement discrepancies.
- Consider extrinsic factors that affect learning.
- Examine the pattern of strengths and weaknesses.
- Link the areas of weakness to specific academic skill problems.
- Specify appropriate interventions based on the problems.

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“Given the findings from the neuroimaging and neuropsychological fields of deficient performance on measures of working memory, processing speed, auditory processing ability, and executive functions, evaluation of these skills is necessary to determine the most appropriate program to fit the individual child’s needs. The danger with not paying attention to individual differences is that we will repeat the current practice of simple assessments in curricular materials to evaluate a complex learning process and to plan for interventions with children and adolescents with markedly different needs and learning profiles.”

Source: Semrud-Clikeman, M. (2005). Neuropsychological aspects for evaluating learning disabilities. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 38, 563-568.

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## What Do We Know

The reading disorder is specific and does not extend into all of the person’s accomplishments

A specific problem exists in cognitive, linguistic, or perceptual processes that affects reading development

Reading is the most common area of disability, but disorders in mathematics and written language also exist

Domain specific labels, such as reading disability or dyslexia, are more descriptive of the problem than the generic term of learning disability

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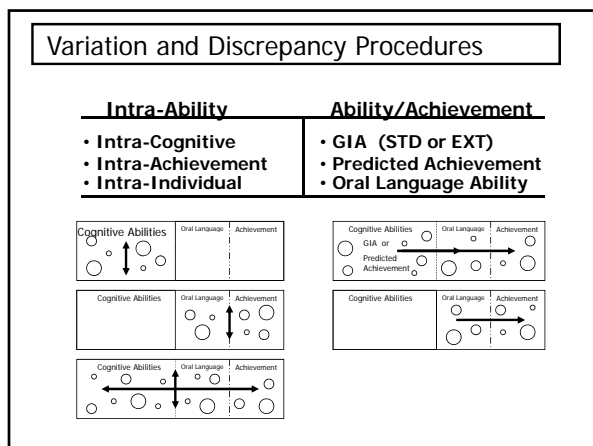
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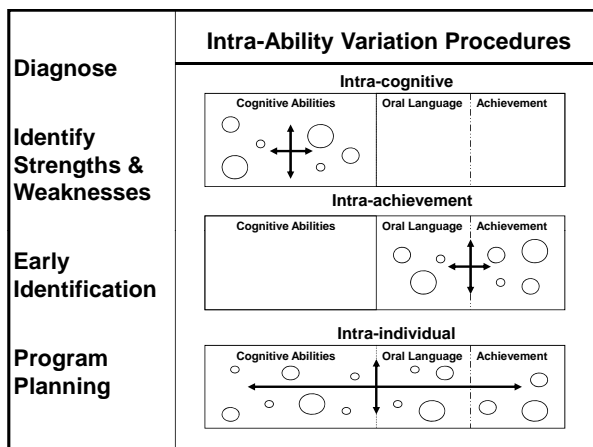
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7 CHC Cognitive Factors

**Comprehension-Knowledge (*Gc*):** The breadth and depth of knowledge of a culture

**Long-Term Retrieval (*Glr*):** ability to store and retrieve information

**Visual-Spatial Thinking (*Gv*):** ability to perceive, analyze, synthesize and think with visual patterns

**Auditory Processing (*Ga*):** ability to analyze, synthesize and discriminate auditory stimuli

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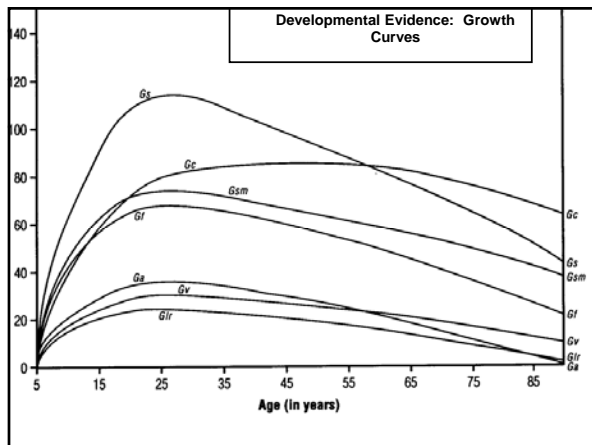
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**Fluid Reasoning (*Gf*):** ability to reason, form concepts, & solve problems *(using unfamiliar information or novel procedures)*

**Processing Speed (*Gs*):** ability to perform automatic, speeded cognitive tasks under pressure to maintain focused attention

**Short-Term Memory (*Gsm*):** ability to apprehend and hold information in immediate awareness and then use it within a few seconds



| Intra-Cognitive Variations      |                 |           |            |             |       |                      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|----------------------|
| Requires 14 tests (1-7 & 11-17) |                 |           |            |             |       |                      |
| DISCREPANCIES                   | STANDARD SCORES |           |            | DISCREPANCY |       | Significant at       |
|                                 | Actual          | Predicted | Difference | PR          | SD    | + or - 1.50 SD (SEE) |
| Intra-Cognitive                 |                 |           |            |             |       |                      |
| COMP-KNOWLEDGE (Gc)             | 122             | 93        | +29        | 99          | +2.48 | Yes                  |
| LT RETRIEVAL (Glr)              | 77              | 100       | -23        | 4           | -1.76 | Yes                  |
| VIS-SPATIAL THINK (Gv)          | 120             | 96        | +24        | 96          | +1.79 | Yes                  |
| AUDITORY PROCESS (Ga)           | 79              | 100       | -21        | 6           | -1.57 | Yes                  |
| FLUID REASONING (Gf)            | 105             | 95        | +10        | 81          | +0.86 | No                   |
| PROCESS SPEED (Gs)              | 104             | 97        | +7         | 70          | +0.52 | No                   |
| SHORT-TERM MEM (Gsm)            | 68              | 101       | -33        | 0.5         | -2.56 | Yes                  |

**Strengths:** Comprehension-Knowledge, Visual-Spatial Thinking

**Weaknesses:** Long-Term Retrieval, Auditory Processing, Short-Term Memory



### Discrepancy Percentile Ranks

Reflects the percent of the population that has a difference score that size. *(Based on age or grade mates with same predicted score.)*

In Broad Written Language, only 2% of grade mates with the same predicted score, would obtain a standard score of 80 or lower.

Angelina's discrepancy percentile rank (PR: .1) indicates that only 1 in 1000 age mates with the same predicted score would obtain a Broad Reading score (SS: 70) the same or lower.

On the intra-achievement discrepancies, when Chris's obtained standard score (SS: 125) in Academic Knowledge is compared to his predicted score, only 3 out of 1000 students would have a score the same or higher (Discrepancy PR = 99.7).

### Intra-Achievement Variations

| DISCREPANCIES<br><i>(Intra-Achievement)</i> | STANDARD SCORES |           |            | DISCREPANCY |       | Significant at<br>+ or - 1.50 SD (SEE) |
|---|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|--|
|   | Actual          | Predicted | Difference | PR          | SD    |  |
| <i>Intra-Achievement</i>                    |                 |           |            |             |       |  |
| BASIC READING SKILLS                        | 74              | 103       | -29        | <0.1        | -3.28 | Yes                                    |
| READING COMP                                | 94              | 100       | -6         | 26          | -0.63 | No                                     |
| MATH CALC SKILLS                            | 107             | 99        | +8         | 73          | +0.62 | No                                     |
| MATH REASONING                              | 117             | 98        | +19        | 97          | +1.87 | Yes                                    |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS                        | 74              | 103       | -29        | 0.3         | -2.74 | Yes                                    |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION                          | 92              | 100       | -8         | 24          | -0.71 | No                                     |
| ORAL EXPRESSION                             | 112             | 99        | +13        | 86          | +1.10 | No                                     |
| LISTENING COMP                              | 102             | 99        | +3         | 59          | +0.24 | No                                     |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE                          | 125             | 97        | +28        | 99.5        | +2.60 | Yes                                    |

Strengths: Math Reasoning, Academic Knowledge

Weaknesses: Basic Reading Skills, Basic Writing Skills

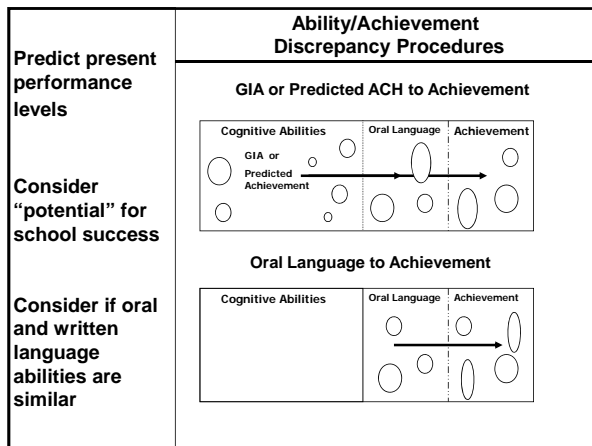
What is used as the predicted score?

### Intra-Individual Variations

| DISCREPANCIES           | STANDARD SCORES |           |            | DISCREPANCY |       | Significant at       |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|----------------------|
| <i>Intra Individual</i> | Actual          | Predicted | Difference | PR          | SD    | + or - 1.50 SD (SEE) |
| COMPKNOWLEDGE (Gc)      | 122             | 96        | +26        | 99.6        | +2.62 | Yes                  |
| L-T RETRIEVAL (Glr)     | 77              | 100       | -23        | 5           | -1.62 | Yes                  |
| VISOSPATIAL THINK (Gv)  | 120             | 98        | +22        | 94          | +1.53 | Yes                  |
| AUDITORY PROCESS (Ga)   | 79              | 100       | -21        | 7           | -1.50 | Yes                  |
| FLUID REASONING (Gf)    | 105             | 98        | +7         | 72          | +0.59 | No                   |
| PROCESS SPEED (Gs)      | 104             | 98        | +6         | 65          | +0.40 | No                   |
| SHORT TERM MEM (Gsm)    | 68              | 100       | -32        | 1           | -2.38 | Yes                  |
| PHONEMIC AWARE          | 71              | 100       | -29        | 2           | -2.09 | Yes                  |
| WORKING MEMORY          | 76              | 108       | -32        | 2           | -1.97 | Yes                  |
| BASIC READING SKILLS    | 74              | 100       | -26        | 0.3         | -2.74 | Yes                  |
| READING COMP            | 94              | 98        | -4         | 33          | -0.45 | No                   |
| MATH CALC SKILLS        | 107             | 98        | +9         | 77          | +0.73 | No                   |
| MATH REASONING          | 117             | 97        | +20        | 97          | +1.94 | Yes                  |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS    | 74              | 100       | -26        | 1           | -2.41 | Yes                  |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION      | 92              | 99        | -7         | 30          | -0.53 | No                   |
| ORAL EXPRESSION         | 112             | 98        | +14        | 89          | +1.20 | No                   |
| LISTENING COMP          | 102             | 98        | +4         | 65          | -0.39 | No                   |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE      | 125             | 97        | +28        | 99.6        | +2.65 | Yes                  |

