# The Reading Universe Taxonomy

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

## Word Recognition

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## Phonics

- Consonants
- Digraphs
- Blends
- Consonant Lew
- Vowel Teams
- Diphthongs
- R-Controlled Vowels
- Schwa
- Glottal Stops
- Tones
- Silences
- Suffixes
- Onset-Rime
- Syllables
- Onset-Rime
- Phonic Patterns
- Word Patterns
- Syllables
- Onset-Rime
- Consonant Blends
- Multisyllable Words
- Silences
- B-Controlled Vowels
- Open Syllables
- Consonant-ka Syllables
- Silent C
- Vowel Teams
- Digraphs
- Hard and Soft C and G
- Silent Consonant Letters
- Suffixes
- How to add meaningful endings to words
- Beginning Phonics Suffixes
- Advanced Phonics Suffixes
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- Digraphs
- Hard and Soft C and G
- Silent Consonant Letters
- Suffixes
- How to add meaningful endings to words
- Beginning Phonics Suffixes
- Advanced Phonics Suffixes

## Language Comprehension

- Background Knowledge
- Activating Prior Knowledge
- Building Background Knowledge
- Connecting Knowledge
- Oral Language Structures
- Vocabulary
- Nouns and Pronouns
- Verbs
- Adjectives and Adverbs
- Conjunctions, Articles, and Prepositions
- Sentence Structure
- Morphology
- An understanding of how words can be broken down into the smallest units of meaning
- Open Syllables
- Consonant-le Syllables
- Silent E
- Vowel Teams
- Diphthongs
- hard and soft C and G
- Silent Consonant Letters
- Suffixes
- how to add meaningful endings to words
- Beginning Phonics Suffixes
- Advanced Phonics Suffixes

## Reading Comprehension

- Text Considerations
- Text Considerations
- Characteristics of a text that impact the ease or difficulty of comprehension
- Strategies and Activities
- How a reader approaches a specific text, depending on their purpose for reading
- Reader’s Skill and Knowledge
- The skills and knowledge a reader brings to the reading task that are necessary for comprehension
- Classroom Environment
- Elements in a classroom that affect how well a child learns to read

## Fluency

- Accuracy and Automaticity
- Reading or decoding words correctly and reading at an appropriate rate
- Fluency with Expression
- Reading aloud with emotion that demonstrates the reader understands the author’s intent

## Writing

- Handwriting and Keyboarding
- Methods for translating speech into written words
- Text Composition
- The act of recording ideas in a structured way on paper

## Structured Literacy

- The act of putting thoughts into print using transcription and composition skills
- A systematic and explicit approach to teaching reading based on research

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**Fluency** — The ability to read accurately with automaticity and expression

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

**Structured Literacy** — A systematic and explicit approach to teaching reading based on research

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