

Section 4: Phonological and Phonemic Awareness
Resource: The Four Phases of Reading Development (Ehri, 2004, 2005, 2014)

| | Prealphabetic | Partial Alphabetic | Full Alphabetic | Consolidated Alphabetic |
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| R e a d i n g | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May or may not know letters (name or sound) • Lack of phonemic awareness • No grapheme-phoneme connections between spellings and pronunciations • Unable to decode non-words • Unreliable sight word memory • Unable to analogize | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knows most letter shapes and names • Incomplete grapheme-phoneme connections • Limited phonemic awareness • Sight words learned by recall of partial GP grapheme-phoneme connections • Initial letters and context used for predicting unfamiliar words • Confusion of similarly spelled words | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major connections between graphemes and phonemes of writing system are known • Full phonemic awareness, segmentation and blending • Complete grapheme-phoneme connections formed • Sight word learning enhanced by GP connections • Accurate and automatic sight word reading • Growing ability to decode unfamiliar words • Words read in context using decoding; context used to confirm | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grapho-syllabic connections predominate • Sight words learned by G-S • Accurate and automatic sight word reading expanding • Easier to learn multisyllabic words • Can decode unfamiliar and non-words • Context used to confirm <i>after</i> decoding skill is applied • Greater use of analogizing as sight words accumulate |
| S p e l l i n g / W r i t i n g | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May or may not know letters (name or sound) • Words spelled non-phonetically • No grapheme-phoneme connections between spellings and pronunciations • Lack of phonemic awareness • Unable to analogize | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited phonemic awareness • Partial phonetic spellings invented • Confusion of similarly spelled words • Partial memory for word spellings interferes with use of analogizing • Weak memory for correct spellings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major connections between graphemes and phonemes of writing system are known • Full phonemic awareness, segmentation and blending • Phonetically accurate grapheme-phoneme spellings invented • Growing memory for accurate spelling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grapho-syllabic spelling units known • Grapho-syllabic connections predominate • Use of grapho-syllabic and grapheme-phoneme units to invent spellings • Proficient memory for correct spellings |

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| Grade | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Typically, pre-alphabetic readers are found among preschoolers and kindergartners before they receive any reading instruction. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partial alphabetic readers are common in kindergarten and early first grade when letters are taught and initial reading instruction begins. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full alphabetic readers are first graders who have acquired sufficient alphabetic knowledge to decode words. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consolidated alphabetic readers tend to be found in second grade and beyond. |
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