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| Ability/Achievement Discrepancies   |   |
|---|---|
| Ability Options   | Achievement Options   |
| <u>Standard Battery</u><br>GIA-Standard (Tests 1-7)<br>Predicted Achievement (Tests 1-7)  | <u>Standard Battery</u><br>Broad Reading<br>Broad Math<br>Broad Written Language<br>Oral Language-Std   |
| <u>Extended Battery</u><br>GIA-Extended (14 tests) (Tests 1-7, 11-17)<br>Oral Language-Extended (4 tests)<br>Story Recall<br>Understanding Directions<br>Picture Vocabulary<br>Oral Comprehension | <u>Extended Battery</u><br>Basic Reading Skills<br>Reading Comprehension<br>Math Calculation Skills<br>Math Reasoning<br>Basic Writing Skills<br>Written Expression<br>Oral Expression<br>Listening Comprehension<br>Academic Knowledge |

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**GIA-Standard and GIA-Extended**

**Represents general intelligence (*g*)**

- GIA-Std based on COG tests 1-7 (one measure of each CHC factor)
- GIA-Ext based on COG tests 1-7 and 11-17 (two measures of each CHC factor)

Weightings are heaviest on *Gc* and *Gf* across the life span

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### Predicted Achievement Option as the Ability Measure

Based on differential weighting of cognitive tests 1-7  
(some tests may be weighted very little, depending on the  
academic area )

Psychometrically the *best predictor* of curricular  
performance in the *near-term*

Predictor scores for specific areas:

Reading  
Mathematics  
Written Language  
Oral Language

### Predicted Achievement/Achievement Discrepancy

| DISCREPANCIES<br><i>Predicted Achievement/Achievement Discrepancies*</i> | STANDARD SCORES |           |            | DISCREPANCY |       | Significant at<br>+ or - 1.50 SD (SEE) |
|--|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|--|
|  | Actual          | Predicted | Difference | PR          | SD    |  |
| BROAD READING  | 79              | 102       | -23        | 2           | -2.16 | Yes                                    |
| BASIC READING SKILLS   | 74              | 97        | -23        | 2           | -1.99 | Yes                                    |
| READING COMP   | 94              | 102       | -8         | 20          | -0.84 | No                                     |
| BROAD MATH   | 115             | 102       | +13        | 88          | +1.20 | No                                     |
| MATH CALC SKILLS   | 107             | 102       | +5         | 69          | +0.49 | No                                     |
| MATH REASONING   | 117             | 102       | +15        | 93          | +1.45 | No                                     |
| BROAD WRITTEN LANG   | 79              | 99        | -20        | 3           | -1.84 | Yes                                    |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS   | 74              | 100       | -26        | 1           | -2.34 | Yes                                    |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION   | 92              | 99        | -7         | 26          | -0.63 | No                                     |
| ORAL LANGUAGE (Ext)  | 108             | 86        | +22        | 97          | +1.88 | Yes                                    |
| ORAL EXPRESSION  | 112             | 87        | +25        | 98          | +1.98 | Yes                                    |
| LISTENING COMP   | 102             | 89        | +13        | 88          | +1.17 | No                                     |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE   | 125             | 107       | +18        | 97          | +1.91 | Yes                                    |

\*These discrepancies based on predicted achievement scores with ACH Broad, Basic, and Applied clusters.

*Uses differential weighting of Tests 1-7  
to predict academic performance.*

### GIA vs Predicted Achievement Ability / Achievement Discrepancy Options

- The *GIA-Std* and *GIA-Ext* ability / achievement discrepancies may be useful when a generalized measure of cognitive functioning or intelligence is required
- The *Predicted Achievement* option is intended to determine if a person is performing as well as one would expect, given his or her measured levels of associated cognitive abilities, not to diagnose a learning disability....

Mather & Schrank (2001)

### Justin's Oral Language/Achievement Discrepancies

| DISCREPANCIES        | STANDARD SCORES |           |            | DISCREPANCY |       | Significant at<br>+ or - 1.50 SD (SEE) |
|----------------------|-----------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-------|--|
|                      | Actual          | Predicted | Difference | PR          | SD    |  |
| BASIC READING SKILLS | 74              | 104       | -30        | 1           | -2.27 | Yes                                    |
| READING COMP         | 94              | 104       | -10        | 23          | -0.73 | No                                     |
| BROAD MATH           | 115             | 104       | +11        | 80          | +0.84 | No                                     |
| MATH CALC SKILLS     | 107             | 103       | +4         | 62          | +0.31 | No                                     |
| MATH REASONING       | 117             | 104       | +13        | 85          | +1.03 | No                                     |
| BROAD WRITTEN LANG   | 79              | 104       | -25        | 3           | -1.85 | Yes                                    |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS | 74              | 103       | -29        | 2           | -2.16 | Yes                                    |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION   | 92              | 103       | -11        | 22          | -0.78 | No                                     |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE   | 125             | 105       | +20        | 97          | +1.88 | Yes                                    |

\*These discrepancies based on Oral Language (Ext) with ACH Broad, Basic, and Applied clusters.

1. What is used as the basis for the Predicted Score?
2. Write a statement describing the Discrepancy PR in Basic Reading Skills.

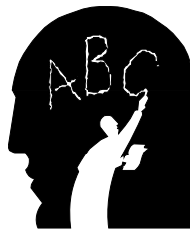
### Using Different Ability Measures

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>GIA-Std and Ext</b>       | Based on all 7 CHC factors. Weights change across lifespan but Gf (fluid reasoning) and Gc (comprehension-knowledge consistently receive more weight.   |
| <b>Predicted Achievement</b> | Based on COG tests 1-7. Weights change to provide the best prediction (e.g., Sound Blending would have more weight in Grade 1 for Broad Reading and Verbal Comprehension would have more weight in Grade 10.) |
| <b>Oral Language-Ext</b>     | Based on the four tests of the Oral Language-Ext cluster in WJ III ACH  |
| <b>WISC-IV</b>               | Based primarily on Gc and Gv with Gs and Gsm  |

For the intra-ability discrepancies, the predicted score is based on the average of the other areas.

For the ability/achievement discrepancies, the predicted score is based on the ability (i.e., GIA-Std or GIA-Ext or Oral Language-Extended).

Neurological, genetic, environmental, and instructional factors influence one's ability to learn to read and spell.



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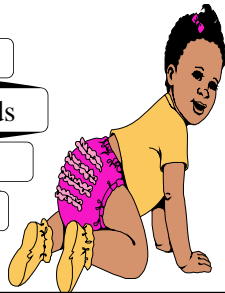
### Early Risk Factors

Late speech development

Difficulty with speech sounds

Lack of interest in print

Family history



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### WJ III COG Clusters

Phonological awareness

Processing speed

Working memory

Verbal comprehension



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WJ III ACH Clusters


Phoneme-Grapheme Knowledge  
(Word Attack and Spelling of Sounds)

Basic Reading Skills

Basic Writing Skills

Academic Fluency

Oral Language-Ext




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Factors that Affect the Development of Basic Reading and Writing Skills

Attention

Phonological awareness


Orthographic awareness

Rapid automatized naming (RAN)

Processing speed

Working memory

Motor Skills




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Factors that Affect the Development of Basic Reading and Writing Skills

Attention

Phonological awareness


Orthographic awareness

Rapid automatized naming (RAN)

Processing speed

Working memory

Motor Skills




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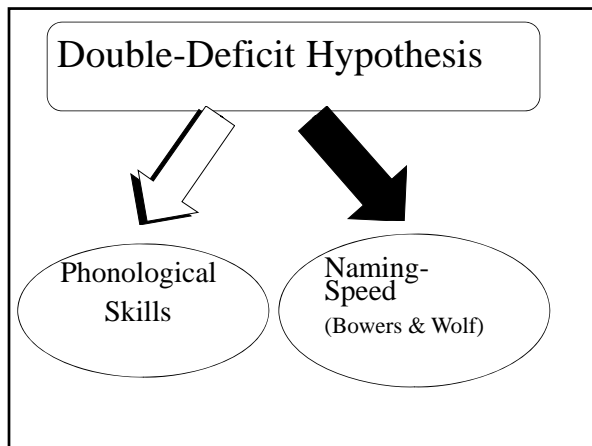
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"The term, double deficit, emerged as a concrete metaphor to convey at once the critical blow that the combination of both deficits represents. Just as naming-speed skills predicted word identification, and phonological skills predicted word attack, deficits in both variables would impede both aspects of reading, leaving no compensatory route easily available." (p.13)

Source: Wolf, M. (1999). What time may tell: Towards a new conceptualization of developmental dyslexia. *Annals of Dyslexia*, 49, 3-27.

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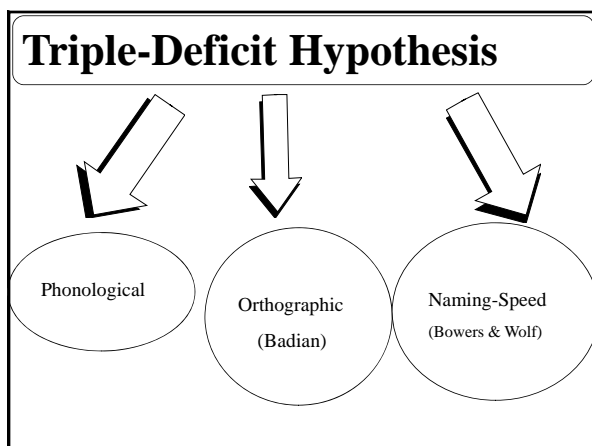
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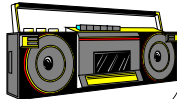
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## Phonological Awareness

Knowing that spoken language is composed of sounds

The ability to manipulate and integrate language sounds



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### A phoneme...

- is the basic building block of speech
- is a single speech sound that changes the meaning of a word
- helps us distinguish one word from another

Pin or pen?

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Many students with dyslexia have trouble with phonological awareness and difficulty connecting sounds to print...



Brad,  
Grade 3

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## Poor Phonological Processing

Mispronounces words



Trouble sequencing sounds  
in spelling

Confusion of similar  
sounding sounds

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## Research Results

Phonemic awareness...  
is highly related to reading  
achievement and causes reading failure

Phonemic awareness training...  
reduces reading failure  
provides long lasting benefits

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Orthography.....  
is the system of marks that make up a  
printed language. For the English  
language, orthography includes upper and  
lower case letters, numerals, and  
punctuation marks” (p. 245).

Wagner, R. K., & Barker, T. A. (1994). *The development of orthographic processing ability. In V. W. Berninger (Ed.) The varieties of orthographic knowledge I: Theoretical and developmental issues* (pp. 243-276). Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Kluwer.

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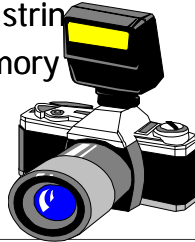
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## Orthographic Awareness

Rapid and accurate formation of letter images, letter strings or word images in memory



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Orthographic: the visual representations specific to words (not visual-spatial skills)

Orthographic coding: Representing a printed word in memory and accessing the whole word, a letter cluster, or a letter.

