

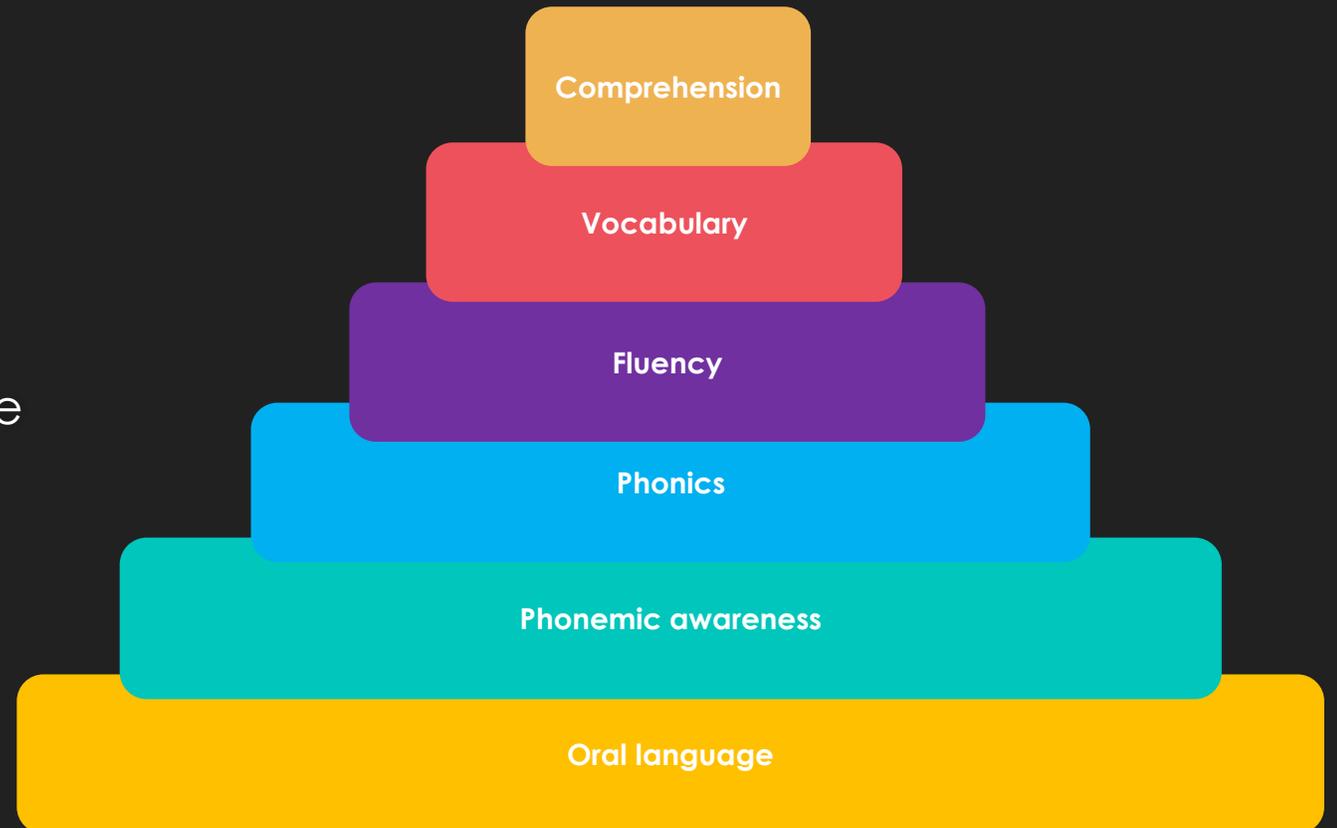
# Little Learners Love Literacy Information Afternoon

11<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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# Why Little Learners?

- Program developed from evidence-based literacy research
- Emphasises the importance of explicit teaching
- Systematic order or teaching sequence
- Focuses on the Big 6



# BIG 6 – Oral Language

## What is it?

- Speaking and Listening – being able to understand what we hear
- Usually comes naturally as children grow and develop unlike reading which needs to be explicitly taught

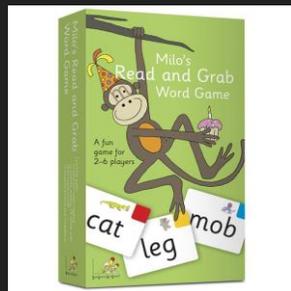
## What can you do at home?

