

# Unlocking the Power of Reading to Learn

In the early years, children gain vocabulary, knowledge, and understanding of their home language through listening. This can be boosted by engaging in meaningful conversations, listening to stories read aloud, and exposure to knowledge and vocabulary-building media. While this is an powerful and essential means of learning, a crucial goal of education is for students to continue to develop language and knowledge through reading. To unlock the door of lifelong access to rich texts, culturally diverse materials, and knowledge-building resources, students must develop accurate and automatic word recognition via instruction aligned with the science of reading.



Knowledge building podcasts and audiobooks

## Learning by Listening



Discourse through conversations



Quality children's programming and learning apps



Accurate, automatic word recognition is essential to unlock the door to learning by reading

Learning through listening builds language and knowledge that supports reading comprehension



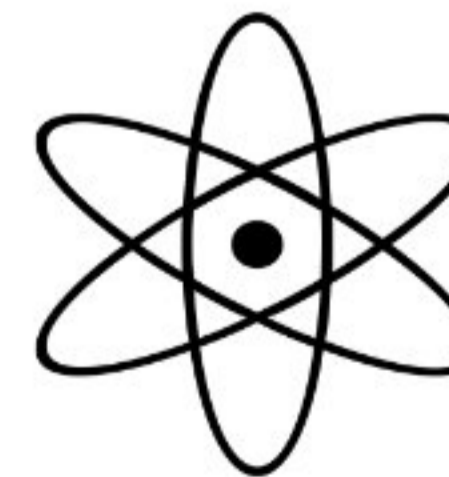
Oral read alouds with a teacher and/or loved ones



Songs, nursery rhymes, & games



Reading narrative texts may help develop empathy by seeing the world through another's eyes, particularly when texts are culturally and linguistically responsive



Expository content-area texts build vast amounts of knowledge



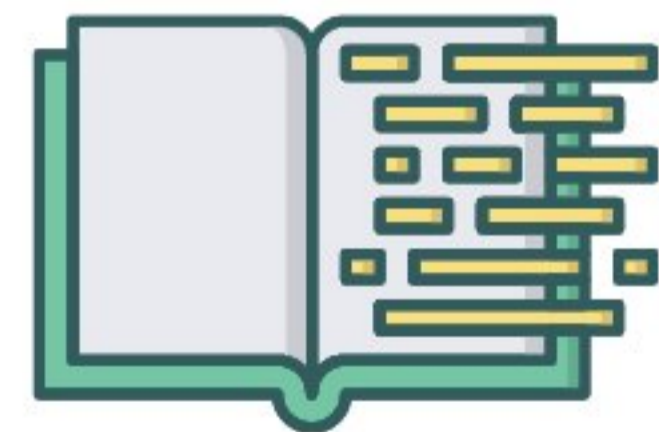
## Learning by Reading



Reading primary and secondary accounts of history builds world knowledge



Reading complex texts exposes students to high-level vocabulary words



Books often use more sophisticated sentence structures