

### Word Study Aligned with Structured Literacy Components, from Invernizzi, 2019\*

The components of structured literacy and word study components include the alphabetic principle in beginning literacy, the patterns of the orthography, syllable types, as well as inflected and derivational morphology. This table presents word study activities and components that match structured literacy.\*\*

STRUCTURED LITERACY COMPONENTS	WORD STUDY COMPONENTS
<p><b>PHONOLOGY</b></p> <p>“The sound structure of spoken words, including phonemic awareness, the ability to distinguish, segment, blend, and manipulate sounds relevant to reading and spelling, is central to phonology.” Phonemes are the smallest unit of sound in language.</p>	<p>Picture sorts to categorize initial phonemes (beginning consonants and consonant digraphs); picture sorts for vowel sounds; blending and segmenting games such as <i>Build</i>, <i>Blend</i> and <i>Extend</i>; push-and-say and sound boxes for segmenting and blending; language play.</p>
<p><b>SOUND-SYMBOL ASSOCIATION</b></p> <p>“Once students develop phonemic awareness they must learn the alphabetic principle—how to map phonemes to letters (graphemes) and vice versa.”</p>	<p>Alphabet games; picture sorts for beginning sounds; writing for sounds; categorizing speech sounds with their corresponding spelling; alphabet/letter sound games such as <i>Soundline</i>, <i>Letter Spin</i>, and <i>Initial Consonant Follow-the-Path</i> games; push-and-say activities.</p>
<p><b>SYLLABLES</b></p> <p>“Knowing the syllable/vowel grapheme types helps readers associate vowel spellings with vowel sounds. Syllable division rules help readers divide/decode unfamiliar words.” (Note: <i>Syllable types include: CVC closed, CV open, VCVe, vowel teams, consonant and le, and r-influenced</i>)</p>	<p>The scope and sequence of word study systematically addresses all of the 6 syllable types starting with CVC closed syllable in the Letter Name- Alphabetic Stage, moving to CVCe, vowel teams and r-influenced patterns in the Within Word Pattern Stage, and then unaccented final syllable patterns (such as consonant and le) in the Syllables and Affixes Stage. Other syllable patterns are taught within the context of open and closed syllables.</p>
<p><b>MORPHOLOGY</b></p> <p>“A morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning in a language. Studying base elements and affixes helps readers decode and unlock the meaning of complex words.”</p>	<p>As students learn to read and write on their own, word study presents a systematic scope and sequence of inflectional morphology (the study of inflectional endings such as <i>-ed</i>, <i>-ing</i> and <i>plurals</i>), base words and affixes, and the derivational morphology found in Greek and Latin word roots.</p>
<p><b>SYNTAX</b></p> <p>“The set of principles that dictate the sequence and function of words in a sentence, including grammar, sentence structure, and the mechanics of language.”</p>	<p>Word study addresses syntax from the beginning through Language Experience Dictations, pattern writing, and writing for sounds and spelling. Grammatical structures are taught and practiced in the Word Study Notebook in the “extend” component of the word study lesson and are a part of the study of morphology.</p>
<p><b>SEMANTICS</b></p> <p>“...meaning, comprehension, vocabulary, and the appreciation of written language.”</p>	<p>Word study addresses word meanings right from the start through concept sorts, reading, writing, and discussing the meaning of words and word parts, and the study of homophones, and various semantic graphic organizers.</p>

\*Adapted with permission from Marcia Invernizzi, presented at ILA, October 10, 2019, in New Orleans. See a similar table in Invernizzi, M., Lewis-Wagner, D., Johnston, F. R., & Juel, C. (2021). *Book Buddies*, 3rd edition. Guilford, and in Ittner, Frederick, Kiernan, & Bear, 2023.

\*\*See Cowen for IDA (2016). What is structured literacy? International Dyslexia Association (dyslexiaIDA.org).

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