

Waterford's Six Instructional Strands for Reading

1. **PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS** Your child will practice important *listening* skills that are the foundation for learning to read. They will listen for the sounds in words and play with rhyming words. They will blend sounds, listen for words that begin or end with the same sound, and more!
2. **PHONICS** Your child will learn to connect the sounds of language with the letters that represent them. With this knowledge, your child will begin to read!
3. **FLUENCY** Reading with fluency means reading with accuracy, expression, and automaticity. This allows your child to focus on comprehension instead of working to sound out words letter by letter.
4. **COMPREHENSION & VOCABULARY** Your child will build their “bank” of words and learn strategies for understanding what they read. Strong comprehension will allow your child to use reading as a lifelong tool for learning.
5. **LANGUAGE CONCEPTS** Learning about print concepts, grammar, punctuation, and spelling will help your child learn how written language is organized.
6. **COMMUNICATION** Being an effective communicator involves speaking, listening, and writing. Your child will learn how to effectively share information and ideas with others.

