



# Dyslexia Screening Guidance: MASE Best Practices

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# Ten Minnesota Commitments to Equity

**1. Prioritize equity.**

**2. Start from within.**

**3. Measure what matters.**

**4. Monitor implementation of standards.**

**5. Go local.**

**6. Follow the money.**

**7. Start early.**

**8. Value people.**

**9. Improve conditions for learning.**

**10. Give students options.**

# Why Dyslexia Identification? Why Now?

42 states have passed legislation related to dyslexia. MN  
tes related to dyslexia include:

Dyslexia defined in statute, MN. Statute 125A.01

Dyslexia Specialist at MDE, MN. Statute 120B.122

Read Well No Later than Grade 3, MN. Statute 120B.12

Alternative Instruction Prior to Evaluation for Special  
Education, MN. Statute 125A.56

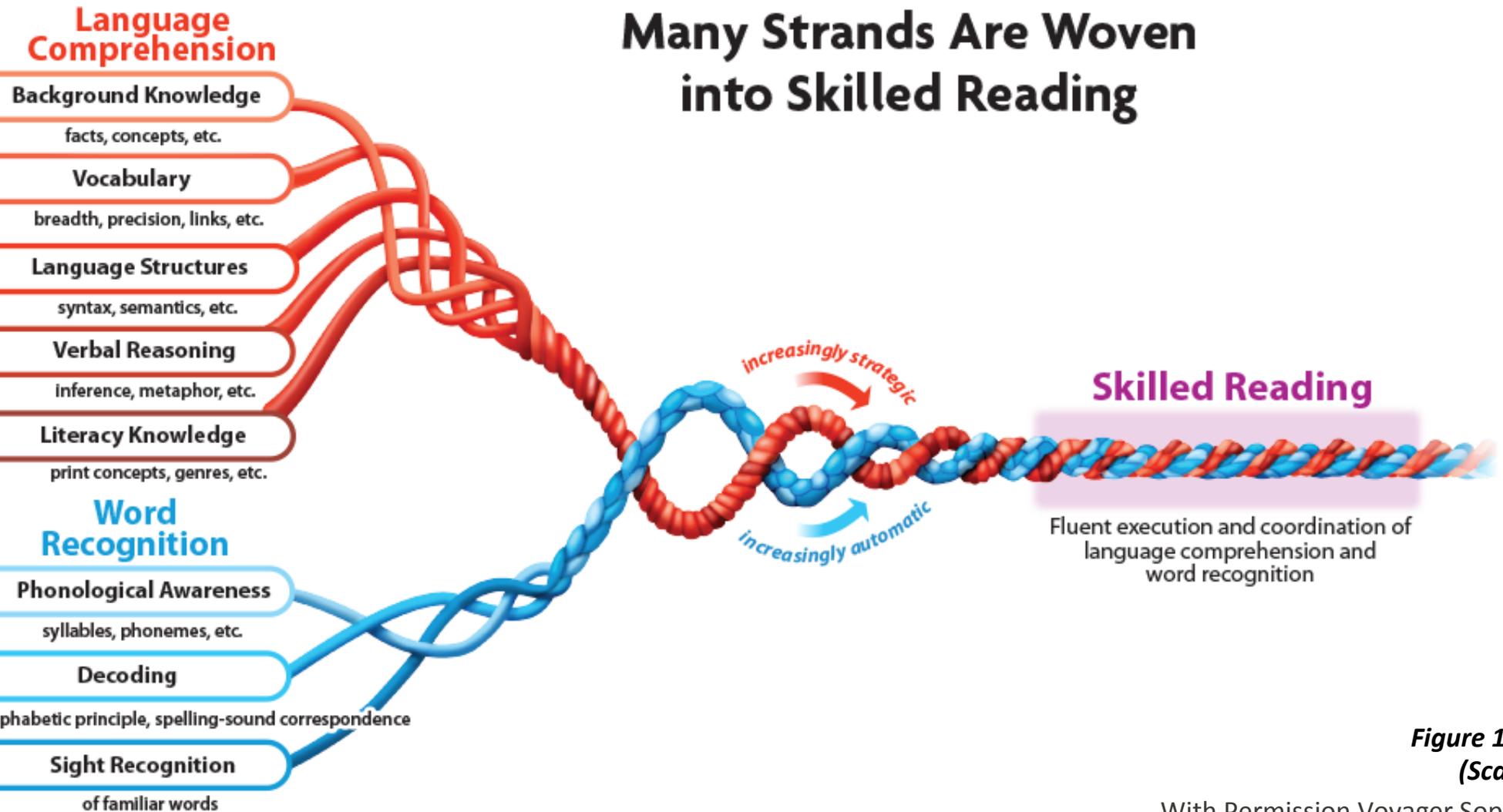


# Let's Review: How Learners Learn to Read

Much of the following content is presented in its entirety through  
*Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS)*® training.

This is not a replacement for training!

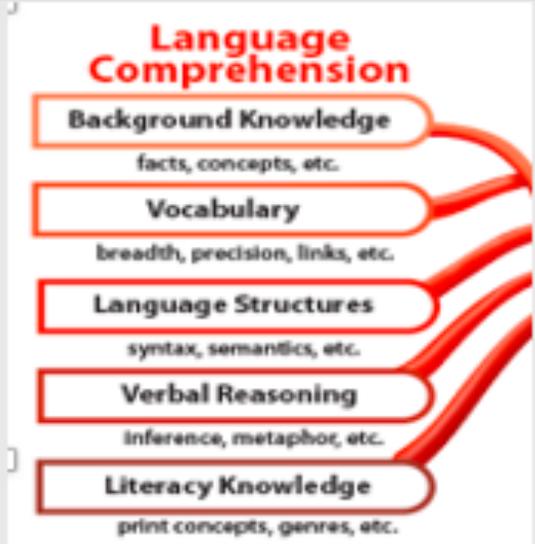
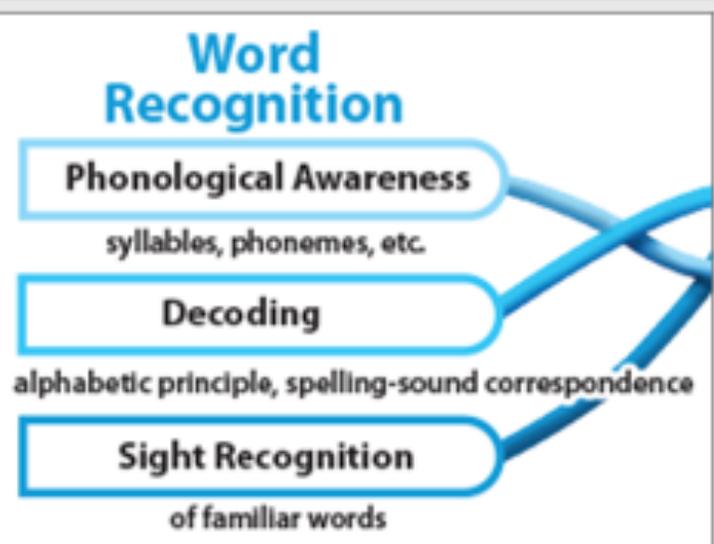
# Skilled Reading Requires Integration of Many Skills



