



## Using Read Well K-2

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## What is Read Well?



- ▶ Read Well is a research-based, field tested, literature program that incorporates all 5 components of reading: phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- ▶ New skills and concepts are taught through the gradual release of responsibility: teacher modeling, varying levels of guided practice, and independent practice.
- ▶ Whole group (K only) and small group components complement each other, scaffolding students learning and giving them repeated opportunities to practice and develop mastery of skills.



## A Focus on Fluency

- ▶ *The Read Well program develops fluency through several avenues:*
  - *by assisting students to achieve mastery of letter sound relationships and other phonics skills*
  - *with immediate application of those skills in oral readings of decodable text*
  - *with repeated and timed readings*
  - *with coaching of expressive reading*
- ▶ *Additionally, struggling readers are provided with opportunities to develop fluency through extra practice lessons and proper placement into small groups.*

## Factors That can Affect Implementation

- ▶ Students (Predictors: Phonemic Awareness; Knowledge of Letter Names)
- ▶ Time (Administrative Support; Scheduling; Coordination between programs)
- ▶ Teacher (**Management; Attitudes & Beliefs; Use of time**)



## Routines and Procedures

- ▶ There are several routines and procedures that must be taught to students and followed consistently to ensure success with the program.
  - Small Group Expectations
  - Smooth and Bumpy Blending Cards
  - Sound and Word Cards
  - Providing Explicit Instruction
  - Decoding Books and Magazines
  - Student Storybooks

## Small Group Expectations

- ▶ Small group rotations are fast and focused!
- ▶ Teach what you expect kids to do (sit down quietly, sitting up straight, hands in lap, ready to learn).
- ▶ Have a routine for how you start your group to make transitions easier.
  - Start with a song (Read Well CD of songs) or Sound and Word cards or Smooth and Bumpy Blending cards.

## Smooth and Bumpy Blending

- ▶ **CRITICAL** blending and segmenting practice
- ▶ Purpose: Provides practice in identifying sounds in words.
- ▶ Helps students distinguish between “sounding out smoothly” and “stopping between sounds”.\*
- ▶ \*VPORT Video\*



## Sound and Word Cards

- ▶ How to use
- ▶ How to organize
- ▶ Important sounds
  - “th”, “w”, “e”, “r”
- ▶ “Tricky words”
- ▶ Do daily with each group
- ▶ These are a QUICK routine (should be done in less than a minute)!

## Provide Explicit Instruction

- ▶ I Do
  - Teacher modeling
- ▶ We Do
  - Guided practice
- ▶ You Do
  - Independent practice
  - Allow students to work independent of your voice!
  - Have child return to a difficult skill at least 3 times
  - Highlight their accomplishments and give specific praise

## Decoding Books and Magazines

- ▶ Kindergarten has paper magazines.
  - These are consumable, kids will write in them and will take them home at the end of the unit.
- ▶ 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade uses Decoding Books
  - These are NOT consumable, please don't let kids write in them!
- ▶ The decoding practice goes along with the guided reading practice, it is important to pace yourself so they don't get out of sync.
  - Most kids take 4–8 days to finish a unit, it is more important for them to have a solid foundation in these skills than it is to get through the units quickly!

## Kindergarten Magazine Routines

- ▶ Cover page
  - Do this every day!
- ▶ Decoding practice
  - Blending Cards
  - Stretch and Shrink (slinkies)
  - Sound and Word Cards (daily)
    - My turn/your turn routine
- ▶ Game board
  - Ways to adapt for different groups
  - Play together and have them play alone
- ▶ Reading passages
  - Read together, partner read, read alone
  - In later units you can focus on punctuation, voice, and comprehension.

## Decoding Book Routines

- ▶ There is more than 1 unit in each book.
  - Post-it note flags are a great way to mark the page and allow kids to turn to the correct page quickly!
- ▶ Sound poem and stretch and shrink are similar to Kindergarten.
- ▶ Decoding practice:
  - It is important to practice this together, but also to give students opportunities to read independent of your voice!

## Student Story Books

- ▶ Build schema through building vocabulary
  - Vocabulary folders (Kindergarten)
  - Lots of non-fiction text
- ▶ Parts of the storybook
  - Duets
  - Solos
    - Should be read a variety of ways (echo read, read together, partner read, read independently).
    - Repeated readings and even timed reading can be helpful.
  - Story Summaries
  - Decoding Review
- ▶ Extra reading practice  
[www.clarkness.com](http://www.clarkness.com)

Questions?

## References

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