ALL IN ON READING





In order for children to read, they must learn how to decode the written word, sounding out and blending letters to make words – a process many refer to as phonics. They must also know what those words mean, and how words combine to form sentences. Cognitive scientists have studied reading extensively, producing the Simple View of Reading formula to describe the process. But skilled practitioners can tell you there is nothing simple about teaching reading.

SIMPLE VIEW OF READING¹³

Decoding

Blending letters into spoken words



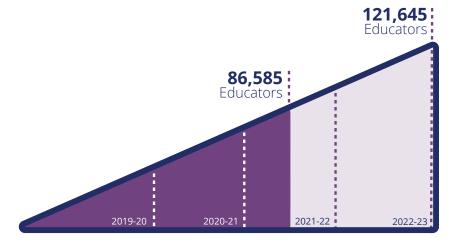
Language Comprehension

Background knowledge, vocabulary, and understanding spoken language

Reading Comprehension

READING ACADEMIES

The Texas Legislature has prioritized early reading instruction through a massive, multi-year investment. HB 3 established the early education allotment, which provides approximately \$800 million per year to Texas school systems to pay for early literacy support, including the cost to deliver Reading Academies. 12 All K-3 reading teachers and principals in Texas public schools will complete the Reading Academies by 2022-23. Schools must also



ensure that they offer a systematic direct instruction program in phonics. The legislature also established the Strong Foundations program, which provides curricular support to help teachers ensure our earliest learners build background knowledge, vocabulary, and broad language comprehension.