

## Orthographic Mapping and Sight Word Learning

- Familiar Letter String
  - Immediately recognized without guessing or sounding out
  - Begin with automatic letter-sound skills (Phonemic proficiency, letter recognition)
  - The sight of the letter is immediately recognized and effortlessly activates the sound that goes with it (automatic letter-sound correspondence, phonic decoding, letter string becomes familiar)
  - Become unitized and the sounds associated with the entire letter string activates all the phonemes (unitizing)
  - Are processed as units without consciously treating individual letter should individually (becomes part of sight vocabulary, easily and effortlessly retrievable)
- Students with strong phoneme awareness notice parts of oral words as well as written word units. This promotes a connection between the letter combination and its pronunciation
  - This connection boosts immediate word recognition
- System of Orthographic Mapping
  - Process involves accessing a stored word based upon its association between the letter string and the phonemes in the word's pronunciation
  - Letter string becomes familiar because the reader has the phoneme awareness to connect the oral phonemes in the word to the letters in the word
  - Words that are orthographically mapped in our memory have bonded the oral sounds in our mental/oral dictionary to the written letter strings, the letter strings also activate the meaning of the word
  - Once completely mapped, the word is in our permanent memory, instantly retrievable and part of our sight vocabulary
- Mapping vs. Phonics
  - Orthographic Mapping
    - Two way process that requires an awareness of phonemes in spoken words
    - Goes from pronunciation to letters
    - Uses sound-to-letter relationships to anchor phonemes into long-term memory

Uses letter-sound skills to establish a memory of printed words

- Phonic Decoding

Starts with an unfamiliar printed word

Letters are translated into sounds and are blended together

Uses letter-to-sound relationships to activate oral words from an unfamiliar letter string

uses letter-sound skills to identify words

- Both require proficiency with letter-sound relationships
- Both are essential to reading

- 3 Components of Orthographic Mapping

- Automatic letter-sound associations
- Highly proficient phoneme awareness
- Word study

Connection making process used to remember words. It involves matching the oral phonemes to letters to establish secure memory for future retrieval.