*Figure 1.9 Reading  
(Scarborough)*

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# Simple View of Reading and the Reading Rope are Same: Just Different Level of Detail

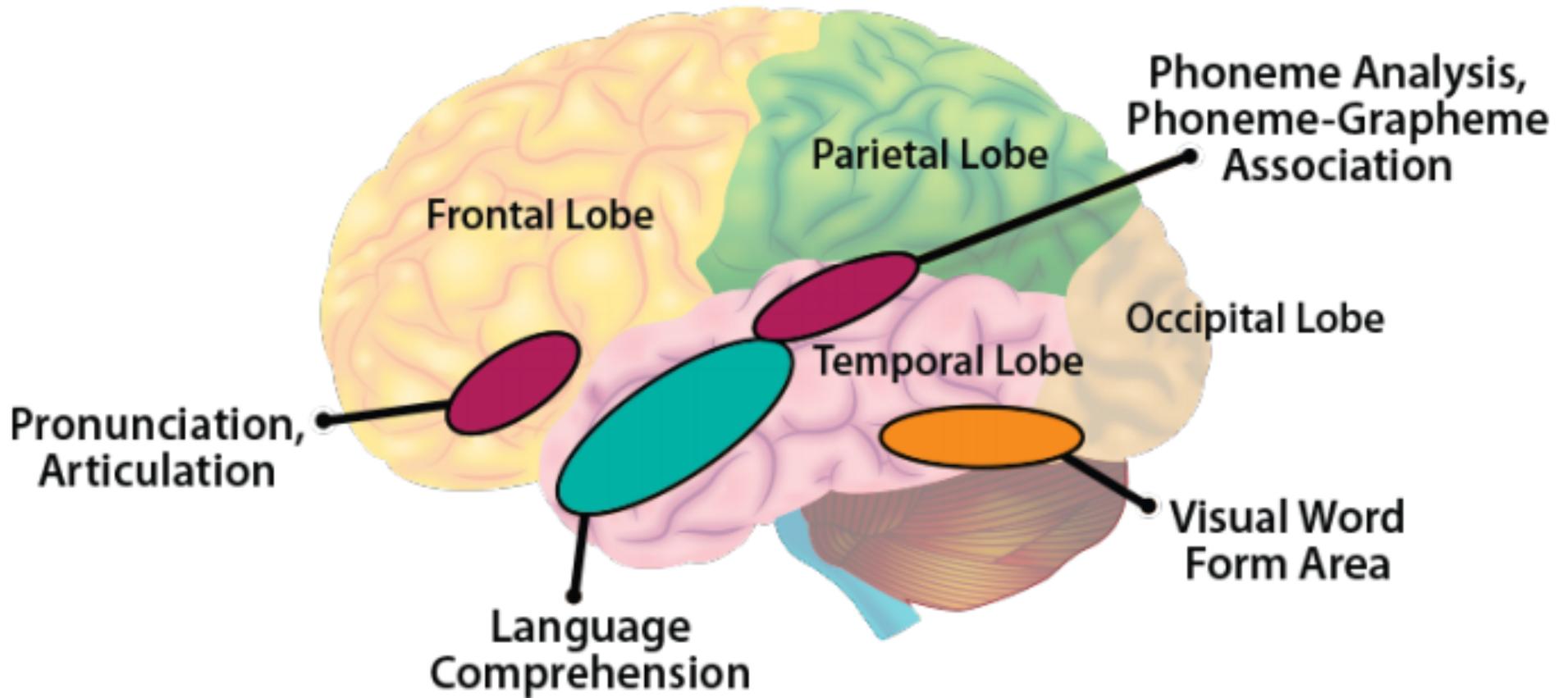


**Word Recognition** × **Language Comprehension** = **Reading Comprehension**

This equation is represented by three 3D rectangular boxes. The first is blue and contains 'Word Recognition', the second is red and contains 'Language Comprehension', and the third is purple and contains 'Reading Comprehension'. A large black 'x' is between the first and second boxes, and a large black '=' is between the second and third boxes.

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# Reading Is Bolted on Not Pre-wired



*Figure 1.6 The Reading Brain*  
(Dehaene, 2013; adapted by permission of Dr. Stanislas Dehaene)

# Neurons are the Transmitters: Highways

Of the hundreds of types of neurons important are local and long-distance neurons

Neurons that fire together wire together.

