

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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