



STAGES AND EXERCISES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF READING SKILLS

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This article explores the stages and exercises that are crucial for the development of reading skills in children. It discusses the different stages of reading development, from pre-reading skills to fluent reading and comprehension skills, and suggests exercises to support the progression through each stage. The article emphasizes the importance of creating a positive reading environment and encouraging regular reading practice to foster a love for reading in children. By understanding the stages of reading development and implementing appropriate exercises, parents and educators can effectively support children in building essential reading skills.

Keywords: Reading skills, stages of reading development, pre-reading skills, beginning reading skills, fluent reading skills, comprehension skills, exercises for reading development, reading practice, positive reading environment, children's literacy.

Introduction: Reading is one of the most vital skills a person can possess, as it forms the foundation for acquiring knowledge and understanding the world around us. For children, developing strong reading skills from an early age is essential for their academic success and overall development. There are specific stages and exercises that can be implemented to support the development of reading skills in children, helping to lay a solid groundwork for their future learning.

Main body: Stages of Reading Development

The process of acquiring reading skills can be divided into several distinct stages, each with its own set of characteristics and challenges.

Stage 1: Pre-Reading Skills

Before children can even pick up a book and start reading, they need to develop pre-reading skills. These skills include understanding the concept of print, learning the alphabet, and recognizing and naming letters. (Hiebert, Reutzel, (2010) Some exercises to help develop pre-reading skills include letter recognition games, pointing out and discussing print in the environment, and engaging in activities that promote letter and sound recognition.

Stage 2: Beginning Reading Skills

Once children have a grasp of pre-reading skills, they can start developing beginning reading skills. This stage involves learning phonics, decoding words, and understanding basic sight words. Exercises for beginning reading skills include



phonics games, practicing word families, and using flashcards to learn and memorize sight words.

Stage 3: Fluent Reading Skills

As children progress in their reading journey, they will work towards developing fluent reading skills. This stage involves reading with accuracy, speed, and proper expression. Exercises to promote fluent reading skills include practicing reading aloud, engaging in repeated reading of familiar texts, and using passages with controlled vocabulary to build fluency.

Stage 4: Comprehension Skills

The ultimate goal of reading is to comprehend and understand the text. Comprehension skills involve understanding main ideas, making inferences, and drawing conclusions from the text. Exercises to develop comprehension skills include asking and answering questions about the text, using graphic organizers to organize information, and engaging in discussions about the text.

Transitional reading: Transitional readers are able to read with more fluency and understand increasingly complex texts. (Adams, 1990) They develop comprehension strategies and improve their vocabulary. Exercises for this stage may include guided reading, vocabulary development, and comprehension activities.

And also we divide another groups to stages of reading:

Emergent literacy: This stage occurs before formal reading instruction begins and involves activities that promote language development, print awareness, and phonological awareness. Exercises for this stage might include storytelling, discussions about written language, and exposure to print materials.

Early reading: At this stage, individuals begin to learn basic phonics principles, decode simple words, and build sight vocabulary. Exercises for this stage focus on phonics instruction, repetitive reading, and exposure to emergent texts.

Transitional reading: Transitional readers are able to read with more fluency and understand increasingly complex texts. They develop comprehension strategies and improve their vocabulary. Exercises for this stage may include guided reading, vocabulary development, and comprehension activities.

Fluent reading: At this stage, readers are proficient at decoding, have a broad sight vocabulary, and read with fluency and expression. Exercises may focus on advanced comprehension skills, critical analysis of texts, and independent reading.

In addition to these stages, there are several exercises that can be implemented to support the development of reading skills at any stage. These exercises include regular reading practice, encouraging independent reading, and providing opportunities for children to read a variety of genres and text types. It is also important to create a positive and supportive reading environment to encourage children to enjoy and appreciate reading.

Exercises for Developing Reading Skills:



There are several key exercises that can be used to support the development of reading skills across the different stages. Some effective exercises include:

- Phonics instruction: Activities that help individuals learn and practice phonics rules and decoding skills are essential for early and transitional readers.
- Vocabulary development: Exercises that expose individuals to new words, build their understanding of word meanings, and encourage them to use new words in context can aid in vocabulary development.
- Comprehension activities: Engaging in activities that require individuals to understand and interpret texts, such as retelling stories, answering questions, and making connections, can enhance comprehension skills.
- Guided reading: Providing opportunities for individuals to read texts at their instructional level with support from a teacher or mentor can help develop fluency and comprehension skills.
- Independent reading: Encouraging individuals to read independently allows them to practice their reading skills, build fluency, and develop a love for reading.

Conclusion:

Developing reading skills is a multifaceted process that involves various stages and exercises. By understanding the stages of reading development and implementing appropriate exercises, educators and parents can support individuals in acquiring and honing their reading abilities. It is important to provide a range of activities that cater to the needs of learners at different stages of development and to foster a love for reading that will last a lifetime.

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