

# Phonics and Word Study

# What is Phonics?

Phonics is the relationship between letters and sounds.

Phonics proficiency is necessary for reading and writing.

# Sequence of Phonics Skills

- consonants
- consonant blends (bl, st)
- digraphs (ch, sh, th)
- vowels and word families (at, an, it, ay)
- vowel teams (ea, oa, oy ow, etc...)
- word endings (ed, ing, es, ly, c+le)

# Phonological Awareness

Before students can master phonics, they must have *phonological awareness*.

**This includes:**

- the understanding that spoken words are composed of sounds
- the ability to hear and produce rhymes
- the ability to blend and segment sounds

# TC Phonics Units of Study

## **K-2 units of study include:**

- four to five units for each grade level
- daily whole group lessons, as well as small group lessons (with materials)
- extension activities
- assessments

# What is unique about the TC units?

## Daily lessons:

- take about 20 minutes
- follow the same format as readers and writers workshop
- incorporate fun and engaging storylines
- emphasize and support transfer to reading and writing
- progress faster than most other programs

# Kindergarten Superpowers



# Sample Kindergarten Writing

Last year, teachers noticed that students were:

- writing more
- including more letters in their words
- including more vowels in their words



# What happens after phonics is mastered?

Most students master basic phonics skills by 3rd grade.

Instruction then shifts to *word study* for grades 3-6.

Word study is the study of word parts and word meanings. Examples include: parts of speech, prefixes, suffixes, Greek and Latin roots, antonyms, synonyms, analogies, etc.

# Sample Word Study Lesson

## Grade 5 lesson

Teach meanings of the prefixes *pre* and *re*.

Study the words: precaution, preparation, preview, retrieve, reiterate, reject

Throughout the week, students will not only study these words, but brainstorm and look for other words with the same prefixes. The emphasis is on meaning, spelling, and transfer to other words.

Students may be given a test on the 6-10 original words, but also other words with *pre* and *re*.