



Teaching Older Poor Readers to Read Words

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From Early Literacy to Skilled Reading

- Oral language
- Phonemic awareness
- Letter to sound correspondences
- Decoding words
- Recognizing words
- Building reading fluency
- Comprehending language
- Comprehending written text
- (good spelling would be nice, too!)



Milestones Toward Effective Intervention

- Determine where the student falls on the reading continuum
- Choose an intervention with a strong research base
- Shore up preskills while maintaining age-appropriate oral language



Word Study Strategies

- **Phonic Analysis**
 - Teach most common sound for each letter
- **Structural Analysis**
 - Letter combinations; Silent –e rule
- **Multisyllable Word Strategies**
 - Dropping a silent –e; Doubling rule; Affixes; BEST
- **Morphemic Analysis**
 - Teach meaningful parts of words
- **Contextual Analysis**
 - After a student tries a pronunciation: Does that make sense?



The Likely Suspects...

- Kindergarten
 - **Understanding & use of the alphabetic principle**
- First Grade
 - Alphabetic principle
 - **Phonics and decoding words**
- Second Grade
 - Alphabetic principle, phonics and decoding
 - **Reading fluently**
- Third Grade
 - Alphabetic principle, phonics and decoding, fluency
 - **Multisyllable words, morphemes, and comprehension**
- Fourth Grade
 - Decoding, fluency, multisyllable words, morphemes
 - **Active comprehension of sentences, paragraphs, and passages**



Ex: Segment to Spell

a m s t i f

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Blending

- For stretchable sounds:
 - Don't stop between the sounds
fast

- For stop sounds: Bigram blending
 - Say the vowel sound
ba - m
 - Blend the consonant-vowel:
ba – m
 - Add the last sound while stretching the vowel:
baaam



The problem with word families

- Poor readers read the list by rhyming without attending to the pattern:
 - Sight
 - Fight
 - Tight
 - Slight
 - fright
- Reinforces “first sound and guess”



How Regular a Language is English?



Patterns in the 100 Most Common Words

- th: that, than, this
- or: for, or, more
- ch: much, [which]
- wh: when, which, what
- ee: see, three
- al: all, call, also
- ou: out, around
- er: her, after
- ar: are, part



Highly Regular Letter Combinations

th	oa	qu	oi
er	ar	ay	oy
ing	ea	igh	ph
ch	oo	ol	wr
wh	ee	ir	au
or	ai	ur	aw
ou	sh	kn	



Teaching Silent -e

- **One generalization covers them all:**
- **“When there’s an -e at the end, the vowel says its name.”**
 - **Is there an -e at the end?**
 - **Game sit hop hope ram**

yes	no
What’s the name of this letter?	What’s the sound of this letter?
Read the word	Read the word



Small Moves toward 2-Syllables

- **Inflected endings: -ed, -ing, -s, -es**
- **Words that divide between consonants**
- **Every syllable has at least 1 vowel**
 - magnanimous
- **Words that end in -le**
 - Little, purple, sparkle...



Words That Divide Between Consonants

cannot	happen
goblet	kidnap
cactus	magnet
rabbit	triplet
plastic	dentist
tablet	absent



Most Common Affixes

○ Prefixes

- **Un-, re-, in-, dis-** account for **58%** of words with prefixes (White et al., 1989)

○ Suffixes

- **-ly, -er/or, -sion/tion, -ible/able, -al, -y, -ness, -less**



Teaching Morphemes to Older Students

--The meaningful parts of words--

- “not”
 - Un, dis, in, im (disloyal, unaware, invisible, imperfect)
- “excess”
 - Out, over, super (outlive, overflow, superhuman)
- “number”
 - Uni, mono, bi, semi (uniform, monofilament, bicolor, semiarid)
- “in the direction of”
 - Ward (skyward, northward)
- “full of”
 - Ful (merciful, beautiful)



Inter-- means between

- What does *inter--* mean?
- So what does *interstate* mean?
- What would you call a highway between states?
- What would *interperson* mean?
- So what are *interpersonal skills*?



BEST for Multisyllable Words

- Break apart
- Examine the stem
- Say the parts
- Try the whole thing



BEST Examples (Shackleton)

- understandingly
- expedition
- unknown
- Antarctic
- Uninhabited



Glass Analysis for Finding Word Parts

○ May

- What word?
- Which letter says /mm/?
- Which letters say /ay/?
- A-y. What sound?
- M. What sound?
- [take away letters and ask what's left]

way

layer

delaying

day

paying

payment

rays

mayor

Sundays



Every

- What word?
- Which letters say /ev/?
- Which letters say /er/?
- Which letter says /y/?
- E-v. what sound?
- E-r. What sound?
- y. What sound?
- [take away letters and ask what's left]

never

clever

evident

devil

crevice

nevertheless

level

several

revolution



Why Bother Building Fluency?

- One piece of the comprehension puzzle
- Minimum fluency requirements (Good et al., in press; O'Connor et al., 2002)
- Silent reading is **NOT** effective in improving fluency (NRP, 2000)
- Building fluency requires frequent, long-term practice



Strategies to Increase Fluency

- Rereading (Dowhower, 1991; Sindelar et al., 1990)
- Partner reading (Fuchs et al; 1998; Greenwood et al., 1998)
- Control the difficulty level of text (O'Connor et al., 2002)



2 Methods of Partner Reading

- **Modeled reading (PALS: Fuchs et al.)**
 - Strongest partner reads first
 - Weaker partner rereads the same page
 - Allows a model for the poorer reader
- **Sentence-by-sentence (CWPT: Greenwood, Delquadri et al.)**
 - Partners take turns reading sentence by sentence
 - Reread with other student starting first
 - Encourages attention and error correction



Reading Rates

Grade	Average Rate	Danger
1, March	45	25
1, May	60	40
2, Dec	75	50
2, May	100	60
3, Dec	120	70
3, May	135	80

Teaching Vocabulary Words

What works:	What <u>doesn't</u> work :
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Direct teaching• Frequent review• Production responses	Look it up Choose the best meaning Fill in the sentence



Prodigy

- A **prodigy** is a person with wonderful talent.
 - What's a prodigy?
 - What do we call a person with wonderful talent?
- Is Harry Potter a prodigy?
 - How do you know?
- Michael Smith has no special skills. Is he a prodigy?
 - How do you know?
- What does prodigy mean?
 - So--What would a *child* prodigy be?
 - Mozart was a child prodigy.



Expedition

- **Expedition means: a long trip or journey.**
 - What does expedition mean?
 - What word means a long trip or journey?
- **What's another way to say: Shackleton took a long trip to Antarctica?**
- **Lewis and Clark took canoes from Washington, DC to Washington state. Was that an expedition?**
 - How do you know?
- **I walked next door. Did I take an expedition?**
- **What would you call a hike from Brunswick to Savannah?**



Features of Vocabulary Instruction

- Tell the definition or synonym.
- Have children repeat it.
- Have children use the word and the definition at least 7 times during your instruction.



Keys to Successful Intervention

- Determine where the student falls on the reading continuum
- Choose an intervention with a strong research base
- Shore up preskills while maintaining age-appropriate oral language
- **Students with reading difficulties will need 7-20 practice sessions or more to master a new concept**
- **Use the student's progress to determine the next appropriate intervention**