



COLLEGE OF  
EDUCATION

EdTERPS LEARNING ACADEMY

# THE SCIENCE OF READING

## 4 APPROACHES TO LITERACY

### 1. Reading is Not a Natural Skill:

Our genes are coded for spoken language, but not for written language. Explicit instruction is required to master reading.

### 2. Sound it Out:

Teach sounds instead of memorizing words. Avoid acculturation and honor how students speak at home.

### 3. Making Sense is About Exposure:

Reading comprehension struggles often reflect lack of exposure, not ability - balance familiar and new content in reading materials.

### 4. Try New Things:

Small adjustments to reading instruction based on research can make a big difference in learning.

Reframe your approach to literacy instruction using the Science of Reading.