Orthographic image: Representation of a specific written word in memory .

Source: Berninger, V. W. (1996). Reading and writing acquisition: A developmental neuropsychological perspective. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

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## Poor Orthographic Processing

Reverses letter and numbers  
Has trouble copying  
Has trouble remembering sight words  
Confuses low-image words (e.g., of and for)  
Has difficulty learning how to form letters  
Confuses similar-looking letters and words  
Spells phonetically and violates rules of English spelling  
Has a slow reading rate



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In describing an intelligent 14-year old boy:

“He seems to have no power of preserving and storing up the visual impression produced by words - hence the words, though seen, have no significance for him. His visual memory for words is defective or absent; which is equivalent to saying that he is what Kussmaul has termed “word blind.” I may add that the boy is bright and of average intelligence in conversation...The schoolmaster who has taught him for some years says that he would be the smartest lad in the school if the instruction were entirely oral.”

(p. 94).

Pringle Morgan (1896)

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## Phonology versus Orthography

Phonology: the sounds of a language

Orthography: the marks of a writing system, including the spelling patterns of a language

Reading and spelling words and nonwords that adhere to English spelling rules requires both abilities.

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## The Relationship Between Phonology and Orthography

Making the connections between speech sounds (phonemes) and graphemes (printed letters and letter strings)

How many phonemes and graphemes are in English?

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## The Alphabetic Principle

The systematic use of alphabetic letters to represent speech sounds

F → /F/

grapheme

phoneme

How speech sounds map to print

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What is Rapid Automatized Naming (RAN)?

Measures response time or rapid retrieval for a visual stimulus (objects, colors, letters, or numbers or a combination)

6 8 9 6 4 9 3 6 9 4

8 1 3 9 6 8 4 3 1 9

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What Do Rapid Naming Tests Appear to Measure?

1. Ability to sustain attention to process and name the symbols.
2. Ability to name and discriminate among the symbols.
3. Ability to retrieve verbal labels rapidly.
4. Ability to articulate words rapidly.

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### What Do We Know about Rapid Naming?

1. Appears to be distinct from phonology.
2. Accounts for independent variance in word-reading accuracy and speed.
3. Is a stronger predictor of irregular word reading than non-word reading skill.
4. Is a powerful predictor for poor readers across the lifespan.

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The deficit in serial naming speed appears specific to children with dyslexia.

It is not clear how the naming speed deficit affects reading progress.

Naming deficits appear to be either a dysfunction in lower-level visual processes or part of more general processing speed deficits.

Source: Wolf, M., & Bowers, P. G. (1999). The double-deficit hypothesis for the developmental dyslexias. *Journal of Educational Psychology*, 91, 415-438.

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People who study the correlates of reading must distinguish between predictors and requisite abilities (i.e., indispensable parts)

Hammill, 1999,  
personal communication



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## Processing Speed

Involves the serial scanning of print

Can be related to poor attention, slow RAN, poor orthography, inefficient visual tracking

Appears related to the development of automaticity with basic skills

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## Dyslexia

a problem with rapid word identification and/or spelling



caused by poor phonological and/or orthographical awareness

treatment requires specialized methods and accommodations

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## Dyslexia

The term "**dyslexia**" implies:



a biological basis for the difficulty

difficulties with mastery of the coding aspects of reading and/or spelling (persistent spelling difficulties)

a complex syndrome, as opposed to one isolated symptom (e.g., only poor reading)

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Dyslexia creates a breakdown in the acquisition and application of alphabetic knowledge (phonology and/or orthography) that results in slow, labored reading development, delayed automaticity, and poor spelling. The treatment requires direct, intensive instruction in the alphabetic system, followed by methods to build rate and fluency (Mather, 2000).

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“...this new conceptualization of reading disabilities was ironically, named too quickly. To be sure, double deficit captures the phenomenon of study--that is, the importance of understanding the separate and combined effects of two core deficits--but it fails miserably in redirecting our simultaneous attention as a field to the entire profile of strengths and limitations manifest in children with reading disabilities. Only when we develop truly multi- dimensional models of deficits and strengths will our diagnostic and remedial efforts be best matched to individual children” (p.23).

Source: Wolf, M. (1999). What time may tell: Towards a new conceptualization of developmental dyslexia. *Annals of Dyslexia*, 49, 3-27.

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“The history of dyslexia research, the heterogeneity of our dyslexic children, and the very complexity of the reading process argue against any single-factor, two-factor, or even three-

Source: Wolf, M. (1999). What time may tell: Towards a new conceptualization of developmental dyslexia. *Annals of Dyslexia*, 49, 3-27.

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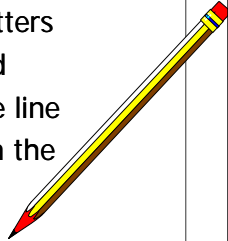
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## Visual Motor

- Difficulty forming letters correctly
- Inconsistent size of letters
- Slow production speed
- Trouble staying on the line
- Too much pressure on the pencil



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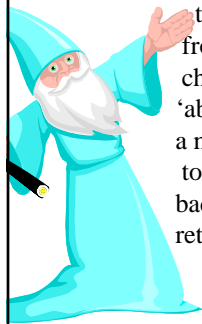
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“If a benevolent wizard were to give me the power to eliminate four words from the tester’s vocabulary, I would choose ‘intelligence,’ ‘aptitudes,’ ‘abilities,’ and ‘achievement.’ Then if a malevolent wizard were suddenly to appear and demand that I take back one word, I would chose to retain ‘abilities.’ (p. 1)

-Anastasi (1980)

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**“...(a) major value of detecting severe discrepancies within and between areas of cognition is the focus on cognitive processing components of learning disabilities.”**

***(Brackett & McPherson, 1996)***

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- The child fails to achieve a rate of learning to make sufficient progress to meet State-approved results in one or more of the areas identified in paragraph (a)(1) of this section when assessed with a response to scientific, research-based intervention process

OR

- The child exhibits a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance, achievement, or both, relative to intellectual development, that is determined by the team to be relevant to the identification of a specific learning disability.

|   |           |                     |            |           |                     |
|---|-----------|---------------------|------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Name: Carlos                              |           | School: Home        |            |           |                     |
| Date of Birth: 01/14/1998                 |           | Grade: 3.2          |            |           |                     |
| Age: 8 years, 10 months                   |           | Examiner: N. Mather |            |           |                     |
| Date of Testing: 11/04/2006               |           |                     |            |           |                     |
| Woodcock-Johnson III Tests of Achievement |           |                     |            |           |                     |
| Norms based on grade 3.2                  |           |                     |            |           |                     |
| <u>CLUSTER/Test</u>                       | <u>GE</u> | <u>Proficiency</u>  | <u>RPI</u> | <u>PR</u> | <u>SS(68% BAND)</u> |
| ORAL LANGUAGE (Ext)                       | 5.1       | avg to adv          | 96/90      | 80        | 113 (109-116)       |
| ORAL EXPRESSION                           | 5.3       | avg to adv          | 95/90      | 77        | 111 (106-116)       |
| LISTENING COMP                            | 4.9       | avg to adv          | 96/90      | 79        | 112 (107-br         |
|   |           |                     |            |           |                     |
| BROAD READING                             | 2.0       | limited             | 27/90      | 10        | 81 (79-83)          |
| BROAD MATH                                | 2.8       | average             | 84/90      | 37        | 95 (92-98)          |
| BROAD WRITTEN LANG                        | 1.4       | limited             | 35/90      | 3         | 72 (68-77)          |
| BASIC READING SKILLS                      | 2.4       | limited             | 52/90      | 21        | 88 (85-90)          |
| READING COMP                              | 1.6       | limited             | 29/90      | 9         | 79 (77-82)          |
| MATH CALC SKILLS                          | 2.3       | lmtd to avg         | 76/90      | 22        | 89 (84-93)          |
| MATH REASONING                            | 2.8       | average             | 84/90      | 40        | 96 (93-100)         |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS                      | 1.7       | limited             | 32/90      | 7         | 78 (74-82)          |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION                        | 1.5       | limited             | 50/90      | 4         | 74 (67-80)          |
| ACADEMIC SKILLS                           | 2.1       | limited             | 37/90      | 8         | 79 (75-82)          |
| ACADEMIC FLUENCY                          | 1.6       | limited             | 45/90      | 5         | 75 (72-79)          |
| ACADEMIC APPS                             | 2.2       | lmtd to avg         | 68/90      | 22        | 88 (85-91)          |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE                        | 4.4       | avg to adv          | 96/90      | 75        | 110 (104-116)       |
| PHON/GRAPH KNOW                           | 2.2       | lmtd to avg         | 77/90      | 32        | 93 (90-95)          |

## Intra-Achievement Variations

|                      | Actual | Predicted | Diff | PR | SD    | + or - 1.50<br>SD(SEE) |
|----------------------|--------|-----------|------|----|-------|------------------------|
| BASIC READING SKILLS | 88     | 93        | -5   | 27 | -0.60 | No                     |
| READING COMP         | 79     | 95        | -16  | 5  | -1.64 | Yes                    |
| MATH CALC SKILLS     | 89     | 95        | -6   | 28 | -0.57 | No                     |
| MATH REASONING       | 96     | 93        | 3    | 63 | +0.34 | No                     |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS | 78     | 95        | -17  | 6  | -1.59 | Yes                    |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION   | 74     | 96        | -22  | 2  | -2.03 | Yes                    |
| ORAL EXPRESSION      | 111    | 93        | 18   | 94 | +1.54 | Yes                    |
| LISTENING COMP       | 112    | 92        | 20   | 95 | +1.62 | Yes                    |
| ACADEMIC KNOW        | 110    | 92        | 18   | 94 | +1.58 | Yes                    |

### Oral Language/Achievement Discrepancies\*

|                      | Actual | Predicted | Diff | PR | SD    | $\pm$ or -<br>1.50 (SEE) |
|----------------------|--------|-----------|------|----|-------|--------------------------|
| BROAD READING        | 81     | 106       | -25  | 2  | -2.07 | Yes                      |
| BASIC READING SKILLS | 88     | 106       | -18  | 6  | -1.60 | Yes                      |
| READING COMP         | 79     | 106       | -27  | 1  | -2.18 | Yes                      |
| BROAD MATH           | 95     | 106       | -11  | 20 | -0.83 | No                       |
| MATH CALC SKILLS     | 89     | 104       | -15  | 12 | -1.15 | No                       |
| MATH REASONING       | 96     | 107       | -11  | 19 | -0.86 | No                       |
| BROAD WRITTEN LANG   | 72     | 106       | -34  | 1  | -2.47 | Yes                      |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS | 78     | 105       | -27  | 2  | -2.01 | Yes                      |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION   | 74     | 104       | -30  | 1  | -2.37 | Yes                      |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE   | 110    | 108       | 2    | 58 | +0.21 | No                       |

\*These discrepancies compare Oral Language (Ext) with Broad, Basic, and Applied ACH clusters.