Neuronal tangles can prevent efficient transmission of the messages



Artistic rendering of Neurons by Greg Dunn

# How The Brain Learns to Read to the Requisite Skills

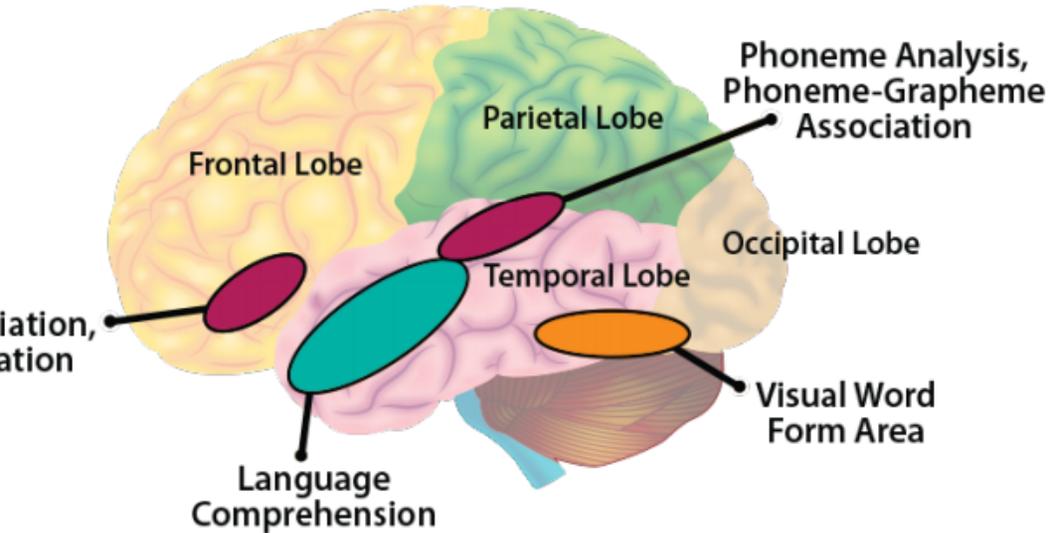


Figure 1.6 The Reading Brain  
(Dehaene, 2013; adapted by permission of Dr. Stanislas Dehaene)

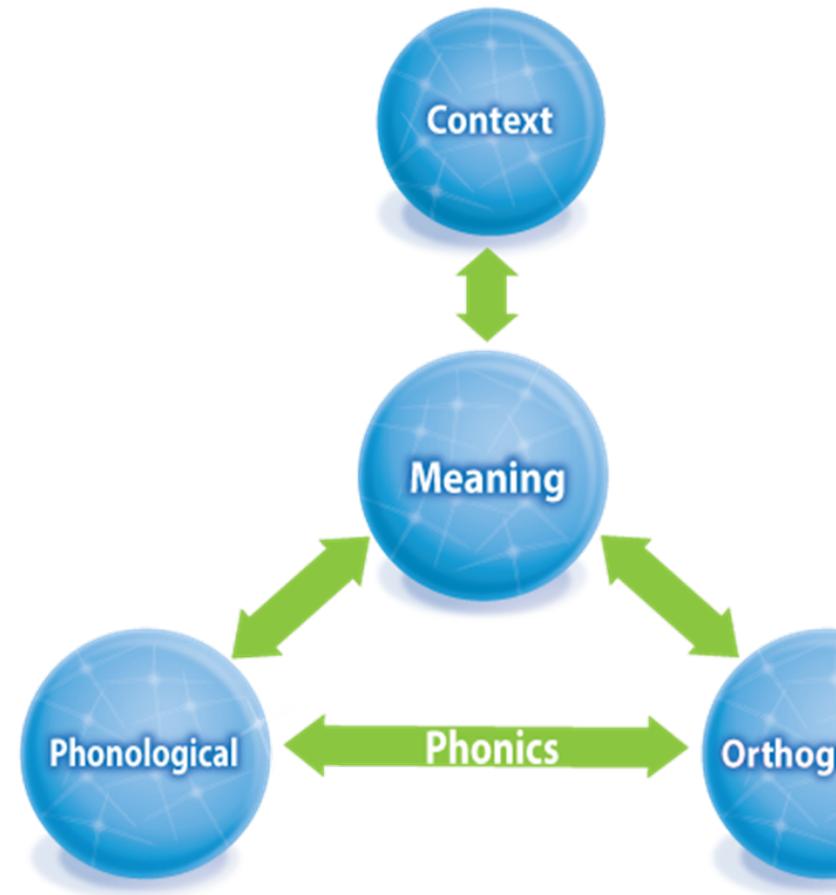


Figure 1.7 The Four-Part Processing Model for Word Recognition  
(based on Seidenberg & McClelland, 1982)

