
Activities that Support Current Reading Research

“The Science of Reading”



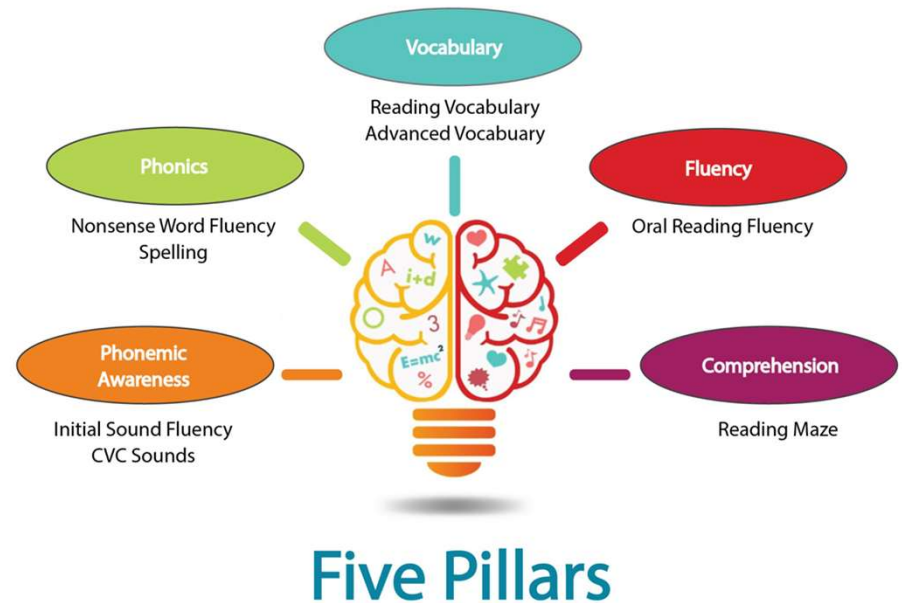
What is the Science of Reading?: The science of reading is a research-based understanding of how children learn to read.

It encompasses several core components, including **phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension**. These components work together to develop strong reading skills and support reading proficiency.

Importance of the Science of Reading: The science of reading is grounded in **cognitive psychology, neuroscience, and education**. It provides evidence-based methods for teaching reading, ensuring that instructional practices are effective and aligned with how children learn.

Additionally, the science of reading is crucial for **closing the reading gap** and ensuring that all children, including those who struggle, have access to high-quality reading instruction.

Science of Reading



Decodable Texts

Current reading research DOES NOT support the use of leveled readers.

Why We Use Decodable Texts Instead of Leveled Readers: Traditionally, leveled readers have been used to match students to books based on difficulty. However, these readers often rely on guessing and can hinder the development of strong decoding skills. As a result, there has been a shift towards using **decodable texts**, which are aligned with phonics instruction and support students in confidently decoding words.



The Benefits of Decodable Texts

Decodable texts offer several benefits in supporting young readers:

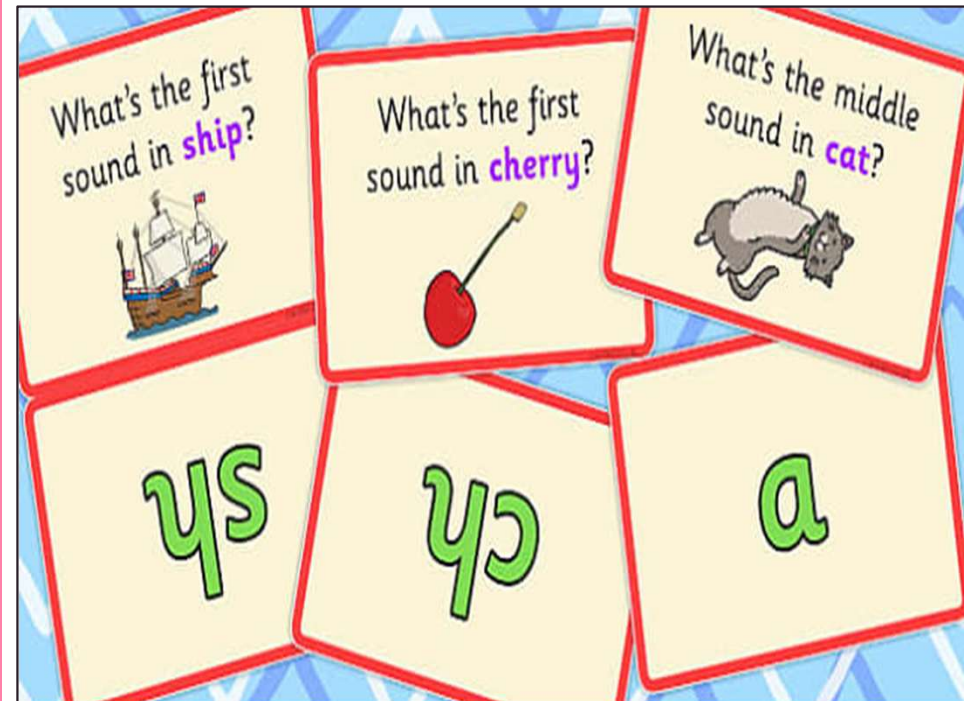
Reinforces Phonics and Sound-Letter Connection: Decodable texts strengthen the connection between sounds and letters, helping students develop strong decoding skills.

Builds Confidence in Independent Reading: With decodable texts, students can read independently and successfully, building their confidence as readers.

Research-Based Approach and Long-Term Reading Outcomes: The use of decodable texts is supported by research and has been shown to lead to better long-term reading outcomes for students.

Phonemic Awareness - Sound Matching Game

Objective: Help students identify and match initial sounds: Children pick a card. They say the sound of the first letter. They find another card that starts with the same sound.



Phonics - Letter-Sound Bingo

Objective: Reinforce letter-sound correspondence: Call out the sound of a letter. Students find the letter on their card. They mark it with a marker.



Vocabulary - Picture-Word Match

Objective: Expand vocabulary by connecting words to pictures: Match the word card to the correct picture. Say the word aloud. Use the word in a sentence.

		
		
cup	hot	dig
pot	tap	bin



Fluency - Echo Reading

Objective: Improve reading fluency through repetition: A volunteer reads a sentence aloud. Children repeat the sentence back, mimicking the pace and tone.



Comprehension - Story Sequencing

Objective: Enhance comprehension by understanding story structure: Read a short story to the children. Have them put picture cards in the correct order to retell the story.

Name _____ Date _____ **FREE!**

"A Day at the Beach"

Picture 1: A bright sun in the sky, seagulls flying, and a beautiful sandy beach with waves crashing on the shore. A family with a picnic basket is walking towards the beach.

Picture 2: The family has set up a colorful beach umbrella and a blanket. They're building a sandcastle, and a little girl is collecting seashells.

Picture 3: The family is enjoying a picnic on the beach. There are sandwiches, fruit, and a cooler with cold drinks. Everyone has a big smile.

Picture 4: The sun is beginning to set. The family is packing up, and the little girl is holding a seashell she found as a special souvenir from their day at the beach.

First	Then	Next	Last



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Math Activities for Building Mathematical Skills