### WJ III Cognitive for Carlos

| CLUSTER/Test           | GE   | RPI   | PR | SS(68% BAND)  |
|------------------------|------|-------|----|---------------|
| GIA (Ext)              | 2.1  | 81/90 | 25 | 90 (88-92)    |
| VERBAL ABILITY (Ext)   | 5.0  | 97/90 | 85 | 115 (111-120) |
| THINKING ABILITY (Ext) | 2.8  | 88/90 | 43 | 97 (95-100)   |
| COG EFFICIENCY (Ext)   | K..9 | 24/90 | 2  | 68 (65-72)    |
| COMP-KNOWLEDGE (Gc)    | 5.0  | 97/90 | 85 | 115 (111-120) |
| L-T RETRIEVAL (Glr)    | 1.6  | 82/90 | 12 | 83 (79-87)    |
| VIS-SPATIAL THINK (Gv) | 2.3  | 86/90 | 35 | 94 (90-99)    |
| AUDITORY PROCESS (Ga)  | 4.2  | 92/90 | 58 | 103 (98-108)  |
| FLUID REASONING (Gf)   | 3.3  | 91/90 | 53 | 101 (97-105)  |
| PROCESS SPEED (Gs)     | K.8  | 11/90 | 1  | 62 (59-65)    |
| SHORT-TERM MEM (Gsm)   | 1.1  | 44/90 | 11 | 82 (77-87)    |
| WORKING MEMORY         | 1.4  | 52/90 | 12 | 83 (78-87)    |
| COGNITIVE FLUENCY      | <K.0 | 26/90 | 1  | 64 (62-66)    |
| KNOWLEDGE              | 4.7  | 97/90 | 82 | 114 (109-119) |

### Intra-Individual Variations

|                        | Actual | Predicted | Diff | PR   | SD    | $\pm$ or - 1.50 SD<br>(SEE) |
|------------------------|--------|-----------|------|------|-------|-----------------------------|
| COMP-KNOW (Gc)         | 115    | 90        | 25   | 99.5 | +2.59 | Yes                         |
| L-T RETRIEVAL (Glr)    | 83     | 93        | -10  | 21   | -0.79 | No                          |
| VIS-SPATIAL THINK (Gv) | 94     | 96        | -2   | 46   | -0.11 | No                          |
| AUDITORY PROCESS (Ga)  | 103    | 94        | 9    | 75   | +0.66 | No                          |
| FLUID REASONING (Gf)   | 101    | 93        | 8    | 75   | +0.67 | No                          |
| PROCESS SPEED (Gs)     | 62     | 96        | -34  | 1    | -2.36 | Yes                         |
| SHORT-TERM MEM (Gsm)   | 82     | 95        | -13  | 16   | -0.99 | No                          |
| WORKING MEMORY         | 83     | 95        | -12  | 17   | -0.97 | No                          |
| BASIC READING SKILLS   | 88     | 93        | -5   | 30   | -0.54 | No                          |
| READING COMP           | 79     | 94        | -15  | 8    | -1.43 | No                          |
| MATH CALC SKILLS       | 89     | 95        | -6   | 30   | -0.51 | No                          |
| MATH REASONING         | 96     | 92        | 4    | 66   | +0.41 | No                          |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS   | 78     | 95        | -17  | 7    | -1.51 | Yes                         |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION     | 86     | 94        | -8   | 22   | -0.76 | No                          |
| ORAL EXPRESSION        | 111    | 92        | 19   | 94   | +1.58 | Yes                         |
| LISTENING COMP         | 112    | 91        | 21   | 96   | +1.76 | Yes                         |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE     | 110    | 92        | 18   | 94   | +1.56 | Yes                         |

| General Intellectual Ability to ACH |        |           |      |    |       |                         |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------|------|----|-------|-------------------------|
|                                     | Actual | Predicted | Diff | PR | SD    | + or - 1.50 SD<br>(SEE) |
| BROAD READING                       | 81     | 93        | -12  | 14 | -1.09 | No                      |
| BASIC READING SKILLS                | 88     | 95        | -7   | 27 | -0.60 | No                      |
| READING COMP                        | 79     | 94        | -15  | 9  | -1.33 | No                      |
| BROAD MATH                          | 95     | 95        | 0    | 51 | +0.03 | No                      |
| MATH CALC SKILLS                    | 89     | 96        | -7   | 28 | -0.59 | No                      |
| MATH REASONING                      | 96     | 94        | 2    | 57 | +0.19 | No                      |
| BROAD WRITTEN LANG                  | 79     | 95        | -16  | 8  | -1.43 | No                      |
| BASIC WRITING SKILLS                | 78     | 94        | -16  | 8  | -1.40 | No                      |
| WRITTEN EXPRESSION                  | 86     | 94        | -8   | 22 | -0.76 | No                      |
| ORAL LANGUAGE (Ext)                 | 113    | 94        | 19   | 95 | +1.66 | Yes                     |
| ORAL EXPRESSION                     | 111    | 95        | 16   | 92 | +1.43 | No                      |
| LISTENING COMP                      | 112    | 94        | 18   | 93 | +1.44 | No                      |
| ACADEMIC KNOWLEDG                   | 110    | 94        | 16   | 93 | +1.51 | Yes                     |

*\*These discrepancies compare GIA (Ext) with Broad, Basic, and Applied ACH clusters.*

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### What's Right with Whole Language?

- Child centered and motivating
- High-interest and authentic text
- Interactive: Language-rich environment
- Emphasis on meaning and language
- Reading develops naturally

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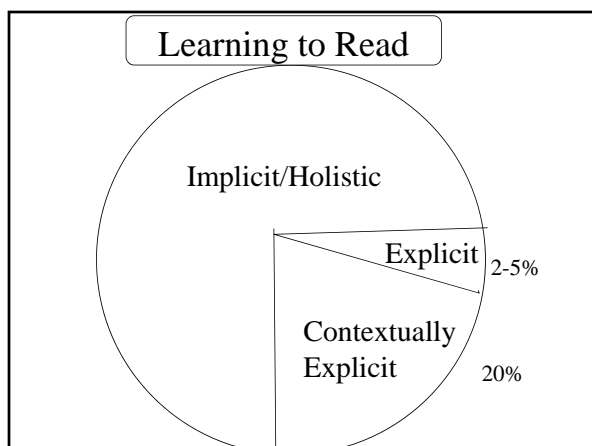
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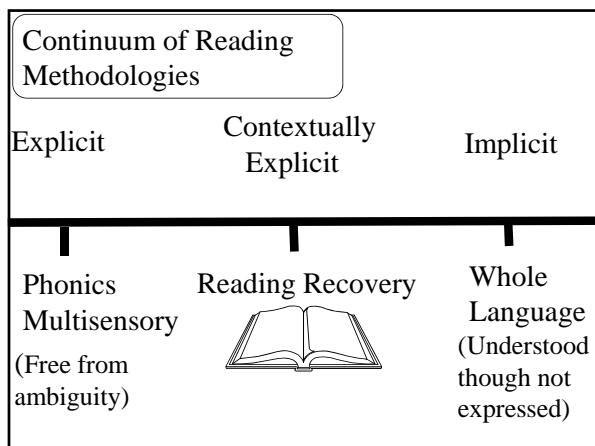
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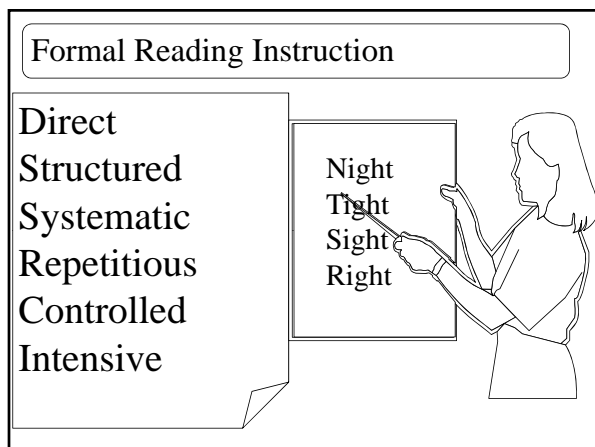
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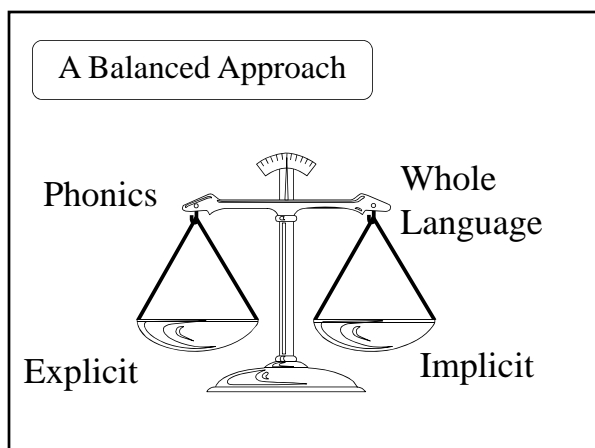
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Margaret Rawson's description of how to teach children with dyslexia:

"Dyslexic students need a different approach to learning language from that employed in most classrooms. They need to be taught, slowly and thoroughly, the basic elements of their language—the sounds and the letters which represent them—and how to put these together and take them apart. They have to have their writing hands, eyes, ears, and voices working together in conscious organization and retention of their learning (as cited in Henry, 1998, p. 1).

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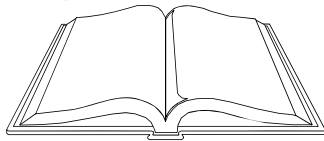
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There are no bad methods. There are only bad matches.



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Decoding is at once the least and yet the most important aspect of reading...

Gerald Glass, 1973

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| Methods for Building Decoding   |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b><i>Sight Words</i></b>       | <b>Places emphasis on quick recognition without phonic analysis</b> |
| <b><i>Synthetic Phonics</i></b> | <b>Begins with single phonemes and graphemes</b>                    |
| <b><i>Analytic Phonics</i></b>  | <b>Begins with word families</b>                                    |
| <b><i>Multisyllabic</i></b>     | <b>Uses structural analysis and syllabication</b>                   |
| <b><i>Multisensory</i></b>      | <b>Employs multiple senses, often tracing</b>                       |
| <b><i>Fluency</i></b>           | <b>Focuses on rate and automaticity</b>                             |

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Report of the National Reading Panel  
(April 13, 2000)

Most effective instruction includes a combination of methods, including:

- Activities to build phonemic awareness
- Instruction in letter-sound correspondences (phonics)
- Guided oral reading (reading aloud with feedback)
- Application of reading comprehension strategies

[www.nationalreadingpanel.org](http://www.nationalreadingpanel.org)

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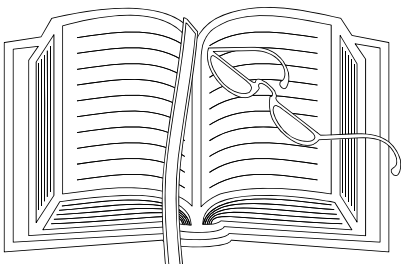
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Different People require Different Approaches at Different Developmental Stages



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### Poor readers have difficulty...