# Given Data, We Know What to Teach

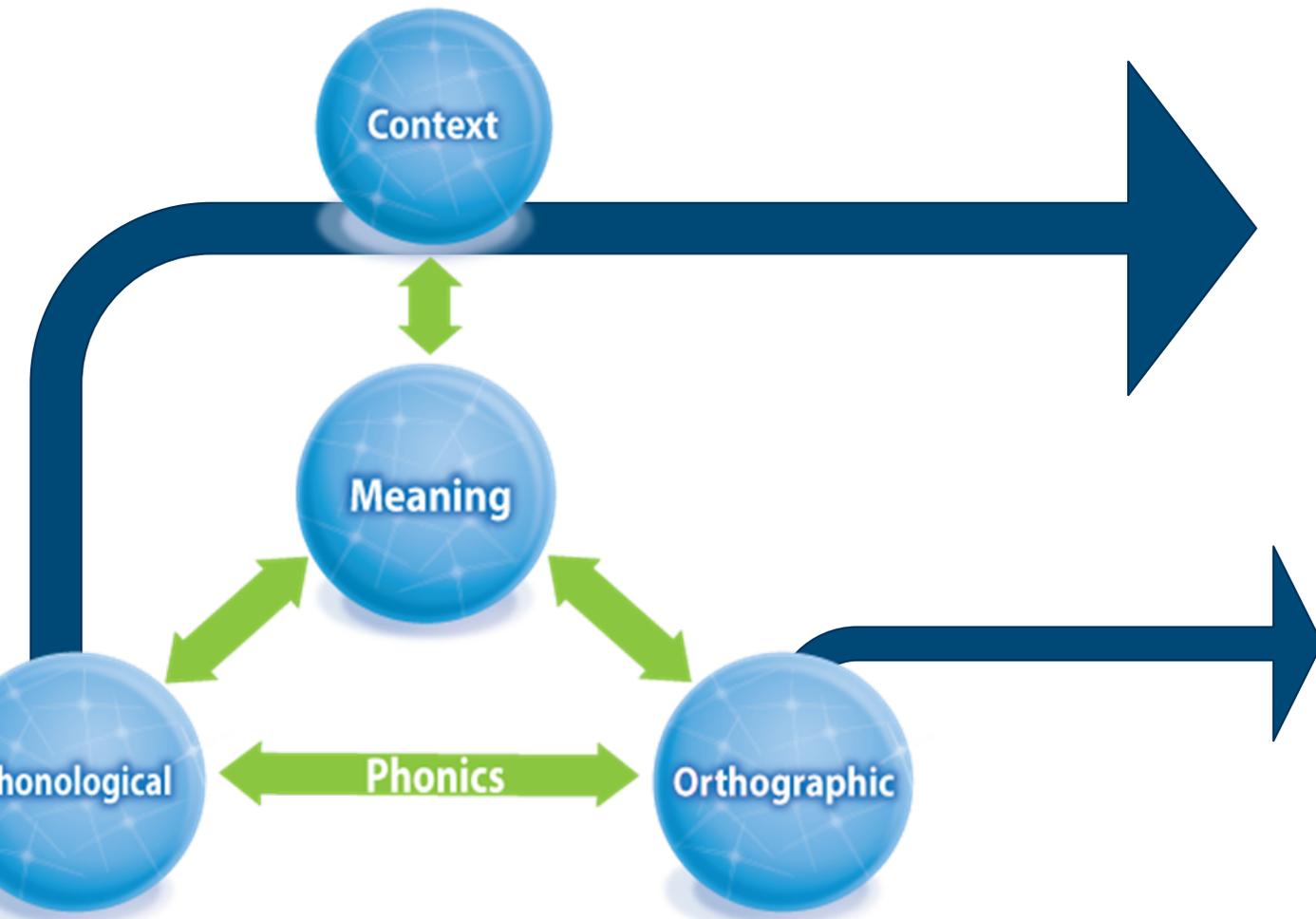


Figure 1.7 The Four-Part Processing Model for Word Recognition (based on Seidenberg & McClelland, 1989)

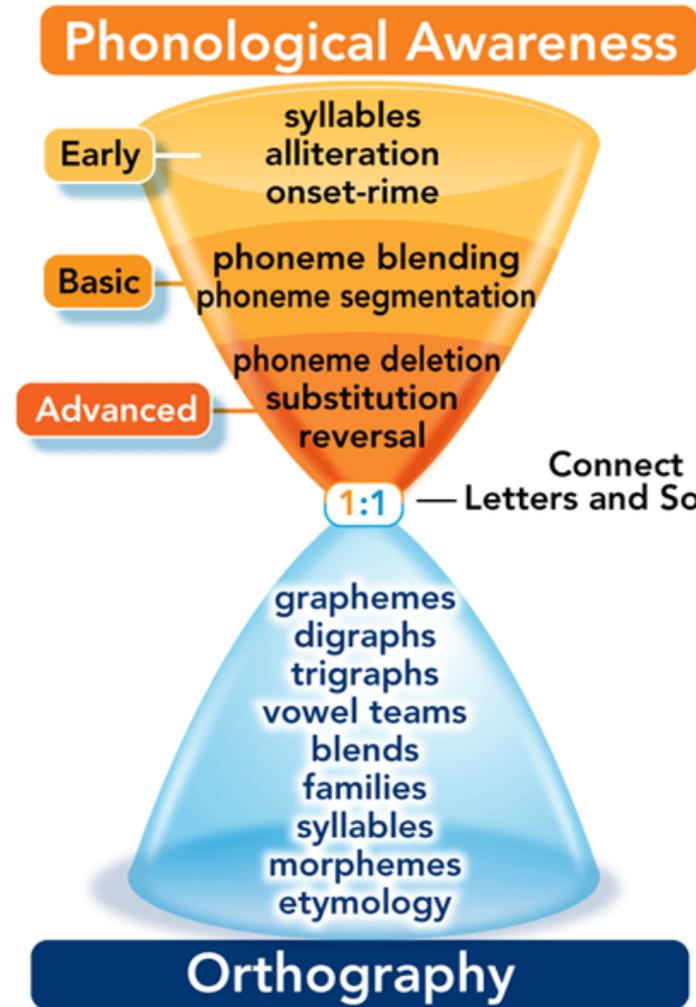


Figure 2.5 The Hourglass Figure, Completed (Courtesy of Carol A. Tolman)

# More About Phonemic Awareness Tasks

## Advanced Phonemic Awareness

Deletion-

Substitution-

Reversal-

## Take-a-way

- Accurate and Automatic retrieval happens in under 2 seconds.
- We stop teaching and measuring too soon (continue through grade 4).
- It takes just minutes a day.
- Builds sight vocabulary, readiness for spelling
- We can't skip forward in trajectory –never too old to master.

## References:

Kilpatrick, D. (2016 ). Equipped for Reading Success.

Kilpatrick, D. (2015). Essentials of Assessment, Preventing, and Overcoming Reading Difficulties.

At this point, we are going to switch it up and do an activity

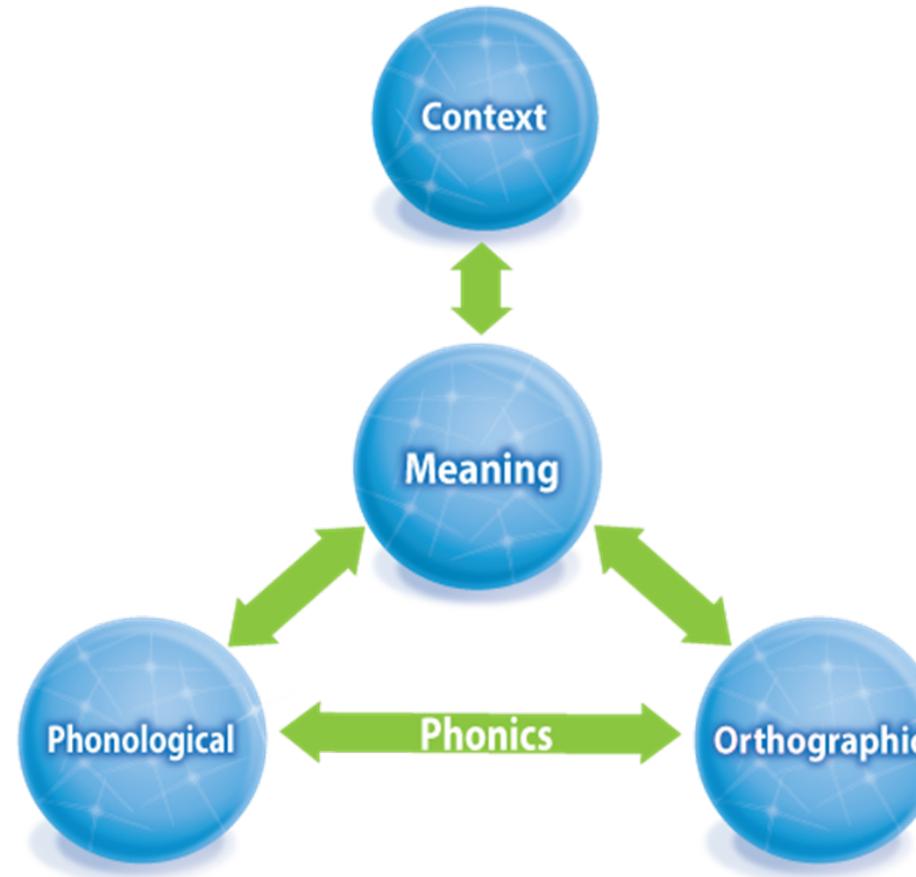
### Simulation Activity.

