

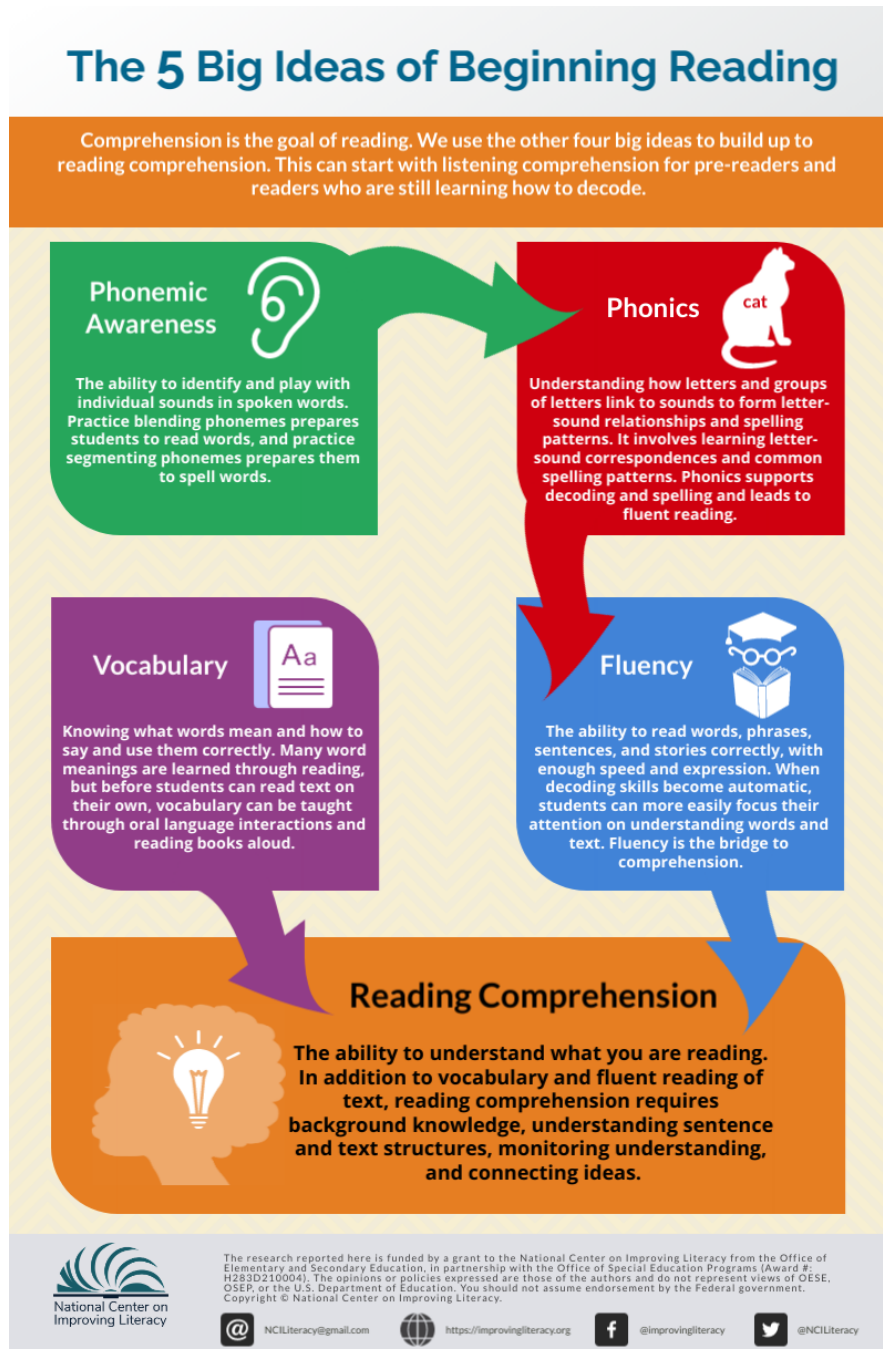
Reading Information Sheet

West Union Elementary

Teaching a child to read is one of the most critical things we do as a school. This year, West Union Elementary has made several major changes in how we teach reading. In this packet we are going to provide some background information with the most recent research on how children learn to read, the changes WUES is making, and what you as a parent can do to help.

The infographic below explains the five big ideas of reading and how they influence each other.

For more information on how students learn to read, please watch this video: [What the Science Says About How Kids Learn to Read](#)



Below are some brief descriptions of the changes we have made in our reading instruction. In grades K-3 we have implemented a systematic phonics program called Orton Gillingham (OG). This program focuses on teaching students the sound each letter makes and how they go together to form words. Each student will receive 40-50 minutes of instruction daily. If a student is below grade level, they will receive an additional 30-40 minutes of intervention in this area. To assess how well students understand what they have been taught, they are assessed through a weekly spelling test. On this test students will apply the knowledge of the skill they have learned. In addition to the spelling words, they will also be asked to write a sentence applying the skills taught for that week. ***Should you put a blurb in here stating that spelling tests no longer look like what we grew up with?

Each day, K-3rd grade students receive 15 minutes of a read aloud. This usually accompanies snack time and is the teacher reading a story to the students. The teachers are using books that are above the student's reading level to expose them to vocabulary they may not know yet.

For the 2023-2024 school year ACOVSD has adopted the Into Reading series. This is used by Kindergarten through 6th grade. This program uses multiple high quality stories that are read throughout the week that focuses on different skills. Students are then assessed on that skill using a story they have not read before. Like the spelling test, this has students apply the skill they have learned. These skills are taught throughout the year.

How can you help your child? Most importantly, read to your child and discuss what you have read. Have them predict what they think will happen next and summarize what has already happened. This video gives you ideas on what you can do as a parent to help your child learn to read: [Parent Reading Video](#)

Information/Supports

[How We Learn to Read](#) - This article provides an overview of how kids learn to read with specific information on phonemic awareness.

[Glossary of Resources](#) - This link to improvingliteracy.org has several resources to better explain literacy.

[Reading Basics Video](#) - In depth video on reading.

[5-Minute Family Literacy Routines](#) - Several short activities families can do to support literacy.

[Read Aloud Resources](#) - 3 different online read aloud books.

[Stretching Apart Words](#) - infographic on how to sound out words.

[Supporting Literacy with Everyday Activities](#) - Simple everyday activities that will support reading.

[Ohio's Reading Tips for Families](#) - Website with numerous links/supports.

[Videos on Supporting Reading at Home](#) - Website with multiple videos on reading.

[Adams County Public Library](#) - link to public library. The library has several resources for audiobooks and read aloud books that can be borrowed digitally.