Understanding and learning letter-sound relationships

Using phonics to pronounce words



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### Strategies for Word Identification

1. By segmenting and blending sounds.
2. By pronouncing common spelling units (e.g., syllables).
3. By recognizing sight words from memory.
4. By creating analogies to known words.
5. By using context cues to predict words.

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### Skilled Reading

The key to efficient text reading is automaticity (the ability to read words by sight automatically). Allows readers to process words in text quickly w/o conscious attention to words. All other cuing systems require conscious attention.

Ehri, L. C. (1998). *Grapheme-phoneme knowledge is essential for learning to read words in English*. In J. L. Metsala & L. C. Ehri (Eds.), *Word recognition in beginning literacy* (pp. 3-40). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

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## Phases of Sight Word Development

Pre-Alphabetic Phase

Partial Alphabetic Phase

Full Alphabetic Phase

Consolidated Alphabetic Phase



Ehri, L. C. (1998). *Grapheme-phoneme knowledge is essential for learning to read words in English*. In J. L. Metsala & L. C. Ehri (Eds.), *Word recognition in beginning literacy* (pp. 3-40). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

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### Pre-Alphabetic Phase

Makes connection between salient visual cues and word meaning

Does not use letter-sound relations to aid in word identification

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### Partial Alphabetic

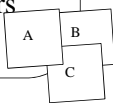
Makes connections between some of the letters and sounds

Relies more on first and final sounds

Lacks full knowledge of alphabetic system, particularly vowels

Reads same word inconsistently and confuses words with similar letters

(e.g., cap and camp)



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### Full Alphabetic

Has complete connections between letters and phonemes

Can decode words never read before by segmenting and blending letters

Remembers how to read sight words

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### Consolidated Alphabetic

Recognizes larger letters units instantly (e.g., morphemes, syllables, onset/rimes)

Has consolidated units in memory (e.g., -est, -tion, -ing, -le)

Is sensitive and recalls spelling patterns observed in words

Reads words rapidly and easily

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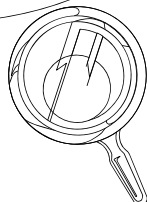
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Decoding and Encoding  
Require Similar  
Processes, but Encoding  
is Much More Difficult



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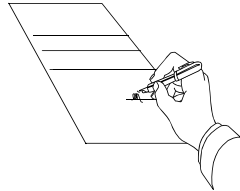
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### Development of Encoding Skill

Print Awareness  
Phonological Awareness  
Alphabetic Principle  
Increased Orthographic Awareness  
▪ Syllables  
▪ Visual Patterns  
Automaticity



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### Strategy Theory of Spelling Development

Children use information from phonology, orthography, and morphology as an aid to spelling from the beginning of attempted spellings.

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### ***Stages of Spelling Development***

- **Prephonetic:** Has no knowledge of the alphabetic principal
- **Semi-phonetic:** Uses letters to represent easy to hear speech sounds
- **Phonetic:** Represents all speech sounds
- **Transitional:** integrates some orthographic patterns
- **Conventional:** Uses sounds, patterns, and meanings

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### Examples of Stages of Development

Pre-phonetic: w12m

Semi-phonetic: I wk t the madk.



Phonetic: I wokr to the maylbocks.

Transitional: I waked two the malebox.

Conventional: I walked to the mailbox.

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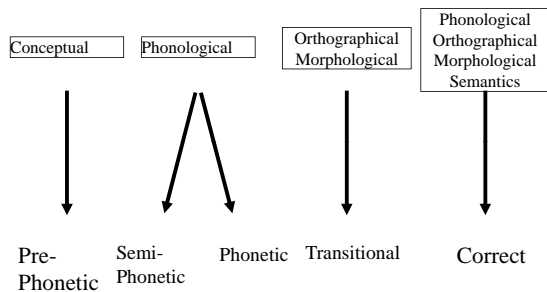
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### Primary Abilities for Spelling Development




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### Stages of Decoding/Encoding Development

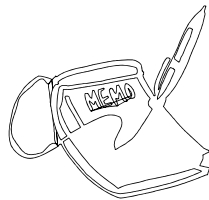
Prealphabetic: Prephonetic

Partial alphabetic: Semi-phonetic

Full alphabetic: Phonetic

Consolidated: Transitional  
(orthography)

Fluency: Conventional




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Comprehensive Assessment of Basic  
Reading and Writing Skills

Phonological awareness  
Rapid naming  
Letter-sound relationships  
Pseudoword reading and spelling  
Exception word reading and spelling  
Multisyllabic words (structural analysis)  
Rate and automaticity  
Oral language abilities

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Using Oral Language-Ext as the Ability Measure

Determine if oral language is above or similar to academic performance.

Assumption is that verbal abilities and listening comprehension should be similar to reading and writing performance.

If both are low, direct intervention to all aspects of language. If only reading or writing is low, direct intervention to reading and/or writing.

Can use to provide a justification for an accommodation (e.g., books on tape, oral exams).

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I will take you on a magical journey through time and tell you how scientists have discovered everything about space. Through stars and more stars, we find something very interesting. We find huge chunks of rock that were formed in the making of the solar system. They are called planets. There are nine planets to be exact. Those planets are called Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Pluto, and Neptune. There are two new planets that scientists have just recently discovered. If you've been reading the newspaper, you should recall that scientists have discovered the two planets. This is quite interesting because it gives scientists more to work on.

I'd like to tell you something about Mars. Everybody thinks that there's life on Mars, right? Wrong. There's not life on Mars. Mars is a rocky, dry, desert planet with volcanoes. You really would not like to live there. Besides, it takes two years to get there and so, don't go there.

This is an amazing fact. I never knew this until second grade. You see, they have an asteroid belt in between Jupiter and Mars, and so counting every single bit of the way, the solar system goes: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, asteroid belt, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Pluto, and Neptune. Oh, and may I remind you that every 2, 899 years or something like that, Pluto and Neptune switch courses...

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### Phonological Awareness Tasks

- Rhyming: What rhymes with dog?
- Blending: What word is this... /sh/ /oe/?
- Phoneme Counting: How many sounds do you hear in the word "top"?
- Phoneme Deletion: What is left if the /t/ sound were taken from "cart"?
- Phoneme Segmentation: What sounds do you hear in "bus"?

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### Sequence of Skill Development

- Discriminating rhymes
- Producing rhymes
- Isolating initial and final sounds
- Blending sounds
- Segmenting sounds
- Manipulating sounds (e.g., deleting, substituting, transposing)




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How many phonemes do you hear in...?

pig

rabbit

rooster

sheep

box




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## Onsets and Rimes

Parts of the English syllable

First part: Onset **H**...at



Second part: Rime h...**AT**

In English, all syllables have a rime, but not necessarily an onset

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## Rimes or Phonograms

Common element in word families  
(e.g., the “at” in cat)

Awareness of syllables and onsets  
and rimes develops before an  
awareness of phonemes

To teach rimes, use activities that  
stress rhyming patterns

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37 rimes from which 500 primary words can  
be taught using analytic phonics.

Wylie & Durrell, 1972

-ack -all -ain -ake -ale -ame -an

-ank -ap -ash -at -ate -aw -ay

-eat -est -ice -ick -ide -ight -ill -in

-ine -ing -ink -ip -it -ock -oke -op

-ore -ot -uck -ug -ump -unk

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## ***Sound Blending***

### ***Ability to push together sounds***

- P Begin with sounds that can be prolonged (e.g., /s/, /f/, /m/)
- P Progress from compound words to syllables to onset-rimes to phonemes
- P Present words with two sounds, three, and then four (e.g., /sh/ /oe/, /c/ /a/ /t/, /s/ /a/ /n/ /d/)
- P Gradually increase the interval between sounds from 1/4 second to 1 second break

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## **Segmentation**

1. Break compound words into words (e.g., cup-cake.)
2. Count the number of syllables in a word (e.g., car-pent-er.)
3. Break into onset-rime (e.g., c- at).
4. Count the number of phonemes (e.g., s-e-g-m-e-n-t).

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## **Segmentation**

### ***Ability to separate sounds***

- P Manipulatives (e.g., tiles, poker chips)
- P Tap out the number of words, syllables, phonemes
- P Hold up fingers to count the number of phonemes

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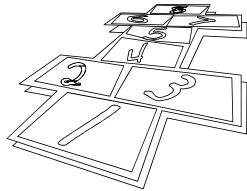
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## Clap. Tap. or Jump the Number of...

P words in a sentence

P syllables in words

P phonemes in words



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## Synthesis to Analysis Analysis to Synthesis

- < Distinctly say a word phoneme by phoneme
- < Have children represent phonemes with blocks
- < Have children say the whole word
- < Say a word and have the children represent sounds with blocks

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## Phoneme Manipulation

Deletion: say carp without the /p/

Addition: say at with /c/ at the front

Substitution:

<Initial: Change the /s/ in sun to /f/

<Final: Change the /t/ in cat to /b/

<Medial: Change the /i/ in hit to /a/

Reversal: say the sounds in "enough" backward

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Early Reading

Print awareness

Phonological awareness

Terminology

Alphabetic principle



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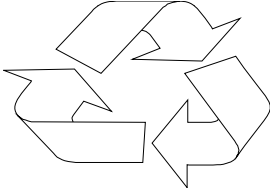
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Reciprocal Relationship  
between Phonological  
Awareness and Reading and  
Spelling Development



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Adapted Elkonin Procedure  
(Pre-Alphabetic)

1. Select a simple line drawing.





2. Place a rectangle for a word under the drawing divided into squares equal to number of phonemes.

3. Say the word slowly and push a marker forward for each sound.

4. Color-code markers for vowels and consonants.

5. Progress to letter tiles for markers.

6. Introduce common spelling patterns (e.g. blends).

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## Making Words

Source: Cunningham, P.M., & Cunningham, J. W. (1992). Making words: Enhancing the invented spelling-decoding connection. *Reading Teacher*, 46, 106-115.

- Give each student 6-8 letters with one or two vowels.
- Have each student make 2 then 3 letters words using the letters.
- Continue a pattern, increasing word length one letter during each step.
- Example: it, sit, slit, split, splint
- Practice with morphemes: ed, ing, er

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## Modifying Making Words

- Focus on CVC patterns
- Progress from changing initial to final to medial sounds
- Integrate with a reading/writing activity
- Pair at-risk student with tutor




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## Talk-to-Yourself Chart

(Adapted from Benchmark School, Gaskins)

1. The word is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. When I stretch the word, I hear \_\_\_\_\_ sounds.
3. There are \_\_\_\_\_ letters because \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The spelling pattern is \_\_\_\_\_.
5. This is what I know about the vowel:\_\_\_\_\_.
6. Another word I know with the same vowel sound is:\_\_\_\_\_.
7. Other words that share this same spelling pattern are:\_\_\_\_\_.