- 1. Get into your specified Group
- 2. When you are given the cue, you need to “activate”
- 3. Organize and prepare for “activation”

### Reflection:

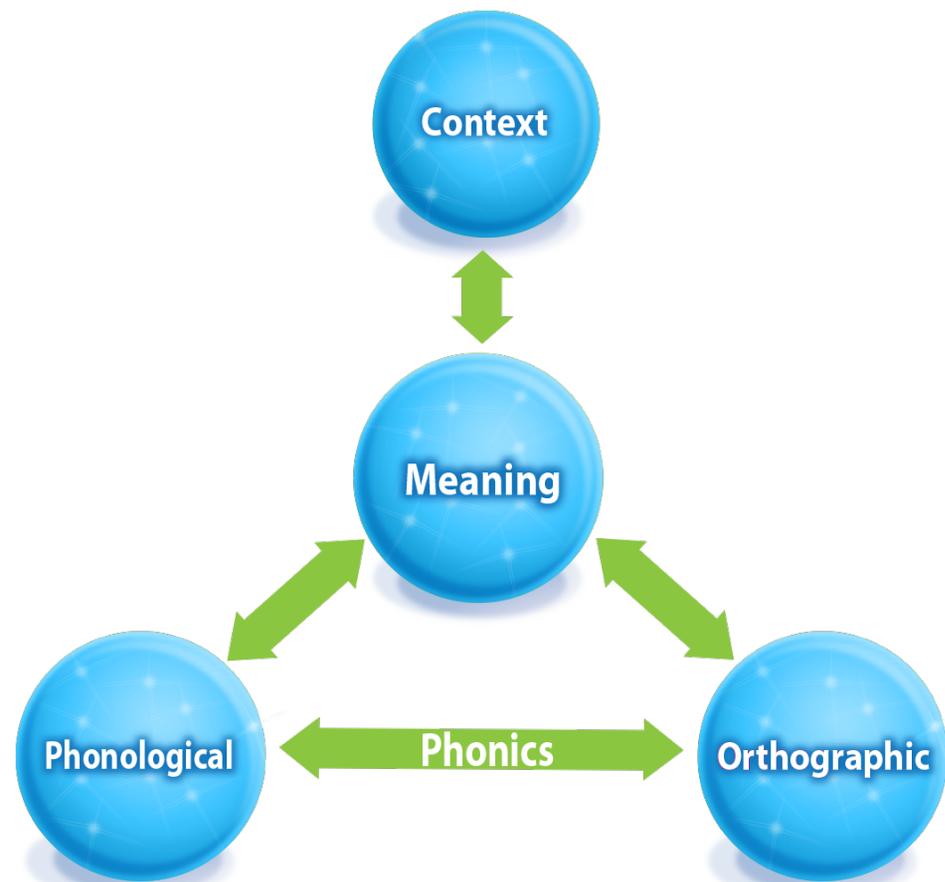
What did you notice in this activity about how “information” is transmitted across the brain?

What did the experience add to your understanding of how seeing the pictures and hearing the explanation?



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# Simple View of Reading Can Be Operationalized and Measured



1. Can we measure accuracy and automaticity of:

- Phonological awareness?
- Orthography/spelling?
- Phonics?
- Making sense of words?
- Making sense of text?

2. Measurement tells what to teach to improve overall performance.

*LETRS Figure 1.7 The Four-Part Processing Model for Word Recognition  
(based on Seidenberg & McClelland, 1989)*

# There are Kids for Whom Reading Must Be Systematically Taught ..

## The Cascade of Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a Language-Based Learning Disorder that is neurological in origin:

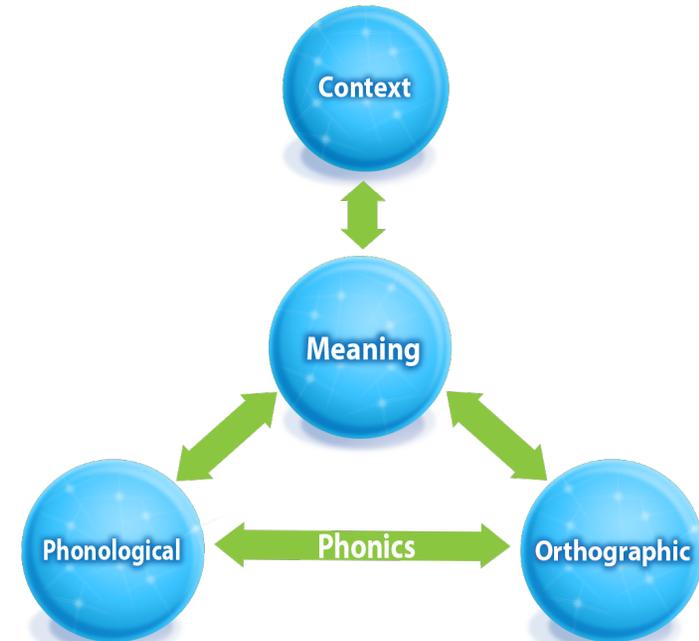
Deficit in the Phonological Component of Language

Decoding Spelling Accuracy Fluency

Comprehension & Reading Experience

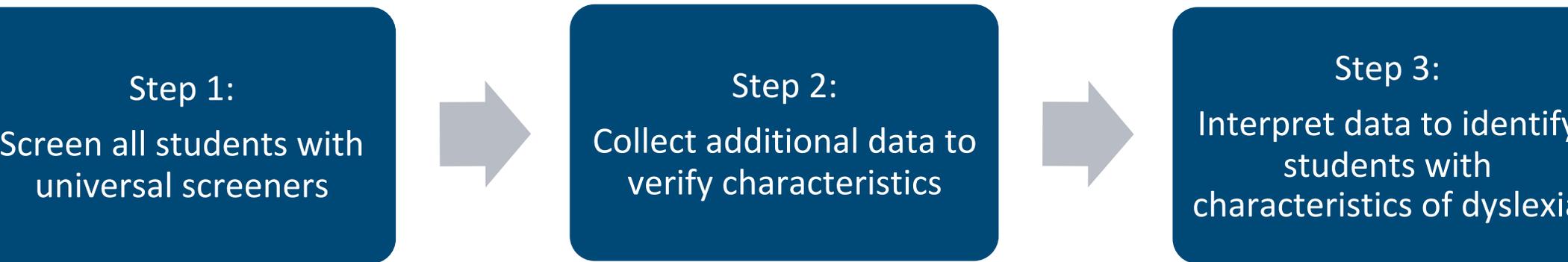
Vocabulary & Content Knowledge

(IDA/NICHHD, 2002)



