

Method Overview

Research has shown that the most effective approach to teaching beginning and struggling readers is through an explicit, sequential, multi-sensory phonics instructional framework.

Reading Horizons helps students master the rules of the English language through the following instructional framework:

The Framework

- 42 Sounds of the Alphabet
- Five Phonetic Skills
- Two Decoding Skills

Alphabet Introduction

The alphabet is taught in letter sets of four to five consonants and one vowel. There are five letter sets in all.

B/b F/f D/d G/g A/a (at)

Slide **b a** →

Build a Word

b **b a** b a g d **d a** d a d

Introduce Most Common Words (Sight Words)

Begin Sentence Structure

Continue Study of the Alphabet

H/h J/j L/l M/m E/e (Ed)

N/n P/p R/r S/s O/o (odd)

T/t V/v W/w X/x Y/y U/u (up)

Q/q Z/z C/c K/k I/i (it)

The C/K Spelling Rule

When spelling with the /k/ sound, when the sound is followed by the vowel *i* or *e*, the word will be spelled with *k*; when the /k/ sound is followed by the vowels *a*, *o*, or *u*, the word is spelled with a *c*.

k takes *i* and *e*

MEOW!

c takes the other three

Blends

A Blend is two or three consonants standing together, each retaining its own sound. A Blend must always be able to begin a word.

Six L-Blends

b l c l f l g l p l s l

Seven R-Blends

b r c r d r f r g r p r t r

Eight Two-Letter S-Blends

s c s k s l s m

s n s p s t s w

Five Three-Letter S-Blends

s c r s p r s t r s p l s q u

Two Extra Blends

t w d w

Long and Short Vowels

Name, sound, and diacritical markings.

ă ě ǒ ŭ ǐ

ā ē ō ū ī

The Five Phonetic Skills

Must be taught, practiced, and mastered.

1. m_xět* r_xŭn*
2. j_xŭmp* r_xěnt**
3. m_xē s_xō
4. h_xōpē↓ r_xīdē↓
5. b_xōd† m_xēd†

Decoding Skill 1

m_xōt_xěl pr_xōgr_xăm l_xōc_xāte↓

Decoding Skill 2

c_xămp_xŭs ăx|tr_xēmē↓ ăx|pl_xā|n

Decoding Words of Any Length

ŭ_x|d_xē|p_xě|n|d_xěnt

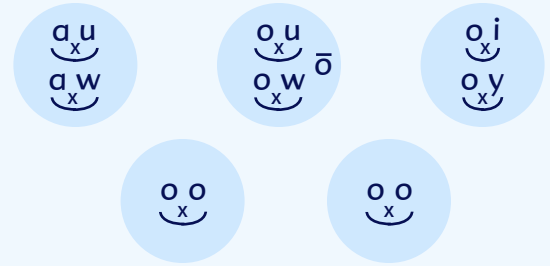
Murmur Diphthongs

ar_x or_x er_x ur_x ir_x
tar_x storm_x her_x burn_x fir_x

Digraphs

ch sh wh
ch_xurch sh_xīnē↓ wh_xīch
th th
th_xis* th_xŭmp**

Special Vowel Sounds



haul_x ouch_x oil_x look_x
zoo_x saw_x how_x boy_x

Schwa

All five vowels sometimes make the schwa sound when they are in unstressed syllables. The schwa sound is generally the short *u* sound. To mark the schwa, we put an 'x' under the vowel and an upside-down, lowercase e above the vowel. This is a standard dictionary mark.

ă_x|b_xout

Additional Pronunciations

r_xō|b_xīn r_xă|p_xīd v_xī|v_xīd sh_xă|d_xow