

NO Stupid Questions



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Alphabet

What is the hierarchy of teaching dictionary skills?

1. Alphabetical order
2. Quartiles
3. Guide words
4. Ready position
5. Page by page from corner
6. Automaticity
7. Speed

Should the child name letters as he/she arranges the semi-circle?

Yes, students should touch and name in the semi circle.

What pre-review can be used after the alphabet strip?

Activities that would be needed to teach dictionary.

When do you stop using the alphabet strip?

A student should use the alphabet strip as long as they need it. It is a tool.

If a student can find words in a dictionary in under 60 seconds, what should be done?

Bring in vocabulary, grammar, or daily oral language activity.

What is a guideword dictionary?

A bare-bones dictionary (sometimes called a skeleton dictionary) that has only three words on a page: two at the top (guide words) and one at the bottom (the last word in the first column).

New Learning

What are the “feelies” that I will need and Take Flight?

Lesson 1 (pig, bat)

Lesson 2 (table, dog)

Lesson 3 (igloo)

Lesson 4 (fish, violin)

Lesson 5 (apple)

Lesson 6 (mop, nest)

Lesson 7 (wagon, hat)

Lesson 8 (elephant)

Lesson 9 (thumb, mother)

Lesson 10 (kite)

Lesson 11 (octopus)

Lesson 12 (king, sink)

Lesson 13 (umbrella)

Lesson 15 (sock, zipper)

Lesson 16 (leaf, rabbit)

Lesson 17 (nose)

Lesson 18 (watch)

Lesson 19 (cup, city)

Lesson 21 (truck)

Lesson 22 (feet)

Lesson 23 (chair, jar)

Lesson 24 (match)

Lesson 26 (book, moon)

Lesson 27 (shell)

Lesson 31 (cake, five)

Lesson 32 (rope, mule)

Lesson 34 (feet)

Lesson 36 (Whistle)

Lesson 40 (yarn)

Lesson 41 (fern)

Lesson 42 (bird, turtle)

Lesson 43 (nail, tray)

Lesson 45 (star)

Lesson 46 (fork, worm)

Lesson 47 (box, queen)

Lesson 51 (saucer, saw)

Lesson 52 (fly, candy)

Lesson 55 (dollar, doctor)

Lesson 56 (coin, boy)

Lesson 57 (mouse, cow)

Lesson 58 (ball)

Lesson 62 (gem, badge)

Lesson 64 (snow, statue)

Lesson 65 (station)

Lesson 66 (explosion)

Lesson 68 (light)

Lesson 71 (seat, bread)

Lesson 74 (boat, toe)

Lesson 77 (Banana)

Lesson 82 (ceiling, bride)

Lesson 84 (eight)

Lesson 86 (thief, pie)

Lesson 88 (chef, school)

Lesson 89 (Europe, dew)

Lesson 90 (onion)

Lesson 92 (soup, phone)

Lesson 93 (monkey)

When do you start introducing homonyms?

Homonyms can be introduced as they come up in the text, or you can introduce them in vocabulary/alphabet time two days a week.

What is a hands-on approach for introducing the vowel theme song?

This can be demonstrated with body movements, paper syllable doors that open and close or by using the *magic word* technique.

Do all final stable syllables have to go through linkages?

Generally, children get the idea after a few linkages, so linkages can be discontinued. However, if children need the linkages, they can still be utilized.

When do you introduce suffixes and prefixes?

When they are introduced in Books 1-7.

Does the student have to discover the approach strokes?

Do only if the student needs it. It is a discovery and can build confidence.

How do you code digraph (oo) as in book?

You code it with a breve and underline it.

How do you code digraph (oo) as in moon?

You code it with a macron and underline it.

How can I show my students the difference between the sounds (n) and (ng)?

In the sound of (n) the tongue touches the top teeth. Tell the student to put his or her tongue against his or her bottom teeth and try to say the sound of (n).

What is a diphthong?

