

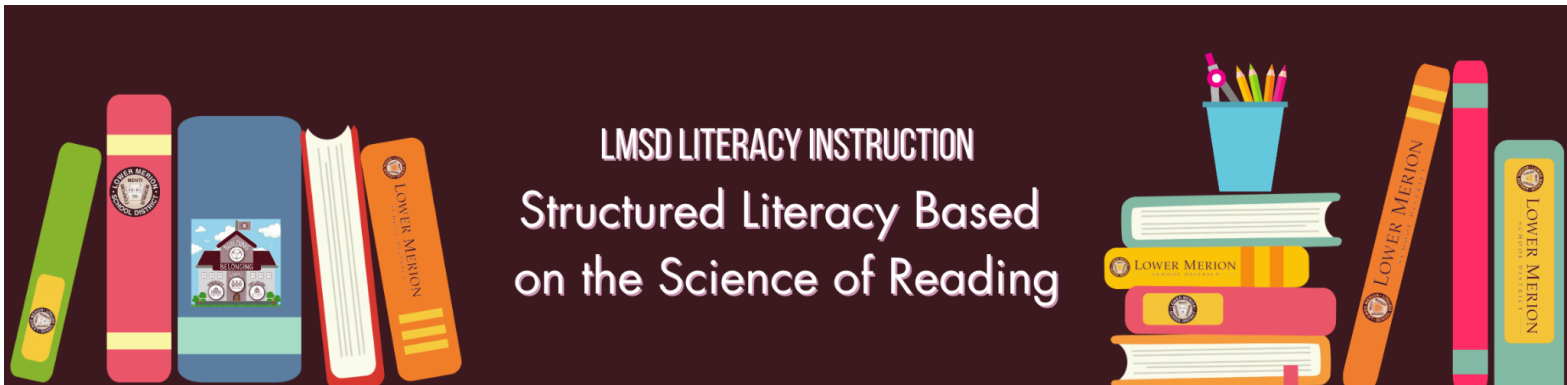
STRUCTURED LITERACY

Structured literacy is an approach to teaching reading and writing that emphasizes explicit and systematic instruction in the foundational skills necessary for literacy development. Structured literacy instruction is typically systematic, cumulative, explicit, and multisensory. It provides direct and explicit instruction in each component, builds upon previously taught skills in a logical sequence, and engages multiple senses (such as auditory, visual, and kinesthetic) to reinforce learning. Its components typically include:

- **Phonology:** Understanding the sounds of spoken language, including phonemes (individual sounds), phonemic awareness (the ability to manipulate individual sounds in words), and phonological awareness (awareness of larger units of sound such as syllables and onset-rime).
- **Phonics:** Teaching the relationship between sounds and the letters or letter patterns (graphemes) that represent them in written language. This includes understanding letter-sound correspondences, decoding (reading words by sounding out), encoding (spelling words by applying sound-letter correspondences), and sight word recognition.
- **Syllable instruction:** Teaching students to recognize and decode words by breaking them down into syllables, which helps with both reading and spelling.
- **Morphology:** Understanding the meaningful parts of words, such as prefixes, suffixes, and roots, and how they contribute to word meaning and spelling.
- **Syntax:** Understanding the structure of sentences and how words function within sentences, including grammar, word order, and sentence structure.
- **Semantics:** Understanding the meaning of words, sentences, and texts, including vocabulary development, comprehension strategies, and making connections between words and their meanings.
- **Fluency:** Developing the ability to read accurately, quickly, and with expression, which includes automaticity in recognizing words, phrasing, intonation, and prosody.
- **Comprehension:** Understanding and interpreting written language, including strategies for understanding texts, making inferences, summarizing, and analyzing texts for meaning.

SCIENCE OF READING

The "science of reading" refers to research-based knowledge about how people learn to read and how reading instruction can be most effectively provided. It encompasses various disciplines, including psychology, linguistics, neuroscience, education, and cognitive science. The science of reading emphasizes evidence-based practices derived from research on literacy development, cognitive processes involved in reading, and effective instructional strategies.



Educational practices informed by the science of reading typically emphasize systematic, explicit, and evidence-based instruction that targets the foundational skills necessary for reading success. This includes providing direct instruction in phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, comprehension strategies, and opportunities for practice and reinforcement. Additionally, interventions for struggling readers often focus on identifying and addressing specific areas of difficulty based on the principles of the science of reading.

Key principles of the science of reading include:

- **Phonemic awareness and phonics:** Understanding the sounds of spoken language (phonemes) and the relationship between sounds and letters (phonics) is crucial for decoding words accurately.
- **Fluency:** Developing the ability to read accurately, quickly, and with expression enhances comprehension and overall reading proficiency.
- **Vocabulary:** Building a strong vocabulary is essential for understanding texts and acquiring new knowledge.
- **Comprehension:** Understanding and interpreting written language involves various skills such as making predictions, asking questions, making inferences, and summarizing.
- **Orthographic awareness:** Understanding the patterns and structures of written language, including spelling rules and word recognition strategies, supports reading development.
- **Morphological awareness:** Recognizing and understanding meaningful parts of words, such as prefixes, suffixes, and roots, contributes to vocabulary development and word recognition.
- **Syntax and grammar:** Understanding the structure of sentences and the rules of grammar supports comprehension and fluency in reading.
- **Background knowledge and comprehension strategies:** Drawing on prior knowledge and using comprehension strategies such as visualizing, summarizing, and monitoring comprehension enhance understanding of texts.

Please Note – The information about the science of reading is based on synthesizing knowledge from various scholarly sources, including research articles, academic publications, educational resources, and expert consensus in literacy education. Literacy education draws from disciplines such as psychology, linguistics, neuroscience, education, and cognitive science to understand how individuals learn to read and write and how best to teach these skills effectively. Additionally, the principles outlined align with widely accepted frameworks and guidelines in literacy education, including those advocated by professional organizations such as the International Literacy Association (ILA), the National Reading Panel (NRP), and the International Dyslexia Association (IDA), among others. It is important to note that while the information provided reflects evidence-based practices and principles derived from research and expert consensus in the field, literacy instruction may vary based on factors such as students' individual needs, cultural context, and instructional approach.