

Science of Reading Badge Glossary

Word recognition: the ability to identify a word by sight; the goal of reading fluency such that there is little-to-no conscious attention paid to decoding words.

Language comprehension: the ability to derive meaning from spoken words.

Reading comprehension: the ability to perceive and derive meaning from printed words.

Essential skills & components: the skills students need over time as they develop into skilled readers and writers. Depending on the framework used, these may have different names but are generally considered to include, at a minimum:

- For reading: phonological awareness, phonics/decoding, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension
- For writing (in addition to the above): transcription and composition

Principles of effective reading instruction: the approach to reading instruction that has been proven effective in developing skilled readers and writers, which includes instruction that is:

- Explicit: taught directly and clearly with explanation, modeling, and practice
- Systematic: based on the use of a planned, logical sequence, moving from simpler to more complex concepts, often following a well-defined scope and sequence
- Cumulative: regularly revisiting and reinforcing previously taught material to ensure retention and build automaticity; each step is based on concepts previously learned



- Diagnostic: includes practice with immediate corrective feedback and assesses specific skills or components of reading in order to plan targeted and individualized instruction
- Multisensory: interactive and designed to fully engage students through visual, auditory, tactile, and kinesthetic senses