

The Method of Reading Instruction Matters

Did you know...

- Dr. Seashore of Northwestern University estimated that when reading practice is based on explicit phonics instruction and accompanied by highly decodable text, most students are able to read almost anything within their comprehension vocabularies which is estimated to be about 30 000 words by the end of third grade!

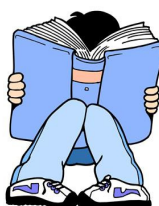


A Complete Program of Language Arts Instruction for Grade 1 & 2

1. Reading Instruction:

a. Decoding Skills

- *alphabet sight/sound correspondence
- *blending three letter words
- *consonant blends
- *silent e words
- *y at the end of one & two beat words
- *word keys (th, sh, ch, wh, qu, ar, er, ir, or, ur, ue, ui, ew, oo, oi, oy, ay, ou, ow, au, aw, ce, ci, cy, ge, gi, gy, wr, kn, ph)
- *word families (rhyming word groups such as: ight)
- *word endings (s, es, ed, ing)
- *suffixes (tion, ly)
- *compound words
- *word analysis (missing piece of most phonics instruction)
- *decodable text stories



b. Fluency

- *repeated reading sight word book
- *increases reading speed
- *solidifies sight word memorization

c. Comprehension

- *answering questions from stories (who, what, where, when, why, how)
- *learning to ask questions
- *listening to stories and finding a character's motive which drives story action
- *sequencing events of a story
- *mastering prepositions

With Smart Start your child will read:

Grade One on Day 1

See green.



Grade Two on Day 147

Ben's garden was very bare. He did not have any flowers in it. Ben went to the store and bought a number of different types of seeds. He planted seeds between bushes and in his flower beds. Then he watered the seeds and made sure they had lots of moisture. He waited and watched for several days. One day Ben thought he could see a little sprout. Soon he saw his flowers blooming. Ben and his neighbors all agreed that his garden was beautiful.



2. Writing Instruction

a. Printing Practice

- *forming letters with ease & developing fine motor skills
- *jokes & riddles (builds comprehension skills as the child stretches to grasp the meaning of puns, double meanings and word play)

b. Spelling

- *letter sounds, phonetic rules, word keys, word families and fixing misspelled words

c. Sentence Writing

- *sentence starters
- *building strong verb vocabulary
- *applying capital letters and punctuation marks

d. Punctuation & Capitalization Skills

- *learning when and where to use capital letters and punctuation marks

e. Six Creative Writing Stories

- *using a series of three pictures to write a story
- *writing with sentence by sentence support for success
- *applying character motive to story writing