# How this Relates to Identification and Intervention

# Process for Screening and Identifying Dyslexia



# Step 1: Universal Screening

**Purpose:** To identify which students are not likely to read within grade-level by end of year.

**Criteria:** Looking for scores below cut-off

- **Letter Naming Fluency**
- **Phonemic Awareness**
- **Decoding (Real or Nonsense)**
- **Oral reading fluency**

## Rationale:

1. Letter naming fluency and letter name identification are critical skills
2. Phonemic awareness is great predictor until 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
3. Nonsense/pseudo word fluency compensates for memorization
4. Oral reading fluency is highly correlated with poor decoding

# Step 2: Collect Additional Diagnostic Information

**Purpose:** To identify students demonstrating characteristics of dyslexia. To identify gaps in skills and of intervention

Previously collected data from Universal Screeners

**How** –Diagnostic Information (**triangulate** from each of these categories<sup>1</sup>)

**Assessment data such as:**

- GOM measures (AIMS, FAST, DIBELS etc.)
- Rapid Automatic Naming (RAN)<sup>2</sup>
- *Inventories (PA, phonics, spelling) (when available)*
- *Progress monitoring (when available)*

## 2. Family and child history (samples to come)

- Close relative has reading difficulties or diagnosed Dyslexia
- Child has been tested or diagnosis of dyslexia
- Prior history of services (ECSE, Speech-Language, tutoring, etc)

## 3. Classroom data:

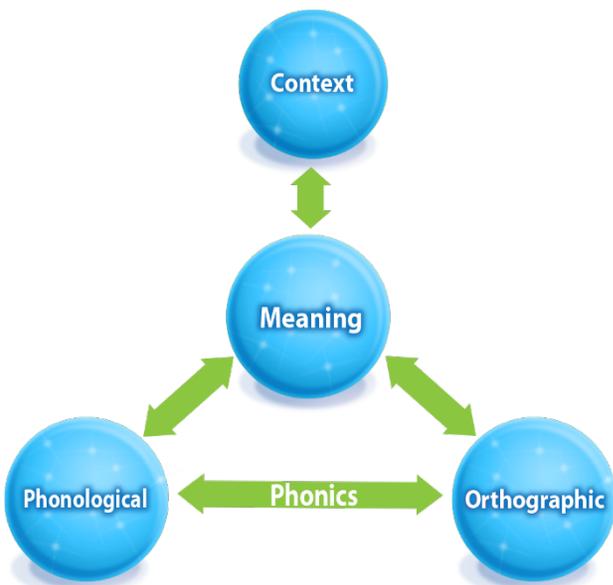
- *Observations of learning (checklist, performance notes, etc.)*

<sup>1</sup>False positive: A student who was identified at-risk in screening but has skills necessary. Examples can be related to a student having a bad day, errors in scoring, errors in administration of screening, overruling screening results.

<sup>2</sup> Rapid automatic naming measure is not valid if student is not capable of naming all the targets untimed. More guidance to come.

# Two functions Served by Integrating Data

## Identify Characteristics



## Intensify Instruction:

1. Determine intensity of supports needed to be at grade level
  1. Strength and Dose
  2. Intensity of method (explicitness, practice, feedback)
  3. Alignment/Match to needed skills
  4. Comprehensiveness
  5. Behavior supports
2. Determine need for Audio Supported text to grow meaning and context at independent level

g	Tier 1	Tier 1 and monitor	Tier 2 and monitor	Tier 2 or 3	Tier 3 Refer for evaluation
	●	◐	◐	◐ or ○	○
ry is e)	NA	●	●	◐	○
or	NA	●	●	Unknown or ○	Unknown or ○
s low pres	NA	●	◐	◐	○
se on of s	NA	NA	NA or ◐	◐	○
cs of lead le 3	Not reported	Not reported	If responds to instruction, not reported If not responding,	Report	Report

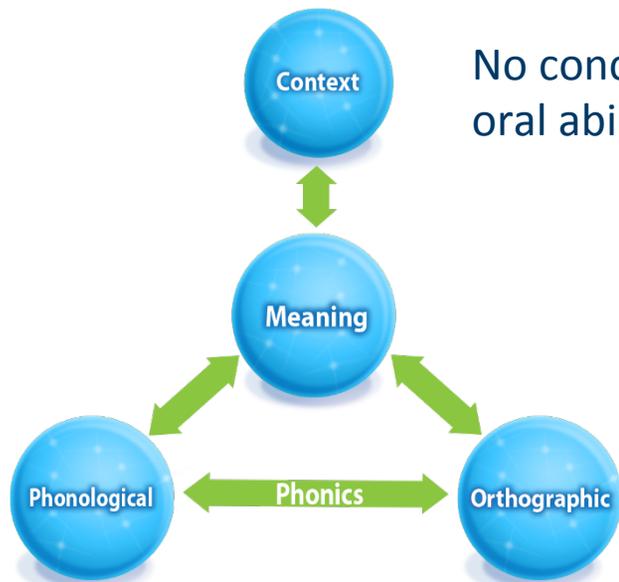
# St “Triangulating D

The data will inform not only reporting of characteristic but also the intensity of instruction that will be needed