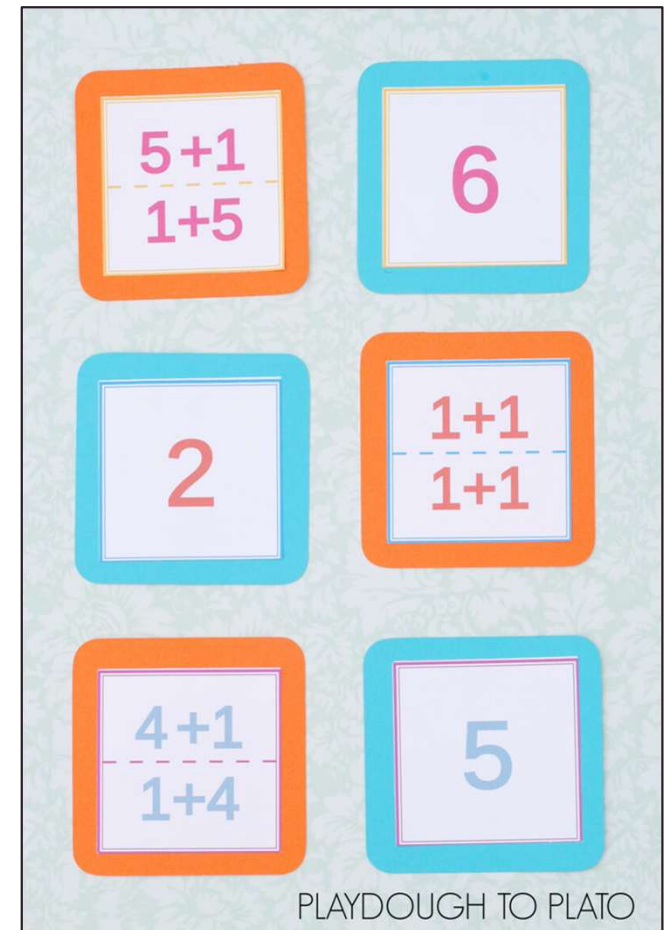
Counting Collections

- **Objective:** Strengthen counting skills and number recognition.
- **Activity:** Provide a collection of small objects (e.g., buttons, beads, or coins). Have the children count the objects and sort them into groups of 10. For older students, challenge them to count by 2s, 5s, or 10s.
- **Materials:** Small objects for counting.
- **Time:** 10-15 minutes.



Math Fact Memory Match

- **Objective:** Improve math fact fluency (addition, subtraction).
- **Activity:** Create pairs of cards with math facts on one card (e.g., $3 + 2$) and the corresponding answer on the other (e.g., 5). Spread the cards out face down and have the children take turns flipping two cards at a time, trying to find matching pairs.
- **Materials:** Index cards or paper for creating math fact cards.
- **Time:** 10-15 minutes.



Pattern Building

- **Objective:** Develop understanding of patterns and sequencing.
- **Activity:** Use small objects (like colored blocks or beads) to create simple patterns (e.g., red-blue-red-blue). Have the children continue the pattern or create their own. For an added challenge, ask them to explain the pattern.
- **Materials:** Colored blocks, beads, or other small objects.
- **Time:** 10-15 minutes.



Roll and Add/Subtract

- **Objective:** Practice basic addition or subtraction with dice.
- **Activity:** Give each child a pair of dice. Have them roll the dice and add (or subtract) the numbers shown. They can write down their answers or say them aloud. For a variation, use different colored dice to represent tens and ones.
- **Materials:** Dice, paper, and pencil (optional).
- **Time:** 10-15 minutes.



Multiplication War

- **Objective:** Improve multiplication fact fluency.
- **Activity:** Use a deck of cards (with face cards removed or assigned a value of 10). Two students flip over two cards at a time, multiply the numbers, and the student with the higher product keeps the cards. The player with the most cards at the end wins.
- **Materials:** Deck of cards.
- **Time:** 10-15 minutes.



Place Value Roll

- **Objective:** Strengthen understanding of place value.
- **Activity:** Give each student a set of dice. Have them roll the dice and arrange the numbers to create the largest or smallest possible number. They can then write the number down and say it aloud. To extend, ask students to round to the nearest ten, hundred, or thousand.
- **Materials:** Dice, paper, and pencil.
- **Time:** 10-15 minutes.



Fraction Match-Up

- **Objective:** Develop understanding of equivalent fractions.
- **Activity:** Prepare cards with fractions and their equivalent forms (e.g., $1/2 = 2/4$, $1/3 = 2/6$). Spread the cards face down and play a memory matching game where students must find pairs of equivalent fractions.
- **Materials:** Fraction cards.
- **Time:** 10-15 minutes

$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{7}{4}$	$\frac{1}{20}$	$\frac{9}{4}$
$\frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{6}{8}$	$\frac{22}{20}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$\frac{4}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{6}{5}$
$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{4}{10}$	$\frac{11}{10}$	$\frac{3}{20}$
$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{9}{10}$	$\frac{1}{5}$