

Literacy How-To: Systematic Phonics Instruction

Phoneme-Grapheme Mapping

"Instruction in systematic phonics is thought to be essential for learning to read because the writing system is alphabetic. Beginners cannot become skilled readers if they do not know the system."

[Systematic Phonics Instruction: Findings of The National Reading Panel](#)

Moving Students From Phoneme Awareness to Phonics

To master the [alphabetic principle](#), students must discern the number of sounds (*phonemes*) in a word, then associate the letter/s (*grapheme/s*) that represent them. [Mapping sounds and letters](#) moves students from phoneme awareness to phonics. Once children understand the predictable relationships and patterns between spoken sounds and written letters—i.e., know the code—they can apply this knowledge to read (decode) and spell (encode) new and familiar words.

Head to our [Reading Wheel](#), click on Phonics or Spelling for empowered teaching tips and more!



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Our Mission is to EMPOWER TEACHERS to ensure that every child learns to read by third grade.

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