

Developing Readers



WHAT DO WE MEAN BY DEVELOPING READERS?



Developing Readers are learning to put together their growing oral language skills (like vocabulary knowledge) with their growing ability to decode printed words and read simple stories. They are beginning to apply what they know to read harder words, sentences, and longer stories.

WHAT DOES SCIENCE SAY?



Here is where things start to get serious. Many aspects of the reading system are being developed now. Developing readers are learning to decode complex words, reading simple texts, and developing their knowledge and comprehension of the world through reading.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

A very accessible article that can help teachers and parents understand what is involved in how children learn to read is "[The science and poetry in learning \(and teaching\) to read](#)" by Prof. Maryanne Wolf. Here are a few examples of free, level-appropriate, research-based resources, targeting the development of specific skills.

LEARNING TO READ WORDS AND LONGER TEXTS

The [Meadows Center for Preventing Educational Risk](#) produces high-quality content for parents and teachers with children at this developmental stage. One example is [How Can I Help My Middle Schooler Read Multisyllabic Words?](#)

ORAL LANGUAGE & READING COMPREHENSION

If you want to understand how to teach specific reading-related skills, then start reading great articles like [The Components of Effective Vocabulary Instruction](#) provided by [All About Adolescent Literacy](#).

WRITING

Summarizing is important for deeper understanding of text. [Reading Rockets](#) has wonderful material explaining concepts and providing appropriate activities on how to teach [summarizing](#) to developing readers and writers.

More resources

You can find many more resources like these in the [Resource Library](#) of the [Haskins Global Literacy Hub](#). All resources are FREE and VETTED by literacy experts. Resources are appropriate for children in general education, special education, with learning disabilities or other special needs. Resources are organized by levels and by types of reading skills.

The Haskins Global Literacy Hub is an international interdisciplinary collaboration of researchers, educators, and education technology specialists, working to improve language and literacy outcomes for children at risk for reading difficulties across languages and cultures.