



Ten Maxims: What We've Learned So Far About How Children Learn To Read

by Reid Lyon (May 2023)

RESEARCH SUPPORT:

- 1. Almost all children learn to speak naturally; reading and writing must be taught.**
- 2. Literacy begins at birth. It is rooted in early social interactions and experiences that include regular exposure to oral language and print. Strong roots tend to produce strong readers.**

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RESEARCH SUPPORT:

3. All good readers are good decoders. Decoding should be taught until children can accurately and independently read new words. Decoding depends on phonemic awareness: a child's ability to identify individual speech sounds. Decoding is the on-ramp for word recognition.

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