A diphthong is a vowel blend. There are only four diphthongs: (oi) (oy) (ou) (ow)

If a child makes an error in writing a letter during a linkage, can he/she erase and write over?

No. We do not erase during a linkage. Mark it out.

If a child is absent for a linkage, does the teacher have to go back and do the linkage for that child?

Yes.

In what situation do you code in a linkage?

When coding appears on the IRD deck, the teacher should go back and code all of the sections of the linkage paper at the end of the linkages.

What do you do about a child who can't produce the sound correctly because of a speech problem?

If it's a physical or cultural problem, keep going as long as the child knows what he or she is saying.

Handwriting

Where can you get a writing frame?

Zaner-Bloser has the best quality of writing frame.

What can a therapist do to help children write faster if they have passed all the benchmarks?

Check the curriculum guide under *Handwriting*. It will provide timed handwriting samples.

Should children be allowed to erase?

Do not allow them to erase, but to mark out and keep writing.

What will motivate a reluctant student to sky write? Use a “magic” glove (Michael Jackson) for younger students. Older students may respond to the physical explanation that *large muscles remember*. (People don’t forget how to ride a bicycle.) Finally, “no pain means no gain” adage.

When do children stop using the writing frame?

Each individual student should stop using the writing frame when it’s no longer necessary for success and their grip of the pencil is correct.

Can a therapist use the new letter learning and the handwriting lesson on the same day?

Yes, if the student is able to do it. Handwriting could be enhanced during review.

Reading

Why must a therapist give a child at least 50 words for each syllabication pattern?

This is a good rule of thumb to reach automaticity.

Are the keywords ever dropped when teaching the sounds? If so, when?

This happens at the end of Book 5.

What does a therapist do if a student codes a word but still misreads it?

1. Ask, "Can I hear that again?"
2. Name the letters.
3. Review the keyword and sound.
4. Blend from left to right.
5. Therapist blends the word with the child.

Must a therapist put all suffixes through linkages?

No.

Where can a therapist find lists of words to introduce concepts?

1. MTA kits
2. Situation Reading
3. *Angling for Words*
4. Wilson Reading Program
5. Dyslexia Training workbooks from EPS
6. *How to Teach Spelling* (Rudginsky)

What are ARD and IRD decks?

ARD = Advanced Reading Deck

IRD = Initial Reading Deck

How does a therapist know where to place new cards in the IRD deck?

Keep the same graphemes together. Same letter but different sounds.

If the suffix (s) is voiced, do you code it in the box (ie: pin s)?

Yes

What are some suggestions for students who tire of reading lists of words on a page?

- Have students close their eyes and move a finger around the page while saying: “ Round and round it goes - where it stops, nobody knows.”
- Have students code the word that their finger points to.
- Have students put a check by the words that they want to read.
- Ask students to choose words for the therapist to code and read to them.

How does the therapist keep the ARD and IRD decks from getting mixed up? It is difficult accessing them quickly when teaching linkages.

Color-code the decks by drawing a thin border around all four sides of each card in the deck. The IRD deck might be green; the ARD deck could be red. Then, on your linkage cards, write IRD and ARD in the colors chosen. This enables the therapist to quickly grab the correct cards during the linkage portion of the lesson.

Can students read without coding?

Yes, when they are secure. However, they should always return to coding when they meet an unfamiliar word.

When the reading decks get too large, what should the therapist do?

The reading decks can be divided.

Can a new phoneme be used in reading on the same day that it was introduced?

This depends on the students in the group. If the students can handle the challenge, it can be done.

When do therapists practice the Instant Words decks?

This can be done in the review.

When does the therapist drop cards from the reading decks? How is this done?

When the students are secure, the therapist may divide the decks. The therapist does this initially by having the students decide which sounds are automatic for them. These cards are removed from the IRD and ARD decks to form a new deck. Afterward, the cards from the IRD deck that align with the ARD deck cards should also be removed.

Do the students always blend from the vowel?

Not necessarily. It should only be done when helpful.

In books 1-7, which reading deck comes first? Use the Advanced Reading Deck first.

