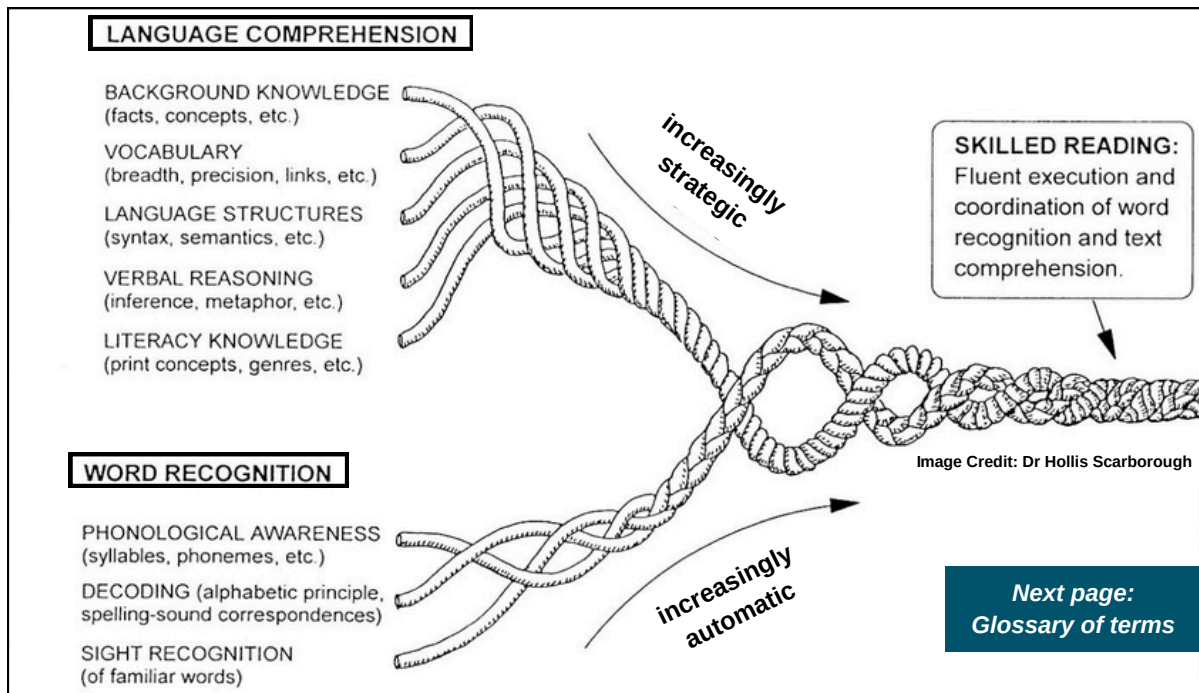


New Jersey Tiered System of Supports for Early Reading (NJTSS-ER) Scarborough's Reading Rope

The Illustration below shows the many skills that are needed to become a strong reader.



*Next page:
Glossary of terms*

New Jersey Tiered System of Supports for Early Reading (NJTSS-ER)

Scarborough's Reading Rope Glossary

UPPER STRANDS

LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION - *the ability to understand written and spoken language.*

- **Background knowledge** - what a person already knows about the world, and particular topics, including facts, ideas, and experience; also known as: *prior knowledge*.
- **Vocabulary** - to know the meaning of a word and to understand the range of word meanings (breadth); how to use a word (precision) and how it connects (links) to other words or ideas in the text.
- **Language structures** - examples include: the arrangement of words in sentences (syntax), as well as how words' meanings relate to one another (semantics).
- **Verbal reasoning** - to draw conclusions without something being explicitly stated in a text (inference) or to understand metaphors (comparing two unlike things by stating one thing is the other).
- **Literacy knowledge** - includes concepts of print (letters vs words, reading left to right, spaces between words, etc) and genres (different types of books).

LOWER STRANDS

WORD RECOGNITION - *the ability to recognize words accurately and quickly when reading.*

- **Phonological awareness** - the ability to recognize parts of spoken words; such as rhymes, syllables, phonemes (small, individual sounds). Ex: the word *bat* has three sounds: /b/ /a/ /t/. Blended together: 'bat'.
- **Decoding** - to translate a word from print to speech utilizing knowledge of the alphabetic principle (letters and letter combinations represent the sounds of spoken language) and spelling-sound correspondences.
- **Sight recognition** - to be able to instantly know a word, and its meaning, without having to decode it.

Interested in learning how Scarborough's Reading Rope relates to Reading Instruction? Watch the recording of *What Every Parent Needs to Know about Early Reading, Part II* from the NJTSS-ER Project video playlist on YouTube: tinyurl.com/54h5snv3.