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1. The word is right.
2. When I stretch the word, I hear 3 sounds.
3. There are 5 letters because it takes i-g-h to represent the i sound.
4. The spelling pattern is ight.
5. This is what I know about the vowel: the vowel is the only vowel in the word and it says its own name.
6. Another word that I know with the same vowel sound is: ride.
7. Other words that share this same spelling pattern are: light, night, might, tight, sight, plight, fight, flight, and fright

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### Synthetic Phonics

- Explicit approach
- Teach grapheme-phoneme correspondences
- Teach blending
- Demonstrate how words are made from known parts




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### Examples of Effective Synthetic Phonics Programs

- Stevenson Language Program
- Phonic reading lessons
- Spalding method
- Corrective Reading
- Lindamood Phonemic Sequencing Program for Reading, Spelling, and Speech
- Slingerland
- Orton-Gillingham
- Wilson Reading System

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"It seems to me a plain fact that the word method consists essentially of treating children as if they were dogs. It is not a method of teaching at all; it is clearly a method of animal training. It's the most inhuman, mean, stupid way of foisting something on a child's mind." (p. 112).

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"Mind you, I am not accusing the reading 'experts' of wickedness or malice. I am not one of those people who call them un-American or left-wingers or Communist fellow travelers. All I am saying is that their theories are wrong and that the application of those theories has done untold harm to our younger generation." (p. 118).

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### The Great Cover-Up

"To stay in business despite the mounting research evidence and the near unanimous opinions of leading scientists, the look-and-say educators had to conduct a vigilant and ceaseless coverup campaign" (p. 40).

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“This approach focuses attention not on letters, not on words, but on *reading* as thoughtful interpretation. .. A child learns a word only by seeing it many times” (p. 48).

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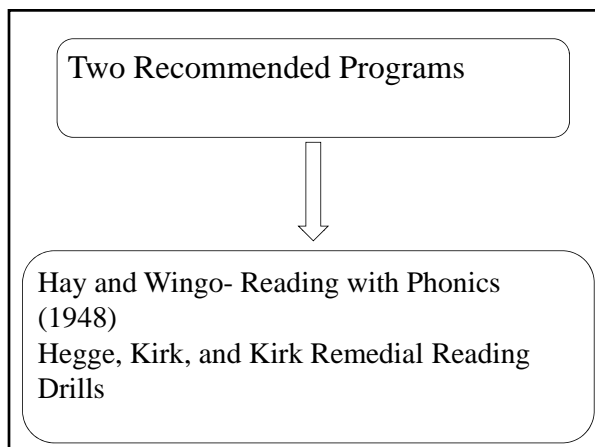
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**Phonic Reading Lessons (2007)**

Academic Therapy Publications, 20 Commercial Blvd.,  
Novato, CA 94949-6191, 800-422-7249

- **7 or more years of age**
- **been in school at least one year**
- **sufficient oral language**
- **educationally significant reading problem**
- **have not learned to decode**

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## Scope and Sequence of Phonic Reading

### Lessons

- Unit I: Short vowels, CVC words
- Unit II: CVCe and consonant digraphs
- Unit III: Consonant blends and digraphs
- Unit IV: R-controlled vowels, vowel digraphs
- Unit V: Common word endings and spelling rules
- Unit VI: Alternative pronunciations and spellings
- Unit VII: Prefixes
- Unit VIII: Suffixes
- Unit IX: Latin roots
- Unit X: Greek roots

Academic Therapy Publications  
20 Commercial Blvd.  
Novato, CA 94949 (800) 422-7249,  
[www.AcademicTherapy.com](http://www.AcademicTherapy.com)

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## Effective Phonics Instruction

### Sound blending

A few consonants and short a

Single consonants and short vowel sounds in  
a VC, CVC format

CVCe pattern

Consonant blends (e.g., sc, sl, sm)

Consonant digraphs (e.g., ch, sh, th)

Vowel digraphs (e.g., oa, ee, ay)

Diphthongs (e.g., ow, ou, oi, oy)

R-controlled (e.g., ar, or, er, ir, ur)

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Common prefixes (e.g., re, un, mis, dis,  
pre, ex, sub)

Common suffixes (e.g., -er, -ly, -ful, -ed,  
-est, -ing, -tion)

Silent letters (e.g., kn, wr)

Latin and Greek roots

Systematic instruction in high frequency  
words

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### Principles of Effective Phonics Instruction

1. Emphasis on phonological awareness activities.
2. Instruction in decoding (grapheme to phoneme)
3. Instruction in encoding (phoneme to grapheme)
4. Application of strategies to decodable text.

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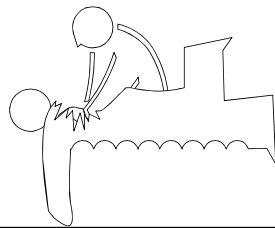
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“...lower level language mastery is as essential for the literacy teacher as anatomy is for the physician”  
(Moats, 1994, p. 99).



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### Glass Analysis Method

Easier to Learn, Box 329, Garden City, NY 11530

- Identify the whole word and ask for the word to be repeated.
- Give the sound(s) and ask for the letter(s).
- Give the letter(s) and ask for the sound.
- Take away letters or sounds and ask for the remaining sound.
- Ask for the whole word.

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1. The word is carpenter.
2. In the word, "carpenter," what letters make the /er/ sound? What letters make the /ar/ sound? The /car/ sound?
3. What sound does the "a/r" make? the "t/e/r"? "e/n"?
4. In the word "carpenter," if I took off the c/a/r (or the /car/ sound), what sound would be left. If I took off /ter/, what would be left?
5. What is the whole word?

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#### Example of letter clustering

##### Scratching

sc, ratch, at, ch, atch, scratch, ing ching, atching  
ratching

Glass Analysis for Decoding, Teacher Guide

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#### REWARDS Strategy

Circle the prefixes

Circle the suffixes

Underline the vowel in the root word

Draw scoops under the parts and say:

What part? What part? What part?

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## Types of Text

### Decodable Text

Phonically regular patterns

Word families

Careful introduction of irregularities

Systematic review

### High Frequency Word Text

Predictable, Patterned Language

(rhymes, repeated syntactic or semantic elements)

### Simple Expository Text

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## Characteristics of Simple Texts

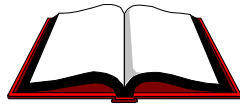
Use of high frequency words

Use of content words

Use of phonically regular words, including onset/rimes or word families

Use of patterned language (repeated syntactic patterns)

Use of pictures



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## Characteristics of Decodable Text

***Can pronounce the words accurately by applying phonics.***

***New sounds are introduced systematically with careful review of previously learned sounds.***

***Exception words introduced slowly with considerable review.***

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[www.accessiblebookcollection.org](http://www.accessiblebookcollection.org)

[www.readingatoz.com](http://www.readingatoz.com)

[www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)

[www.soundreading.com](http://www.soundreading.com)

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### Reading Level Criterion:

Oral Reading Fluency: (rate plus accuracy)

Independent Reading Level: **The level at which the student demonstrates word recognition 95+ %.**

Instructional Reading Level: **The level at which the reader demonstrates word recognition of 90-94%.**

Frustration Reading Level: **The level at which the student demonstrates word recognition of less than 90%.**

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The RPI describes the quality of a person's performance on a specific task.

RPIs are analogous to the Snellen Index which describes quality of visual acuity.



Both are criterion-referenced.

Snellen criterion: 20 feet

20/20: Tim sees at 20 ft. what most other people see at 20 ft.

RPI criterion: 90% success

90/90: Tim can accomplish with 90% success what a typical age/grade-peer can accomplish with 90% success

Adapted from © Institute for Applied Psychometrics Inc. 02-14-03

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### Informal Reading Criteria and the RPI

| 96/90 | Independent   | Easy       |
|-------|---------------|------------|
| 90/90 | Instructional | Manageable |
| 75/90 | Frustration   | Difficult  |

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### Adult Age Groups

| Visual Acuity | 25-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65-74 | 75-79 |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 20/10+        | 2.1   | 1.5   | 0.7   | -     | -     | -     |
| 20/15         | 50.4  | 49.5  | 18.2  | 4.2   | 0.9   | -     |
| 20/20         | 75.1  | 76.7  | 44.6  | 21.0  | 5.7   | 1.5   |
| 20/30         | 85.5  | 86.3  | 68.3  | 42.8  | 25.0  | 14.6  |
| 20/40         | 89.1  | 88.8  | 76.6  | 54.8  | 38.3  | 32.2  |
| 20/50         | 91.0  | 90.3  | 82.9  | 62.9  | 48.2  | 44.5  |
| 20/70         | 92.0  | 91.9  | 86.2  | 70.0  | 55.1  | 58.0  |
| 20/100        | 95.6  | 94.7  | 94.5  | 90.2  | 84.0  | 86.0  |
| 20/200        | 98.6  | 97.1  | 98.3  | 97.9  | 93.2  | 92.0  |
| <20/200       | 100+  | 99.4  | 99.8  | 100+  | 99.8  | 100.0 |

Average level of performance (50<sup>th</sup> PR)

(Data are cumulative percents from NCHS, NHS: Binocular Visual Acuity of Adults, 1960-62)

© Institute for Applied Psychometrics 10/02-14-03




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### *The two types of numbers are giving different types of information:*

Snellen Index:

How well can you see?

Cumulative Percents:

How many people within a particular age range can see that well?

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## Relative Proficiency Index (RPI)

The RPI predicts a person's level of proficiency on tasks that typical age/grade-peers would perform with 90% proficiency.

### Students' RPIs on Word Attack

|       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| Mark  | Sam   | Renee |
| 85/90 | 21/90 | 97/90 |

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## Criterion-Referenced Interpretation of RPI Scores

| W Diff Values | Reported RPIs   | Proficiency         | Functionality                           | Development                       | Implications        |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| +31 and above | 100/90          | very advanced       | very advanced                           | very advanced                     | extremely easy      |
| +14 to +30    | 98/90 to 100/90 | advanced            | advanced                                | advanced                          | very easy           |
| +7 to +13     | 95/90 to 98/90  | average to advanced | within normal limits to advanced        | age-appropriate to advanced       | easy                |
| -6 to +6      | 82/90 to 95/90  | average             | within normal limits                    | age-appropriate                   | manageable          |
| -13 to -7     | 67/90 to 82/90  | limited to average  | mildly impaired to within normal limits | mildly delayed to age-appropriate | difficult           |
| -30 to -14    | 24/90 to 67/90  | limited             | mildly impaired                         | mildly delayed                    | very difficult      |
| -50 to -31    | 3/90 to 24/90   | very limited        | moderately impaired                     | moderately delayed                | extremely difficult |
| -51 and below | 0/90 to 3/90    | negligible          | severely impaired                       | severely delayed                  | impossible          |

Schrank, F.A., & Woodcock, R.W. (2003). Report Writer for the WJ III. Rolling Meadows, IL: Riverside.

