

Learning the code and literacy acquisition

A suggestion for implementing the strategy

'Understanding dyslexia and literacy acquisition' from the Guide: [Dyslexia and learning](#)

Includes:

- Learning the code
- Dyslexia and beginning readers
- Phonological and phonemic awareness
- The alphabetic principle
- Speech sounds of NZ English
- Useful resources

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From

Guide: [Dyslexia and learning](#)

Strategy: [Understanding dyslexia and literacy acquisition](#)

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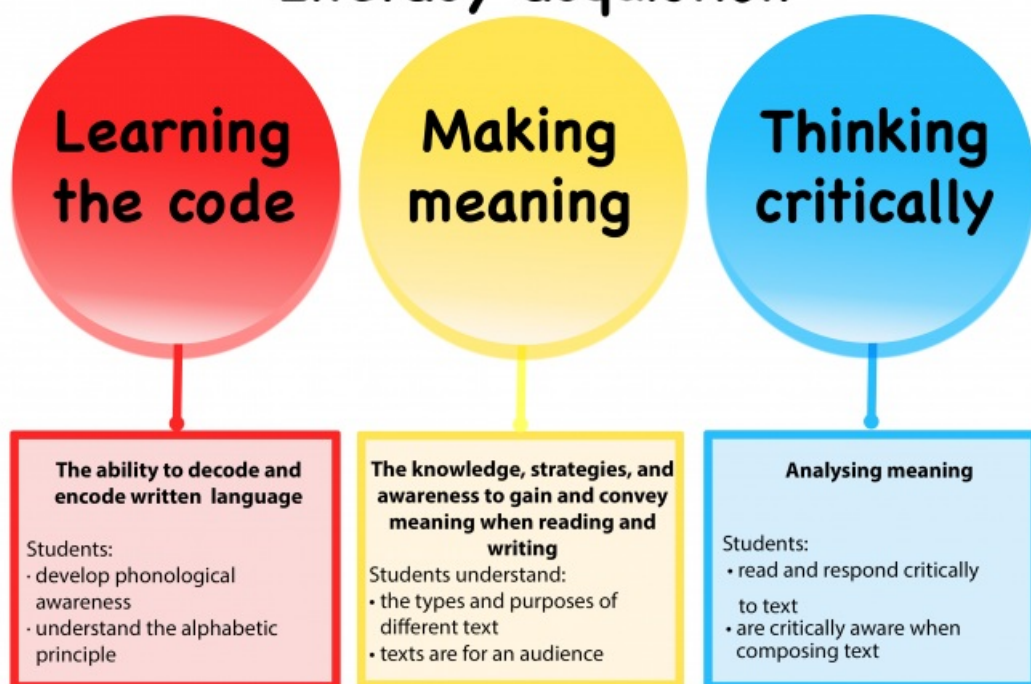
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Learning the code

Literacy acquisition



Source:

[Literacy Online](#)

<https://literacyonline.tki.org.nz/Literacy-Online/Planning-for-my-students-needs/Effective-Literacy-Practice-Years-1-4>

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Dyslexia and beginning readers

Teaching these two steps is important in learning the code:

1. **Phonemic awareness** – understanding that spoken words are made up of individual sounds
2. **Alphabetic principle** – linking the sounds and the letters.

To become readers, learners must develop the skills of blending, segmenting, and manipulating sounds at each of these levels: syllable, onset-rime, and phoneme.

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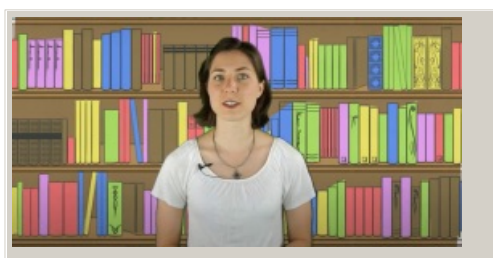
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Phonological and phonemic awareness

Phonological awareness is identifying and manipulating spoken language – words, syllables, onsets and rimes, and individual phonemes.

Phonemic awareness is the foundation for spelling and word recognition.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/YydfnR4ghIE>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Sarah Z Reads \(US\)](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqO5NWKqzkkGoA4D2culFeA>

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The alphabetic principle

The understanding that letters, and letter patterns, represent the sounds of spoken language.

- ✓ Teach letter-sound relationships explicitly and in isolation.
- ✓ Provide opportunities for practising letter-sound relationships daily.
- ✓ Practise new sound-letter relationships and cumulatively review previously taught relationships.
- ✓ Provide frequent opportunities for learners to apply their knowledge of sound-letter relationships by reading phonetically spelled words that are familiar in meaning.
- ✓ Phonics-based reading instruction helps students discover the alphabetic principle.

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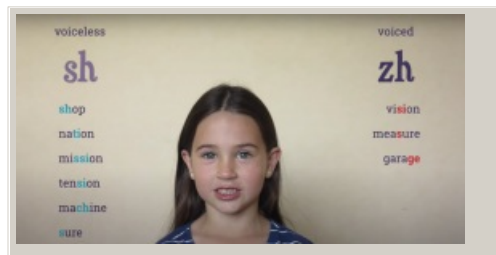
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Speech sounds of NZ English

Synthetic phonics

teaches the 44 sounds of the English language systematically, together with corresponding letter relationships.

Say the sounds clearly to support learners.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/SePU-T4S-js>

No captions or transcript

Source:

[Sound Foundations for Literacy \(NZ\)](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeYOxWbPb-GfpA8ujlPDAhQ>

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Useful resources



Phonological and phonemic awareness

Read time: 5 min

An easy to read description with classroom examples of what to look for.

Publisher: WETA Public Broadcasting

[Visit website](#)



Ehri's four phases of word reading

Classroom activities and teaching tools to support Ehri's four phases of word reading.

Publisher: FreeReading

[Visit website](#)



The top part of Tolman's hourglass figure: Phonological awareness

Dr Carol Tolman explaining our ability to be aware of sounds at multiple levels and detailing the skills involved in phonological awareness in this video

Publisher: Dr. Carol Tolman

[Visit website](#)

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