- Talk!
- Ask open questions eg. What did you learn at school today?
- Encourage your child to speak in full sentences

# BIG 6 – Phonemic Awareness

## What is it?

- The ability to pick out and manipulate sounds in words
- Syllables
- Rhymes
- Segmenting
- Blending



**Read and Grab**

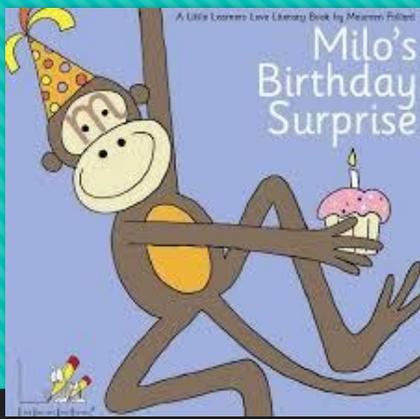
**Ally talk**



## What can you do at home?

- Singing
- Reading nursery rhymes
- Playing 'I spy'
- Alphabet charts
- Magnetic letters
- Talk about sounds and letters in books and the real world

# BIG 6 - Phonics



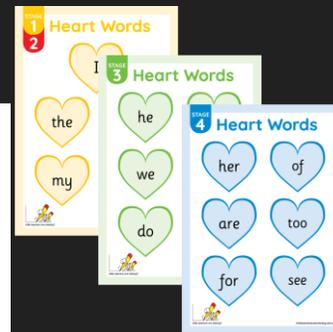
## What is it?

- Linking a sound (hear) to a letter (read)
- Little Learners combines the skills of phonological awareness and phonics – ie. identifying the sound and reading the letter
- Little Learners introduces the 26 letters and their most common sound, followed by the other 18 sounds in the English language
- Systematic order

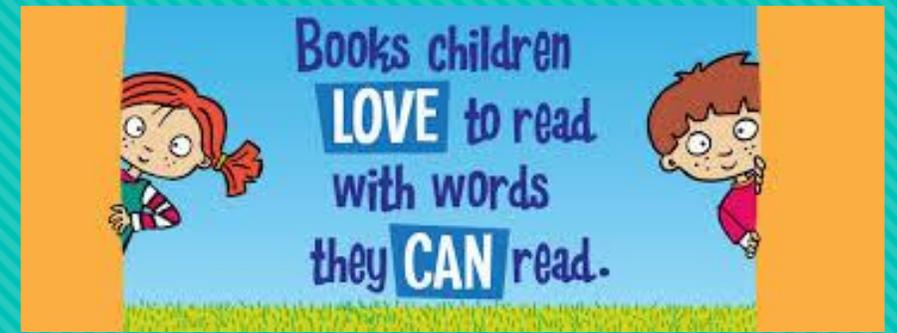
## What can you do at home?

- Focus on the SOUND not the letter name
- Read every day
- Encouraging your child to 'sound' out new decodable words – not guess or use the picture

**Oxford/heart words need to be learnt by sight**



# Decodable Readers



## What are they?

- Designed for students to apply and practise their decoding and blending skills with sounds they have mastered
- Should be mostly independent
- Are engaging and have repeated characters
- Make our children feel like successful readers!



# BIG 6 - Vocabulary

## What is it?

- Vocabulary are words
- Successful readers have a wide vocabulary and can understand the meaning of words in different contexts
- Little Learners lessons allow for expansion on words – ie. Ally the alligator is chomping – ‘What is another word for chomping?’ – eating, biting, chewing etc.

## What can you do at home?

- Talk!
- Asking your child if they read any words they don't know the meaning of
- Showing your child how to use clues to figure out what a word might mean
- Looking up the meaning of words using a dictionary or Google

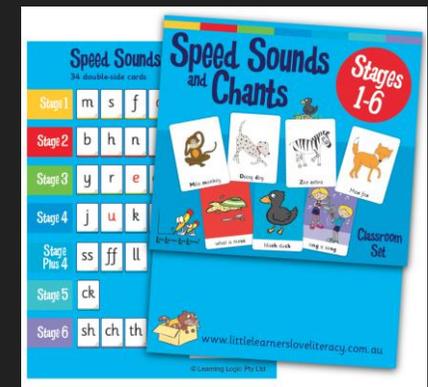
# BIG 6 - Fluency

## What is it?

- Reading accurately with expression and understanding
- Requires automaticity eg. effortless, rapid and accurate decoding of words
- Little Learners explicitly teaches each sound with fluency tasks eg. chitter, chatter, chants and speed sounds
- Once fluency at sound level occurs blending and segmenting begins

## What can you do at home?

- Revising sounds your child may still be consolidating
- Read every day
- Read books multiple times



# BIG 6 - Comprehension

## What is it?

- Comprehension is about understanding authors' messages and responding to these messages in a range of ways
- With proficient decoding, fluency and vocabulary knowledge comes comprehension

## What can you do at home?

- Reading together
- Asking questions before, during and after reading to check for understanding
- Retelling the story to someone or acting it out



# Main points to take away

- Read with your child every day
- Use letter sounds not names
- Encourage pointing to words to segment and blend
- Focus on the text not the pictures
- Talk about 'other words for' to develop vocabulary
- Make it fun!

Thank you for your time and support!