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## Sample Statements for Reporting RPI Scores

- Sam's RPI of 21/90 on the Phoneme/Grapheme cluster indicates that on similar tasks, in which the average fourth-grade student would be 90% successful, Sam would be 21% successful. Sam's knowledge of phoneme-grapheme correspondence and spelling patterns is very limited.
- Jeri's Fluid Reasoning RPI of 42/90 indicates that her ability to use logical reasoning to solve novel problems is mildly impaired to within normal limits. She is likely to find tasks requiring this ability to be difficult.
- Although Nicholas's standard score on the Mathematics Reasoning cluster is within the average range for seventh-grade students overall, his RPI (45/90) indicates that he will find grade-level math problem solving to be very difficult.

Mather, N., & Jaffe, L.E. (2002). WJ III: Reports, Recommendations, & Strategies. NY: Wiley

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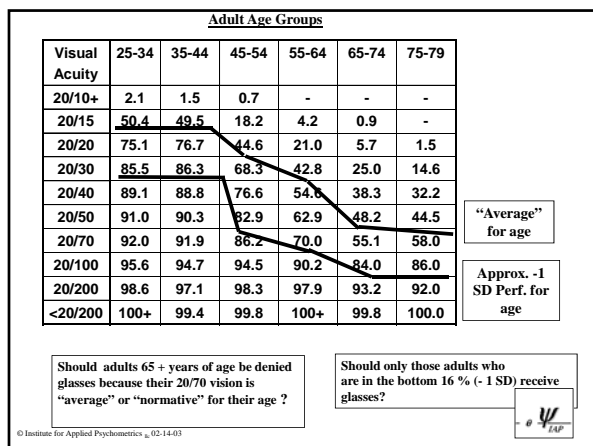
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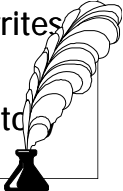
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### Language Experience Approach (LEA)

- Oral discussion about topic or shared experience
- Student dictates; other writes
- Teacher types story
- Student rereads written story




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### Print Concepts

Print conveys meaning

Left to right tracking with return sweep

Word-by-word matching

Awareness of terminology  
(e.g., letters, sounds, words)

Letters represent sounds

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### The Fernald Method

- ☐ Stage 1: Tracing the word
  - finger contact
  - saying as tracing
  - writing from memory
  - using in context
- ☐ Stage 2: Learning by looking, saying and writing
- ☐ Stage 3: Learning directly from print
- ☐ Stage 4: Generalizing and independent reading



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“The child is much more interested in writing and reading fairly difficult material that is on the level of his understanding than simpler material which is below his mental age level”...(p. 44)

-Grace Fernald (1943)

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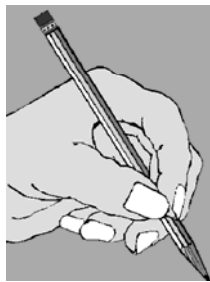
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### Tracing

- Attention
- Memory
- Sound-Symbol Association
- Handwriting



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### Cover-Write-Trace

- Have student look at and pronounce the word.
- Have the student trace the word while pronouncing the word slowly.
- Have the student continue tracing until the student says she knows it.
- Turn over the word and have her write the word from memory.
- Repeat until student can write the words 3 times correctly.

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### Principles of Spelling Instruction

- Select words at the instructional level
- Concentrate on high-frequency words
- Provide practice and review
- Use multisensory techniques when needed
- Have student practice writing from memory



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### Spelling Accommodations

- Reduce number of words
- Select high-frequency words
- Select phonically regular words
- Provide review
- Keep positive
- Use a spelling flow list

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### Adapted Scoring Criteria

- 0: no alphabetic representation**
- 1: initial phoneme with a possible spelling**
- 2: correct initial grapheme**
- 3: more than one correct grapheme**
- 4: all phonemes represented**
- 5: all phonemes represented with a possible English spelling**
- 6: correct spelling**

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### Adapted Spelling Scale

- 0 points: random letters**
- 1 point: One phonetically related letter**
- 2 points: Correct initial phoneme**
- 3 points: Two correct phonemes (does not have to be correct grapheme)**
- 4 points: Correct number of syllables represented (only used for multisyllabic words)**
- 5 points: All phonemes in the word are represented**
- 6 points: All phonemes in the word are represented with possible English spellings (e.g., rane for rain).**
- 7 points: Correct spelling**

Adapted from: Tangel and Blachman (1992) and Kroese, Hynd, Knight, and Hiemenz (2000)

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### Color Coding

**Green: Phonically regular words: (e.g., cat, swim)**

**Yellow: Irregular but frequent patterns (e.g., night)**

**Red: Irregular (e.g., once)**



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## Spelling Grid

- Write the first word in the column, pronounce the word and discuss the meaning.
- Count and write number of syllables in the second column.
- Write each syllable in the next columns.
- Write and pronounce the entire word.

Source: Wong, B.Y.L. (1986). *A cognitive approach to spelling. Exceptional Children*, 53, 169-173.

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[illegible]

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## Effective Spelling Instruction

- Multisensory techniques
- Sequencing sounds correctly
- Writing words from memory
- Practice and review
- High frequency words



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### High Frequency Word Lists

Focus on the most common words

Use in sight word and spelling instruction

Have students keep lists of words that are mastered for reading and spelling

Provide students with shortened lists for reference

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### Cognitive and Linguistic Factors that Affect Reading Fluency

Attention

Working memory

Rapid automatic naming (RAN)

Speed of recognizing orthographic patterns

Ease of word retrieval

Depth and breadth of vocabulary

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### Instructional Factors that Affect Fluency

Time spent reading

Decoding accuracy

Difficulty level of material

Interest level of the text

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## Independent Reading

### Differences in Amounts of Independent Reading

| Percentile | Minutes of book reading per day | Words read per year |
|------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| • 98       | 65.0                            | 4,358,000           |
| • 90       | 21.1                            | 1,823,000           |
| • 80       | 14.2                            | 1,146,000           |
| • 70       | 9.6                             | 622,000             |
| • 60       | 6.5                             | 432,000             |
| • 50       | 4.6                             | 282,000             |
| • 40       | 3.2                             | 200,000             |
| • 30       | 1.3                             | 106,000             |
| • 20       | 0.7                             | 21,000              |
| • 10       | 0.1                             | 8,000               |
| • 2        | 0.0                             | 0                   |

*Note.* From "Growth in Reading and How Children Spend Their Time Outside of School," by R. C. Anderson, P. T. Wilson, and L. G. Fielding, 1988, *Reading Research Quarterly*, 23, pp. 285-303. Copyright 1988 by Richard C. Anderson and the International Reading Association.

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### Cross-Academic Clusters

|                  | Tests from Standard Battery | Total Achievement | Academic Skills | Academic Fluency | Academic Applications |
|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Reading          | Letter-Word Identification  | ✓                 | ✓               |                  |                       |
|                  | Reading Fluency             | ✓                 |                 | ✓                |                       |
|                  | Passage Comp.               | ✓                 |                 |                  | ✓                     |
| Math             | Calculation                 | ✓                 | ✓               |                  |                       |
|                  | Math Fluency                | ✓                 |                 | ✓                |                       |
| Written Language | Applied Problems            | ✓                 |                 |                  | ✓                     |
|                  | Spelling                    | ✓                 | ✓               |                  |                       |
|                  | Writing Fluency             | ✓                 |                 | ✓                |                       |
|                  | Writing Samples             | ✓                 |                 |                  | ✓                     |

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### Cross-Academic Clusters

Academic Skills: measures of basic skills

Academic Fluency: measures of rate and automaticity with controlled difficulty levels

Academic Applications: measures involving reasoning and the application of knowledge

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| CROSS-ACADEMIC        |     |       |    |     |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|----|-----|
| Cluster               | GE  | RPI   | PR | SS  |
| ACADEMIC SKILLS       | 2.7 | 19/90 | 4  | 74  |
| ACADEMIC FLUENCY      | 3.9 | 75/90 | 27 | 91  |
| ACADEMIC APPLICATIONS | 5.5 | 92/90 | 61 | 104 |

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**WJ III Academic Fluency Cluster** was the single most important variable in differentiating between college students with and without learning disabilities

**CHC CFA of WJ III, WAIS-III, WMS-III and KAIT-University Students with and without LD** (McGrew, Gregg, Hoy, Stennett, Davis, Knight, Coleman & Ford, 2001)

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**Cross Academic Clusters**

*Considerations for IEPs and 504 Plans*

**Skills < Fluency and Application**  
Do not penalize for poor skills

**Fluency/rate < Skills and Application**  
Extend Time  
Shorten Assignments

**Applications < Skills and Fluency**  
Modify instructional level

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### Test of Silent Word Reading Fluency

(TOSWRF) PRO-ED

itdogredsunfell

chaosempathysurrendercostume

it/dog/red/sun/fell/

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Great Leaps Reading (Mercer & Campbell)  
[www.greatleaps.com](http://www.greatleaps.com)

Divided into three major areas:

Phonics: sounds in isolation to cvc, cvvc, cvce  
patterns

Sight Phrases

Stories

K-2 has a Sound Awareness section

Daily timing (one-minute) and charting

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### Rapid Word Recognition Chart

Chart composed of five rows of 6 irregular  
words

Time how quickly the student reads the  
chart.

Count and record number of words read  
successfully

Source: Carreker, S. (2005). *Teaching reading: Accurate decoding and fluency.*  
In J. R. Birsch (Ed.), *Multisensory teaching of basic language skills.*  
Paul Brookes.

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### Rapid Word Recognition Chart

pretty said who there they what  
said pretty there who what they  
there who they said pretty what  
who what said they there pretty  
they there pretty what who said

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### Common Points of Fluency Methods

- **Read while listening to the same material**
- **Track print with finger or marker**
- **Use high-interest material**
- **Use material at the instructional level**

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### Repeated Readings

- Designed for children who read slowly despite adequate word recognition (Samuels, 1979).
- Select a passage from 50 to 100 words long from a book that is slightly above the student's reading level.
- Have student read the same passage several times.
- Time the reading and count the number of errors.
- Record the reading time and the number of words pronounced incorrectly.
- Use two different color pencils for recording time and errors, or you make the points for time, a circle, and the line for errors an "X" or square.

