

# How The Science Of Reading Informs Teaching



## Brain Words: How the Science of Reading Informs Teaching by Dr. Gene Ouellette

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## Unleashing the Power of Evidence-Based Reading Instruction

The ability to read is a fundamental skill that opens doors to a world of knowledge and opportunity. Yet, for many students, learning to read can be a challenging journey. But what if there was a way to make teaching reading more effective and engaging? Enter the science of reading.

The science of reading is a field of research that investigates the cognitive processes involved in reading. This research has led to a wealth of evidence-based strategies that can help teachers improve their teaching practices and help students become more successful readers.

## The Five Pillars of Effective Reading Instruction

According to the science of reading, there are five essential pillars of effective reading instruction:

1. **Phonemic awareness.** This is the ability to hear and manipulate the individual sounds in words.
2. **Phonics.** This is the relationship between letters and sounds.
3. **Fluency.** This is the ability to read quickly and accurately.
4. **Vocabulary.** This is the store of words that a person knows and understands.
5. **Comprehension.** This is the ability to understand what you read.

These five pillars are essential for reading success. If a student is weak in any one of these areas, it can have a negative impact on their overall reading ability.

## Evidence-Based Reading Strategies

The science of reading has identified a number of evidence-based strategies that can help teachers improve their reading instruction. These strategies include:

- **Explicit instruction.** This is when teachers explicitly teach students about the different components of reading, such as phonemic awareness, phonics, and comprehension.
- **Systematic and cumulative instruction.** This means teaching reading skills in a systematic and cumulative way, so that students build on their prior knowledge and skills.

- **Multisensory instruction.** This involves using a variety of sensory modalities, such as sight, sound, and touch, to teach reading skills.
- **Feedback and assessment.** This is essential for providing students with feedback on their progress and for assessing their understanding of reading concepts.

These are just a few of the evidence-based reading strategies that teachers can use to improve their teaching practices. By implementing these strategies, teachers can help students become more successful readers.

### **The Benefits of Science-Based Reading Instruction**

The benefits of science-based reading instruction are numerous. Some of these benefits include:

- **Improved reading comprehension.** Students who receive science-based reading instruction have been shown to have better reading comprehension skills than students who do not receive this type of instruction.
- **Increased reading fluency.** Science-based reading instruction can also help students to read more fluently.
- **Enhanced vocabulary.** Students who receive science-based reading instruction have been shown to have a larger vocabulary than students who do not receive this type of instruction.
- **Greater motivation to read.** Students who are successful at reading are more likely to be motivated to read. Science-based reading instruction can help students to become more successful readers, which can in turn lead to increased motivation to read.

If you are a teacher who is looking for ways to improve your reading instruction, the science of reading can help. By implementing evidence-based reading strategies, you can help your students become more successful readers and reap the many benefits of reading.

The science of reading is a powerful tool that can help teachers to improve their reading instruction and help students become more successful readers. By understanding the five pillars of effective reading instruction and implementing evidence-based reading strategies, teachers can create a classroom environment that is conducive to reading success.

If you are interested in learning more about the science of reading, there are a number of resources available online. You can also find information about the science of reading in your state's department of education website.

By working together, teachers, parents, and students can use the science of reading to create a brighter future for all readers.



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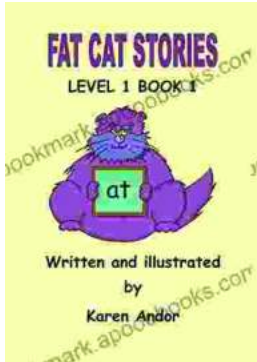
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