



The goal of the Families and Literacy Committee of the WSRA is to develop and carry out plans which convey to parents the value of involvement in reading activities with children.



## Family Reading Fun

In this issue, the focus is on the Reading Foundation Skills Standards, a part of the Wisconsin Academic Standards. Listed below you will find Reading Foundation Skills Standard #3 and what it looks like at a kindergarten, third grade, and fifth grade levels. The overarching standard is as follows:

### Reading Foundation Skills Standard 3

**Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.**

Substandard A is included for K, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

**K-**Demonstrate basic knowledge of one-to-one letter-sound correspondences by producing the primary sound or many of the most frequent sounds for each consonant.

**3-** Identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes.

**5-** Use combined knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words in context and out of context.

*These standards address the skill of decoding words in text. The Reading Foundation Skills Standards only go through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.*

## Literacy Tips

**For the young reader:** When your child comes to an unknown word in the text of a story, the first thing to try is to give your child time. Giving your child time allows him or her to apply decoding strategies he or she may already know. If your child truly needs help, there is more you can do to help besides just saying, "Sound it out." Try some of these coaching phrases next time your child needs some assistance.

- **Flip the sound.** (This means to try a long vowel sound instead of the short or vice versa.)
- **When two vowels go walking, the first one does the talking.** (This helps your child think about which long vowel sound to make.)
- **Find a part of the word that you know.** (This encourages your child to look at letter chunks such as /sh/, /ch/, /at/, /oo/, etc.)
- **Get your mouth ready.** (Your child should make the sound he or she thinks the letter makes.)
- **Say it slow like a turtle, then fast like a bunny.** (Helps the child segment and blend words.)

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## Author Spotlight



Reading books with decodable text can be a great place to start for beginning readers. Check out these books and other resources for beginning readers.

### Theodore Seuss Geisel

Better known to the world as Dr. Seuss, Geisel is the author of 44 books. All but 4 of his books are written in rhyme which makes many of them great books for early readers. Dr. Seuss, who was not really a doctor, started publishing cartoons in his college humor magazine. While studying at Oxford University, Geisel realized his passion was drawing. He left the university and became a cartoonist. Geisel worked in advertising for nearly 30 years before publishing his first children's book. Books such as *The Cat in the Hat* and *Green Eggs and Ham* are some of his most popular books for beginning readers. Find out more about Dr. Seuss at

[www.seussville.com](http://www.seussville.com)

### Word World

*Word World*, the T.V. show on PBS where words come alive. This fun, kid friendly show is a great way to help kids develop early literacy skills such as letter identification and segmenting and blending words. Visit [www.wordworld.com](http://www.wordworld.com) to find a parent / teacher section that offers parent tips for activities to try while watching the show. There are also video clips, apps and games. You can also find links to the show at [www.PBS.com](http://www.PBS.com)

**To see the Wisconsin Academic Standards go to**

[www.dpi.wi.gov/ela/standards](http://www.dpi.wi.gov/ela/standards)



## Website Spotlight

Are you looking for more ideas on how to help your child develop his or her early reading skills? Check out [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com) Go to the Learn to Read tab. Here children can practice long and short vowel sounds, diagraphs, blends and word families.