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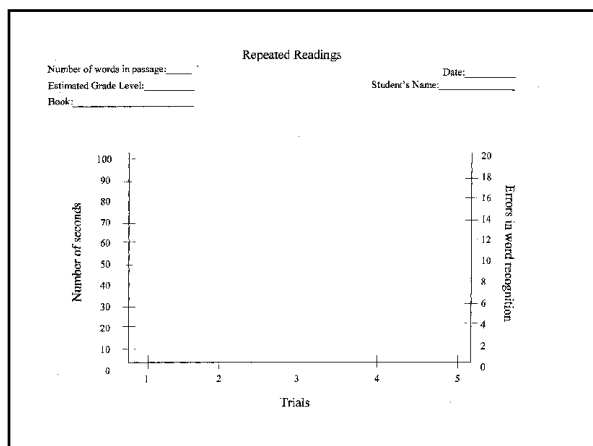
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## Rate-building Exercises

- Repeated reading of 100-200 words
- Count out 100 word passage
- Have student practice passage until he or she can read it in the targeted time with 2 or fewer errors
- Set target reading rate 40% higher than current rate
  - 50 wpm, target would be 70 wpm
  - $(50 + [40\% \text{ of } 50 = 20]) = 70 \text{ wpm}$  (p. 193)

Direct Instruction Reading, 4<sup>th</sup> edition

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## Rate-Building

- Every two weeks, have the student read a passage at their independent level of similar difficulty to passages in rate-building exercises
- If rate has improved, the teacher sets a new target rate on the new rate plus 40%
- Conducted in a small group setting in two 15 to 20 minute sessions daily

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## Repeated Readings

- Teacher feedback on errors
- Instructional level text
- Daily practice
- Charting of performance
- Set a criterion goal

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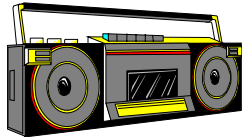
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## Taped Books

- Have child follow along with the print
- Ensure that the pace is appropriate
- Ensure child can follow procedure for finding the place (e.g., chime, page number)
- Encourage repeated listenings



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## How Fast is Fluent Reading?

- End of first grade: 60 wpm
- End of second grade 85-100 wpm
- End of third grade 100-120 wpm
- End of fourth grade 105-130 wpm
- End of fifth grade 130-140 wpm

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### Tips for Teaching Fluency

- Ensure active engagement
- Have students engage in multiple readings (three or four times)
- Use instructional level text or decodable text with struggling readers
- Read passages aloud to an adult

Adapted from:

Meyer, M. S., & Felton, R. H. (1999). Repeated reading to enhance fluency: Old approaches and new directions. *Annals of Dyslexia*, XLIX, 283-306.

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- Provide extra practice with trained tutors
- Provide corrective feedback on word errors
- Establish a performance goal or criterion of the number of words per minute
- Provide short, frequent periods of fluency practice
- Provide concrete measures of progress using charts and graphs

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### Websites for Reading Fluency

- Concept Phonics (Speed Drills)  
[http://www.oxtonhouse.com/concept\\_phonics.html](http://www.oxtonhouse.com/concept_phonics.html)
- Great Leaps  
[www.greatleaps.com](http://www.greatleaps.com)
- Kurzweil 3000  
[www.kurzweilledu.com](http://www.kurzweilledu.com)
- OKAPI! (used to create Curriculum-based Measurement probes)
- <http://www.interventioncentral.org/html/docs/tools/okapi/okapi.php>
- One-Minute Reader  
[www.oneminutereader.com](http://www.oneminutereader.com)

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- Online Leveled Reading Library K-6  
<http://www.raz-kids.com/>
- QuickReads  
[www.QuickReads.org](http://www.QuickReads.org)
- RAVE-O  
<http://ase.tufts.edu/crlr/raveo.html>
- Read Naturally  
[www.readnaturally.com](http://www.readnaturally.com)
- Reader's Theatre Scripts  
<http://www.teachingheart.net/readerstheater.htm>
- Recordings for the Blind & the Dyslexic  
[www.rfbd.org](http://www.rfbd.org)
- Six-Minute Solution  
<http://store.cambiumlearning.com>
- Soliloquy Reading Assistant  
<http://www.soliloquylearning.com>

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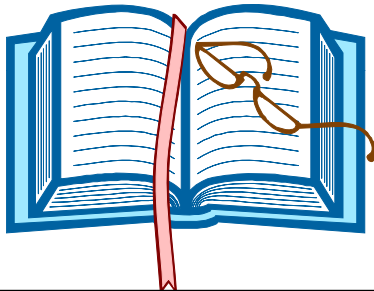
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Different People require Different Approaches at Different Developmental Stages




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### Instructional Activities: Developmental Levels

**Prealphabetic:** Phonological awareness, Elkonin boxes, onset-rimes, letter/sound activities

**Partial alphabetic:** Phonics, multisensory teaching, making words

**Full alphabetic:** Structural analysis, chunking by syllables

**Consolidated alphabetic:** fluency and rate

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“It would seem that, taken as a group, these studies suggest that instruction in small groups with high response rates, immediate feedback, and sequential mastery of topics-all typical of good teaching-are more important than the specific evidence-based program used.”

From: Responsiveness to Intervention and Learning Disabilities, A report prepared by the National Joint Committee on Learning Disabilities, June 2005, p. 11

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“About one-third of the children in the longitudinal study were receiving special help, but this help was often very erratic, occurring sporadically and consisting of what might best be described as a Band-aid approach to a gushing wound” (pp. 34-35).

Source:

Shaywitz, S. (2003). *Overcoming dyslexia: A new and complete science-based program for reading problems at any level*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

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## How?

- **Are negotiated**
- **Are temporary and revised**
- **Are reasonable and possible within the environment**
- **Do not alter fundamental requirements**
- **Viewed as empowering (supported by student and teacher)**



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### Examples of Reasonable Accommodations

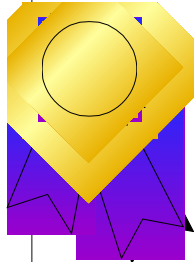
#### Extended Time

Untimed exams

Oral exams

Required readings on tape

Copy of class notes



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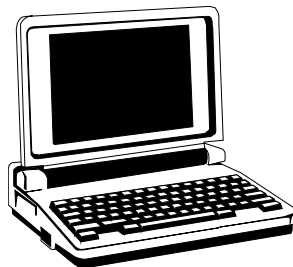
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### Use of Technology

#### Can increase:

- Motivation
- Efficiency
- Accuracy
- Independence



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“A President, a secretary of education, or a legislative body may well declare that ‘no child will be left behind,’ but that does not change the fact that testing (or any other measurement required for accountability) will always produce a distribution, including a bottom – even a bottom quartile, even a bottom tenth, even an individual or a group that scores lowest. It happens every single time, no exceptions!” (p. 521)

Kauffman, J. M. (2005). Waving to Ray Charles: Missing the meaning of disabilities, *Phi Delta Kappan*, 86, 520-521, 524.

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### Design of Study in which intervention occurred

1. Most "at risk" first graders from five elementary school - PPVT above 70

2. Instruction provided in 45 min. sessions every day from October through May in groups of 3 or 5 by experienced teachers or well-trained paraprofessionals

3. Used a structured (scripted) reading program that contained instruction and practice in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, and comprehension

4. Used a number of methods to achieve fidelity of implementation: 3 days of initial training, weekly supervisory visits, and monthly inservices (3 hours)

Source: Torgesen, J. K. (2004, January). *Setting new goals for reading interventions: Evidence from research. Keynote presentation at the Northern California Branch of the International Dyslexia Association, San Francisco.*

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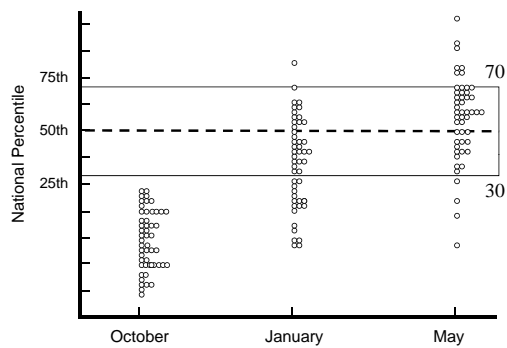
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Growth in Word Reading Ability




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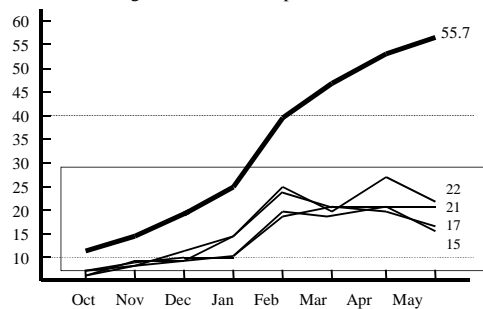
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Growth in Correct Words Per Minute on First Grade Level Passages for four lowest performers




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"The remedial work was unsuccessful in about 4 or 5 percent of the cases, in that this percentage of cases did not show improved scores on the pretest" (p. 151).

Monroe, M., & Backus, B. (1937). *Remedial reading*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

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#### IRREDUCIBLE FACTS FOR TEACHING

1. Differences in learning rate exist.  
Instructional procedures that treat students as equal are bound to be ineffective for either the upper or lower ranges or both.
2. Span of student ability  
Average third-grade class will have a six-grade spread of ability.

Source: Ladas, H.S. (1960). A handbook of irreducible facts for teaching and learning. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 606-607.

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Knowing what is  
needed  
to help students  
is not  
the same thing as  
being able to provide it.

Kauffman, J. M., Lloyd, J. W., Baker, J., & Riedel, T. M. (1995). Inclusion of all students with emotional or behavioral disorders? Let's think again. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 542-546.

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### Conclusions Regarding Instruction for Students with Reading Disabilities

Effective instruction plays a critical role in development

Early, intensive interventions are important

Instruction must be adjusted based upon a student's needs

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Training in processes without academic content is ineffective

The most effective methods are explicit and intensive

No single approach works with all students

Even "evidence-based" methods fail to work with certain students.

Adapted from:

Fletcher, J. M., Lyon, G. R., Fuchs, L. S., & Barnes, M. A. (2007). *Learning disabilities: From identification to intervention*. New York: Guilford Press.

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"Slow reading acquisition has cognitive, behavioral, and motivational consequences that slow the development of other cognitive skills and inhibit performance on many academic tasks. In short, as reading develops, other cognitive processes linked to it track the level of reading skill. Knowledge bases that are in reciprocal relationships with reading are also inhibited from further development.

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The longer this developmental sequence is allowed to continue, the more generalized the deficits will become, seeping into more and more areas of cognition and behavior. Or to put it more simply and sadly—in the words of a tearful 9-year-old, already failing frustratingly behind his peers in reading progress, ‘Reading affects everything you do.’” (p. 390)

Stanovich, K. E. (1986). Matthew effects in reading: Some consequences of individual differences in the acquisition of literacy. *Reading Research Quarterly*, 21, 360-407.

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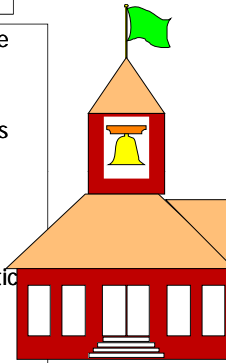
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### Successful Instruction

1. Provide instruction slightly above the present performance level.
2. Adapt and modify instruction, as needed.
3. Be eclectic in methodologies.
4. When needed, provide systematic intensive instruction in the most effective setting.



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“One of the most important conclusions from research is that for children with learning problems, learning is hard work. A corollary to this finding is that for their teachers, instruction is very hard work and requires an enormous amount of training and support. Children who have difficulty learning to read or completing mathematics problems will likely not benefit from ‘more of the same’ but require an alternative method of teaching to assist their learning.”

Source: Semrud-Clikeman, M. (2005). Neuropsychological aspects for evaluating learning disabilities. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 38, 563-568.

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