Science of Reading: From Theories to Practice



UNDERSTANDING THE TERMINOLOGY

WHY

Science of Reading

The Science of Reading (SoR) is a comprehensive body of research that encompasses years of scientific knowledge about how students become skilled readers.

WHAT

Two (of many) examples of accepted theoretical frameworks based on Science of Reading research:

Simple View of Reading

A formula to predict reading comprehension as a product of two essential components for building skilled reading: Decoding x Language Comprehension = Reading Comprehension (Gough and Tunmer, 1986)

Scarborough's Reading Rope

An infographic demonstrating the necessary components for reading acquisition, represented by two intertwined areas, Word Recognition strands and Language Comprehension strands, which reinforce each other over time to result in skilled reading. (Scarborough, 2001)

HOW

FROM THEORIES TO PRACTICE

Structured Literacy

An approach educators can take to apply the Science of Reading in the classroom, exemplified by:

- Explicit, systematic, sequential phonics instruction
- Teaching decoding as a skill; reading decodable texts
- Teaching all students with complex grade-level texts
- An explicit scope and sequence from simple to more complex with spiraling review
- High frequency words taught according to their phonics patterns
- Using assessments to diagnose and drive instruction