Can auditory memory be improved?

Yes. Take Flight gives students strategies for building their auditory memories.

Why shouldn't therapists give students a chance to read each story silently before reading it alone?

Therapists recognize that it is frequently better to guide students in looking for difficult words initially.

What does "regular for reading" mean?

It means the text can be coded and read.

When is the first thing the therapist should check in syllable division?

They should be looking for obvious coding first.

What code marks are necessary for pre-review in books 1-7?

Combinations, digraphs, suffixes, n, breve, macron, CC.
Instant words should be circled.

Where can a therapist find ways to teach the concepts on the left side of the graph?

- Situation Learning
- Dyslexia training
- MTA kits
- Ideas are given in Advanced class

When the students begin to read out of chapter books, how do therapists handle the words that they cannot read?

Therapists read the words for the students until they can code the word.

Spelling

What are some ways to practice spelling deck?

- Board
- Paper
- Carpet
- Sandpaper
- Wet sponge
- Brush on board
- Dry marker on plastic or laminated surface
- Windows
- Mirrors
- Magna doodle
- Electra sketch
- Desk
- Floor
- Finger tracing
- Soap crayons on wet paper
- Finger paint
- Shaving cream
- Pudding
- Jam
- Seeds (pour seeds in shoe box top to do the writing)
- Writing on own hand (double kinesthetic reinforcement)

When you have a two-syllable word, do you unblend by syllable? No.

Do the students have to say *digraph*, *diphthong*, and *combination*, before they write or name the letters as a response to the spelling deck?

Yes.

When can spelling dictation begin?

This depends on the student. It can start in book 1 with very simple sentences after the concepts of sentence and phrase and then introduced. I.e.: Tip it.

How do you teach the spelling of words that are regular for reading but not for spelling?

Teach them as instant words.

How can a therapist help with the spelling of a learned word?

Circle the irregular part of the word for spelling.

Review

What is the purpose of review?

Review should reinforce new learning.

Do you have some suggestions for review activities?

- New learning
- Instant word deck
- Final stable syllable decks
- Grammar decks
- Concepts
- Procedures
- Suffixes
- Prefixes
- Vocabulary
- Language Development Notebook
- Games

Verbal to Written Expression

Who are some famous dyslexics?

Hans Christian Andersen

Greg Louganis

Harry Belafonte

Amy Lowell

Winston Churchill

Nelson Rockefeller

Agatha Christie

Lindsey Wagner

Tom Cruise

Robin Williams

Gauguin

Henry Winkler

Bruce Jenner

Listening

Why should a therapist read more challenging books to her class? Why not read books that would encourage the students to read them later for themselves?

Reading books at a more challenging level exposes students to higher levels of vocabulary and enriches their language. This should be done at the end of a lesson for a special time or on a Friday comprehension day.

Benchmark

When should a therapist benchmark?

A therapist should benchmark at the beginning of the program to establish a baseline. Afterwards, the therapist should benchmark at the end of each book to assess growth after completion of the schedule.

How should a student with writing difficulties take the benchmark? What alternatives are available for the therapist?

During the spelling benchmark, the therapist can use plastic tray letters or the teacher may act as a scribe.

Is the student allowed to code during the reading benchmark? Yes.

On the reading benchmark, can students use a card to keep their place? Yes.

Miscellaneous

If a student only comes four days a week - instead of five, what does the therapist do about the five-day cycle of activities?

- The only activity that needs to be adjusted is comprehension day.
- Do not eliminate the same activity all of the time.

If students are unable to write with their dominant hand due to an injury, is it permissible for them to use their other hand?

They cannot use the other hand for handwriting or linkages. Do as much orally as possible.

How can therapists carry their Take Flight equipment?

Therapists can use a wheeled luggage carrier or cart.

Can Dyslexia be cured?

No. You treat Dyslexia; you do not cure it. Therapists give students strategies (or tools) for dealing with their Dyslexia. However, there is some discussion among researchers as to whether or not there are physiological changes caused by the treatment of Dyslexia.