Small Steps Toward Science-Based Reading Instruction: Additional Resources

UVA Reading & PALS Office

Small Step #1: Assess phonics knowledge with a decoding inventory

- Diagnostic Decoding Inventory from Really Great Reading
- Scholastic Phonics Survey
- Quick Phonics Screener

Small Step #2: Choose phonics activities that explicitly match sounds to letters

- Video Example of Linking Sounds to Letters
- <u>Using Elkonin Boxes</u> (great info about which letter combinations go into one box vs. two)
- Elkonin boxes video, sample lesson and slides

Note: Include letters as soon as possible!

Small Step #3: Do activities with words that differ by only one sound

- Word Chain Example Video
- <u>Lists of Words for Word Chains</u> (note: the directions say to use counters, we suggest students write or build the words with letters)
- Video about Blending Lines
- Blending Lines information and blank templates

Small Step #4: Begin to include decodable text

- <u>CKLA decodable text</u>: these are PDF books that can be printed.
- <u>Half Pint Kids</u>: These are online only decodable texts that can also be purchased.
- <u>EL decodable text</u>: Decodable texts are found in the materials for the skills blocks starting in first grade. Each module has one story. When you download a module's materials, click on the zipped file called "supporting materials" to find the decodable text.
- <u>West Virginia Phonics:</u> These free lessons include short decodable passages at the end of each lesson.
- <u>Flyleaf Decodables:</u> These are online only decodable texts that will be free until the end of the 2021-2022 school year.

Note: A text is decodable if a student has the phonics knowledge necessary to decode the words. Choose the books carefully so they include only the phonics features your students have been taught.

Small Step #5: Prompt students to try to decode words using phonics knowledge first

- Decoding bookmarks
- <u>Decoding Tips for Parents: 5 Common Word Reading Errors and How to Help</u>: This is a
 great resource for parents and it has lots of great ideas for how to support students
 with different types of decoding errors.