

5 Things You Should Know About Reading

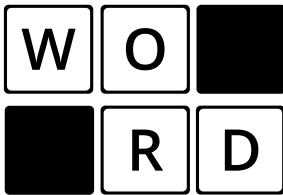
1



Some words can be sounded out.

These are called phonetically decodable words—words that follow predictable letter-sound patterns (like cat or jump). Children can “sound them out” using phonics.

2



Some words cannot be sounded out.

These are often referred to as sight words (like was or said). Because they don’t follow the rules, kids must learn them by memory and repeated exposure

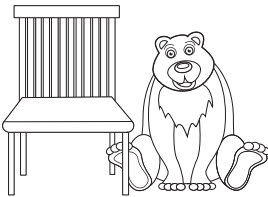
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Some words are “temporary” sight words.

Just because a child can’t sound out a word yet doesn’t mean it’s permanently a sight word. For example, a word like cake may seem tricky until your child has learned silent-e. Always check before asking a child to “sound it out.”

4



Rhymes and syllables matter—a lot.

Recognizing rhymes and breaking words into syllables are core building blocks for reading. These skills sharpen your child’s ear for language, making decoding easier later on. The good news: they can be practiced anywhere—clapping out syllables at dinner, playing rhyming games in the car, or singing silly songs.

5



Consistency is the key.

Daily reading, even for a few minutes, makes the biggest difference—especially for beginning and struggling readers. Without it, kids can lose 3 months or more of progress over a single summer, wiping out much of the hard work done during the school year.