



Language Concepts

The Language Concepts strand teaches students how written language is organized. Print concepts, spelling, grammar, and sentence structure are taught and practiced in this strand.

Waterford Early Learning's instructional strands for literacy are aligned with the Essential Components of Reading identified by the National Reading Panel (NICHD, 2000).



← **Less Complex** ————— **More Complex** →

Beginning

- Print concepts
- Characteristics of a sentence
- Beginning punctuation, spelling, parts of speech, and text structures

Developing

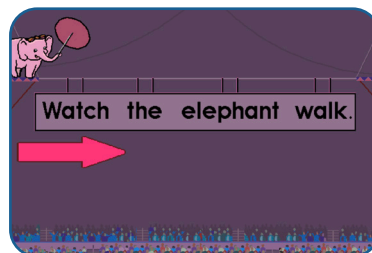
- Understand and use increasingly complex parts of speech, punctuation, spelling conventions, sentence structure, and text structures in reading and writing

Advanced

Print concepts are explicitly taught and are modeled in Waterford Early Learning book experiences in the adaptive learning path.



Text highlights match narration word by word, demonstrating the connection between speech and print.

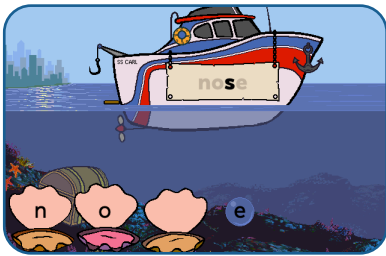


Explicit instruction teaches how we read: turning pages and reading left to right. Students see that letters combine to form words and words combine to form sentences.



Concepts of print are reinforced and reviewed as each new book is introduced. Waterford Early Learning books are available in PDF and interactive digital formats to be used for instruction, practice, and review.

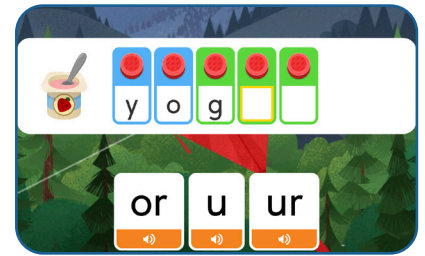
Students learn to spell (encode) according to the conventions of English orthography. This happens in parallel with the decoding instruction they experience in the Phonics strand.



Students determine the number of sounds in a word, then see the word and, finally, determine which letters represent each sound.

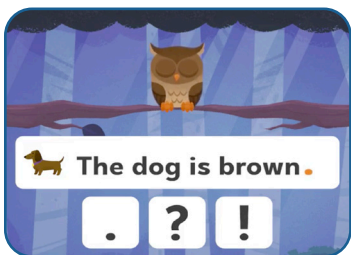


Here the word "use" has been covered by the peacock's train. Students write the word and check their spelling after the word is uncovered.

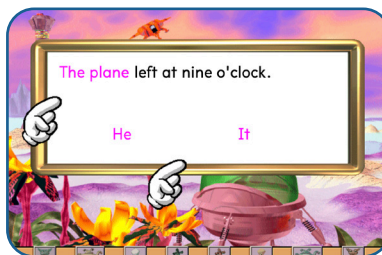


Students apply their word mapping skills and knowledge of English orthography as they spell multisyllabic words that include more complex patterns.

Grammar concepts are taught systematically. For example, students learn about basic characteristics of a sentence before learning about parts of speech.



Sentence marks

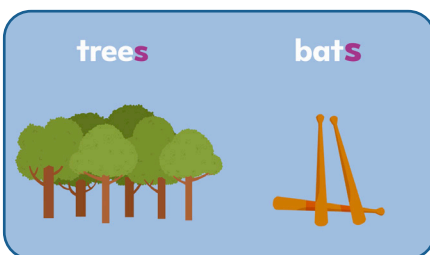


Sentence structure and pronouns

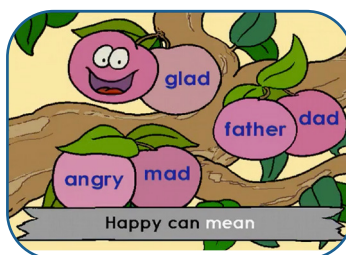


Irregular verbs

Engaging songs introduce students to many of the new concepts in this strand. These help students understand and remember the new ideas as they go on to explicit instruction and practice for each concept.



Plural nouns



Synonyms



Early Morphology Prefixes

View example Language Concepts activities [here](#).