# Case Examples

	1. Universal Screening	2. Diagnostic Information	3. Identify Characteristics
Student A	Fall of K—5 of 26 letter names,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can't segment syllables or ID 1st letter in name</li> <li>• Difficulty with letter naming fluency</li> <li>• Low phonemic awareness, onset-rime tasks</li> <li>• RAN below average range</li> <li>• Child History: ECSE speech-language services, full-day preschool, is repeating kindergarten</li> <li>• Family history: Uncle struggled with reading</li> </ul>	Reading behaviors are similar to those with dyslexia. Intensive phonemic awareness intervention is needed.
Student B	Fall of K—5 of 26 letter names,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Difficulty with letter naming fluency</li> <li>• Low phonemic awareness - onset-rime tasks</li> <li>• Third generation Hmong</li> <li>• Child History: Attended ECFE classes 1x/week</li> <li>• Family History: No reported family history</li> <li>• Extensive story telling/reading in native lang.</li> </ul>	Limited practice with phonemic awareness with English phonemes. Continue with supplemental intervention
Student C	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Poor word reading fluency (100 WCM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No prior history with services</li> <li>• Reading fluency instruction at phrase and sentence level</li> <li>• High risk in deletion, substitution, manipulation PA skills</li> <li>• Spelling vowel teams, digraphs and trigraphs</li> <li>• Immediate recognition followed by forgetting</li> </ul>	Add 5-10 minutes per day of phonemic awareness skills with explicit instruction and scaffolds for working memory. PA and orthography

# Student A



No concerns with oral abilities.

Low Scores  
Syllable  
Identification,  
Difficulty with  
Onset and rhyme  
forgetting  
Poor RAN

- Low Scores letter recognition
- Poor recognition of own name
- Letter formation slow

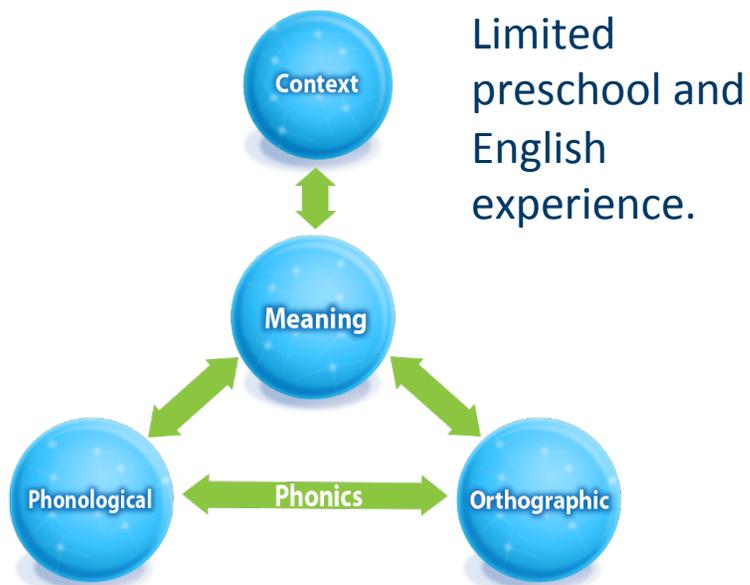
**Initial Problem Statement:** The student shows persistent difficulties with phonemic awareness skills, letter recognition and naming, syllable identification etc., despite extensive instruction in pre-school and kindergarten (5 days of consecutive instruction yields inconsistent recognition).

Given additional diagnostic data, family history and response to instruction, the school is proposing to conduct an initial evaluation for special education simultaneous to most intensive intervention available in general education.

Provide intensive instruction in areas of phonemic awareness during evaluation. Provide audio supported text to maintain growth in oral language.

**Statement would go into:** Prior Written Notice. Gather data from intervention to inform next steps.

# Student B



Limited preschool and English experience.

Low Scores letter naming fluency  
Difficulty with onset rime

- Low Scores letter recognition
- Letter formation slow

**Initial Problem Statement:** The Student shows difficulties in phonemic awareness (onset-rimes) and letter naming fluency. Letter recognition and formation is slow.

Due to family history, daily instruction and practice opportunities available in core reading curriculum, and student's positive response to instruction, the school plans to provide differentiated instruction to support phonemic awareness and phonics skills.

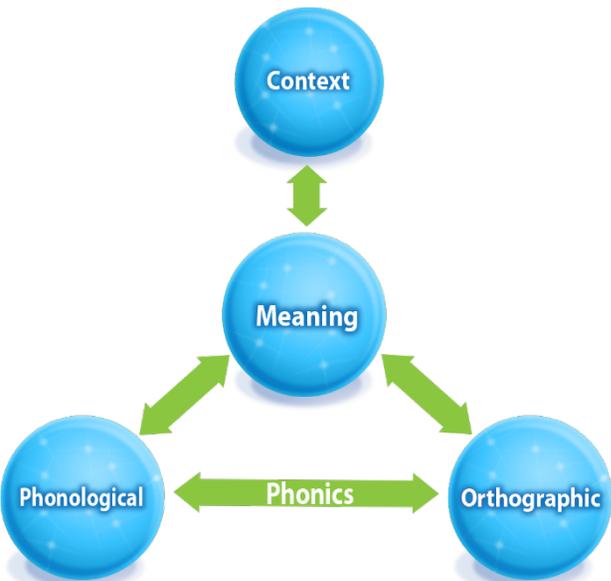
Additional instruction in vocabulary, prepositions, and dramatic play is recommended to build English language skills.

Student will be monitored for progress in letter naming, phonemic awareness moving from onset-rimes into blending and segmenting by winter (additional practice with letter names and phonemic awareness will be provided to family for support).

**Statement would go into:** cumulative folder or whatever follows the student. Teacher elaborates on data at next screening.



