

Examples of types of poor readers

Unfortunately, when children are not taught the reading code correctly, they end up either using an incorrect decoding system or having to develop their own. Perhaps you will recognize yourself or your child frequently making one of the following errors when reading:

Assembling word parts -. The most common type of reading strategy in 3rd grade. The child breaks the word into small pieces. Often these are not real words and letters are used in several word parts.

'plank' is read as 'plan-ant' or 'literature' is read as 'lite-rat-ture'

Common phonetic errors – These are accurate and phonetically correct decoding of irregularly spelled words.

'honey' is read as 'hone-ee' or 'prank' is read as 'prahnk'

Whole word guessing – The child reads the first letter(s) accurately and guesses a known word which is similar in length and form.

'fork' is read as 'food' or 'spoon' is read as 'span'

Limited code knowledge – The child has an incomplete knowledge of the spelling code. As a result, they will write the correct number of sounds, but the incorrect spelling.

'made' is written as 'mad' or 'pout' is written as 'pot'

Complete guessing – Guessing at words based upon the context.

'the' is read as 'fun' or 'big'

Letter naming – The child reads the word by saying the letter names.

'punch' is read as 'peeuhenseeaetch'

The shortcomings of all common approaches currently used to teach reading leaves one big question: Is there an approach that works? Is there a system "beyond phonics?" Does a reading program exist that teaches the code correctly? Will it teach all students to read and spell quickly and efficiently?

We believe that the answer to all of these questions is a resounding yes! But we must urge you to not leave this to chance. Unless children are systematically taught, they will adopt some type of reading strategy, whether right or wrong. Thus, you must be certain that they are being taught correctly.