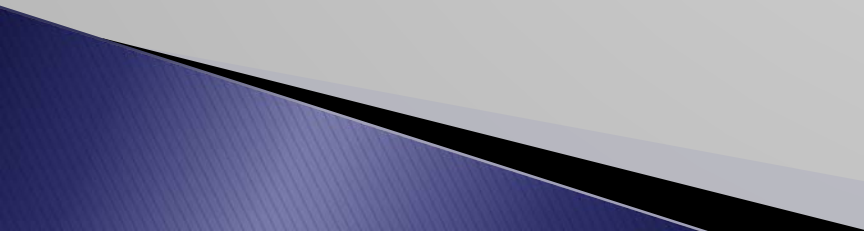


Learning to Read

- ▶ Learning to read is a very complex process.
- ▶ Teaching others to read is likewise challenging and requires much training.
- ▶ This powerpoint is not intended to trivialize either procedure.

- ▶ However, as a reader, you possess these necessary skills and have much to share from your experiences.
- ▶ The intent of this powerpoint is to make you aware of skills that you (and your children) may have learned so automatically that they have long been taken for granted. Additionally, it will familiarize you with the progression of skills in the reading process."

- ▶ NOTE: While this presentation introduces skills in a sequential order reading skills are not mutually exclusive and are not learned independently of all other skills.

- ▶ The beginning of reading actually can occur VERY VERY early in a child's life.
 - ▶ This type of learning begins with how to hold a book, turn the pages and that the words are read left to right.
 - ▶ Children learn that a book holds a story or gives information.
 - ▶ They begin to connect information in the real world with information in text.
- 

- ▶ Children see letters in the book and in their world (grocery store, restaurants, road signs)
- ▶ Letters have names and sounds.
- ▶ Text in a book can tell a story in an order,

- ▶ 10% of students entering Kindergarten do not have any of the prerequisite skills for reading.
- ▶ Another 70% of students have some but not all skills.
- ▶ Most skills will be learned quickly in Kindergarten barring a disability.
- ▶ The skill area most unlikely to “catch up” to peers is vocabulary.

- ▶ Lower case letters and the sounds that they make are the emphasis once the students get to school.
 - m, p, f, c,
- ▶ Capitals are taught but not emphasized. Capital letters make up only 10% of words read. They often look like their lower case counterparts.
 - M, P, F, C

- ▶ Students blend 3 sounds together.
 - All vowels have short sound.
 - Blending is easier for some if they “keep their motors running.”

- ▶ Students learn about
 - blends – two sounds together (sl, tr, mp)
 - digraphs – two sounds that join to make one sound (“h brothers” – ch, sh, th, wh)
- and begin to blend 4 sounds.

- ▶ They learn that vowels can make 2 sounds, long and short.

“If you see a magic e, you jump to the vowel and say its name.”

- ▶ Students learn sounds of the less frequent letter combinations – ph, other sound of c, g –dge, –le, etc.

These sound combinations are most often learned through the process of reading.

- ▶ It is necessary for students to learn to read accurately and smoothly.
- ▶ Some students need to see a word only once or twice before it becomes automatic. Some need to see it 20+ times! The average range is between 4 and 14 times.
- ▶ This is one reason why is it fine to reread a book a number of times.

- ▶ The students learn to make sense of what they read.

- ▶ Understanding is the goal of reading.
- ▶ Speed of reading becomes essential in being able to understand what is being read.

- ▶ Understanding is dependent on background knowledge.
 - While you cannot provide for new opportunities, you can supply information from your own background knowledge.

- ▶ Talking about the text becomes critical in the process of understanding.
 - Making sure vocabulary words are clear and that students are using the text to help them understand
 - Predict what might happen next or at the end.
 - Summarize what has happened so far.
 - Question something in the story that seems unusual.

- ▶ New studies indicate that the reading level of a third grader may predict his/her chances of graduating from high school.
- ▶ Third grade is a year of change. Up to this time, children are learning to read. During this important year a switch is made to using those reading skills to learn. Children still behind at this time will have a more difficult time keeping up with all subjects and may show signs of giving up.

- ▶ Please feel free to share your observations at any time.
- ▶ Teaching a child to be successful is a team process.

Students who find reading fun and entertaining and are able to relate reading with good times will be more able to cope with reading difficulties later in their school careers.

- ▶ Thank you for being willing to extend your learning to make a difference in the life of your buddy!!