# Examples of Documentation Change to be the kid folks say give him time it will click



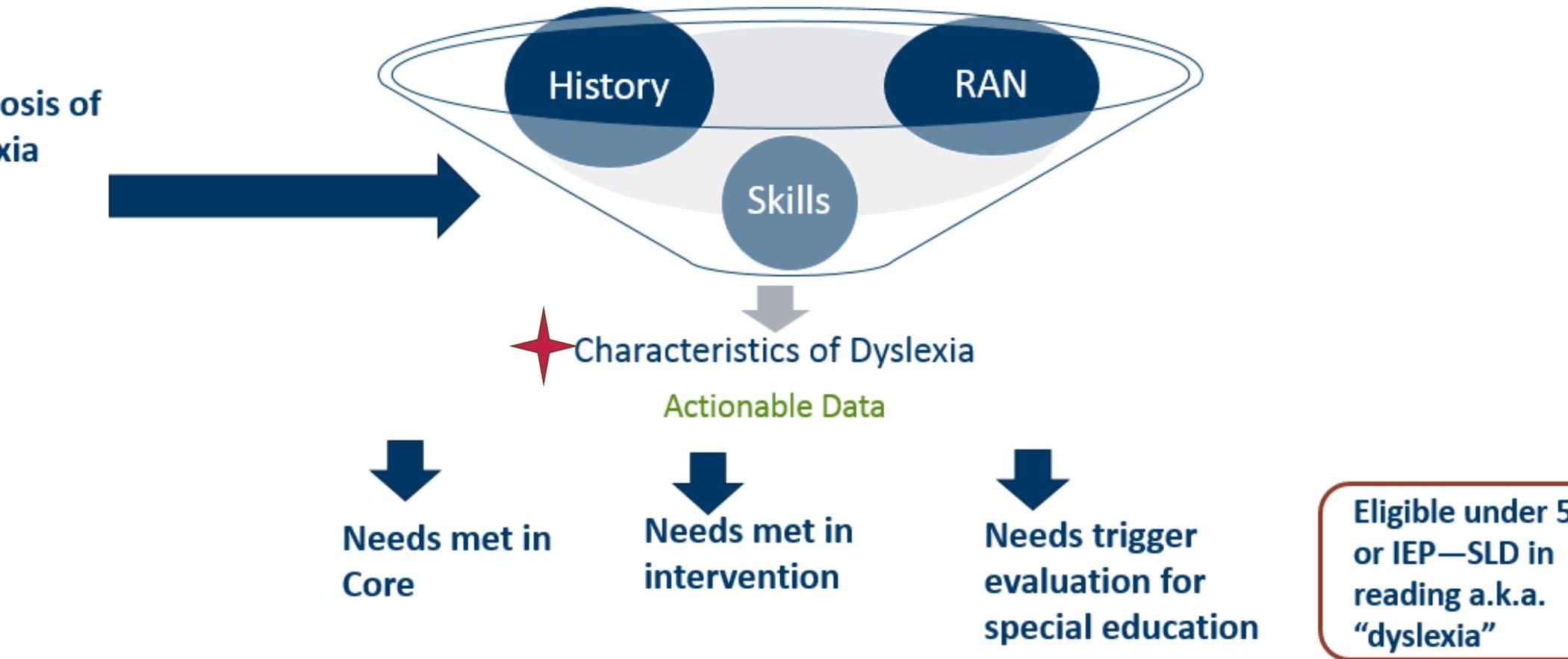
**Initial Problem Statement:** The Student shows difficulties with and possibly advanced phonemic awareness skills, such as manipulation of middle sounds. Student to practice identifying spelling all sounds, syllables and moving to morphemes in words.

Due to attendance history and response to instruction, the school proposing to **provide supplemental instruction** in under developed phonics and advanced phonemic awareness skills. **Provide intervention to improve attendance.**

Student needs audio supported text during comprehension instruction and for reading in content areas. Independent reading time during core instruction will be replaced with additional phonics instruction focusing on missing phonemic awareness and phonics provided in addition to differentiated Core instruction.

**Statement would go into:** Intervention plan for Tier 2 services

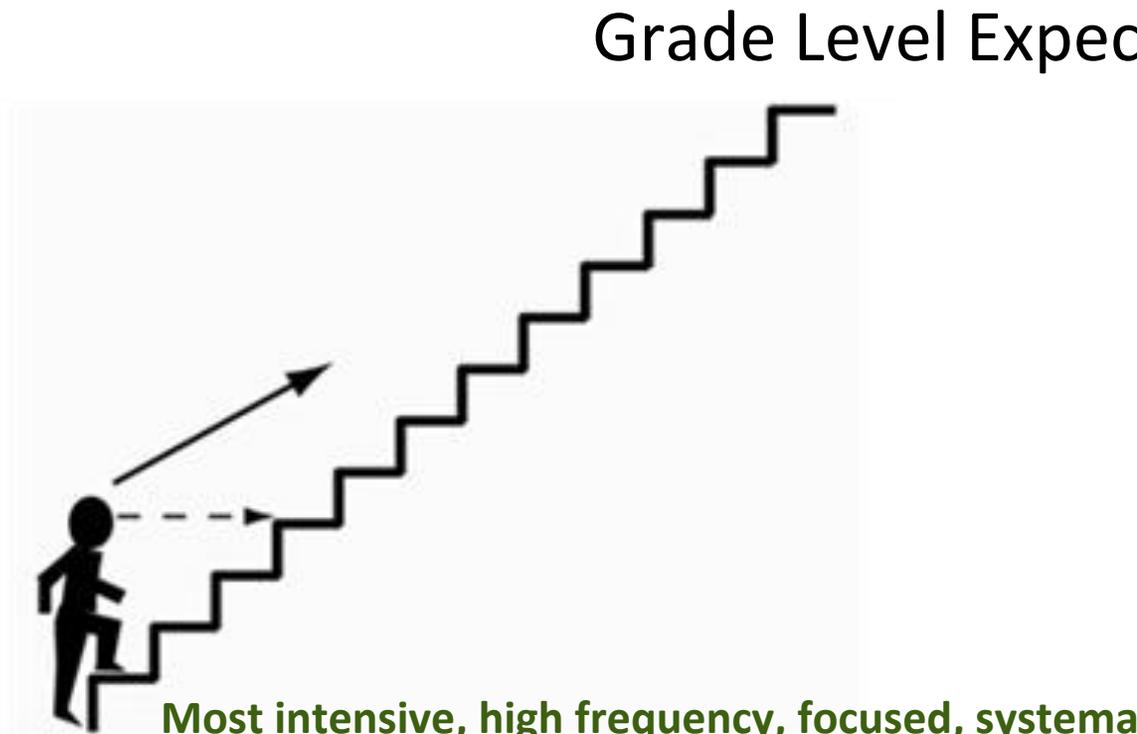
# Dyslexia Can be Identified and Addressed at Multiple Points



MN Statute 125A.56 subp. 1c. ....Intervention must be multisensory, systematic, sequential, cumulative, and explicit...[Intensifies across the Tiers]

# Step 3. Interpret Data and Define the Intervention Plan

- Do we have data that targets what we think is constraining growth?
- What is the appropriate systematic explicit, and multi-sensory intervention?
- Who, when, and how often will the intervention be delivered?
- What data will we gather to monitor progress? Need for next step planning?
- When will we review progress?



**Most intensive, high frequency, focused, systematic explicit instruction in reading skills we can provide**

**Maximize our impact within the developmental window.**

# Thank you!

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