

# WHY IS WORD LEVEL READING IMPORTANT?

How can I help my child with this?

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Collins Elementary School

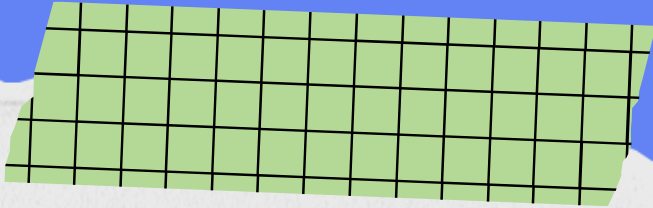
# Goals of this Class

- understand the components of word level reading and what the neurological implications of those skills are.
- understand how to help your reader develop skills to be a proficient word level reader

# Why is learning to read so challenging for some?

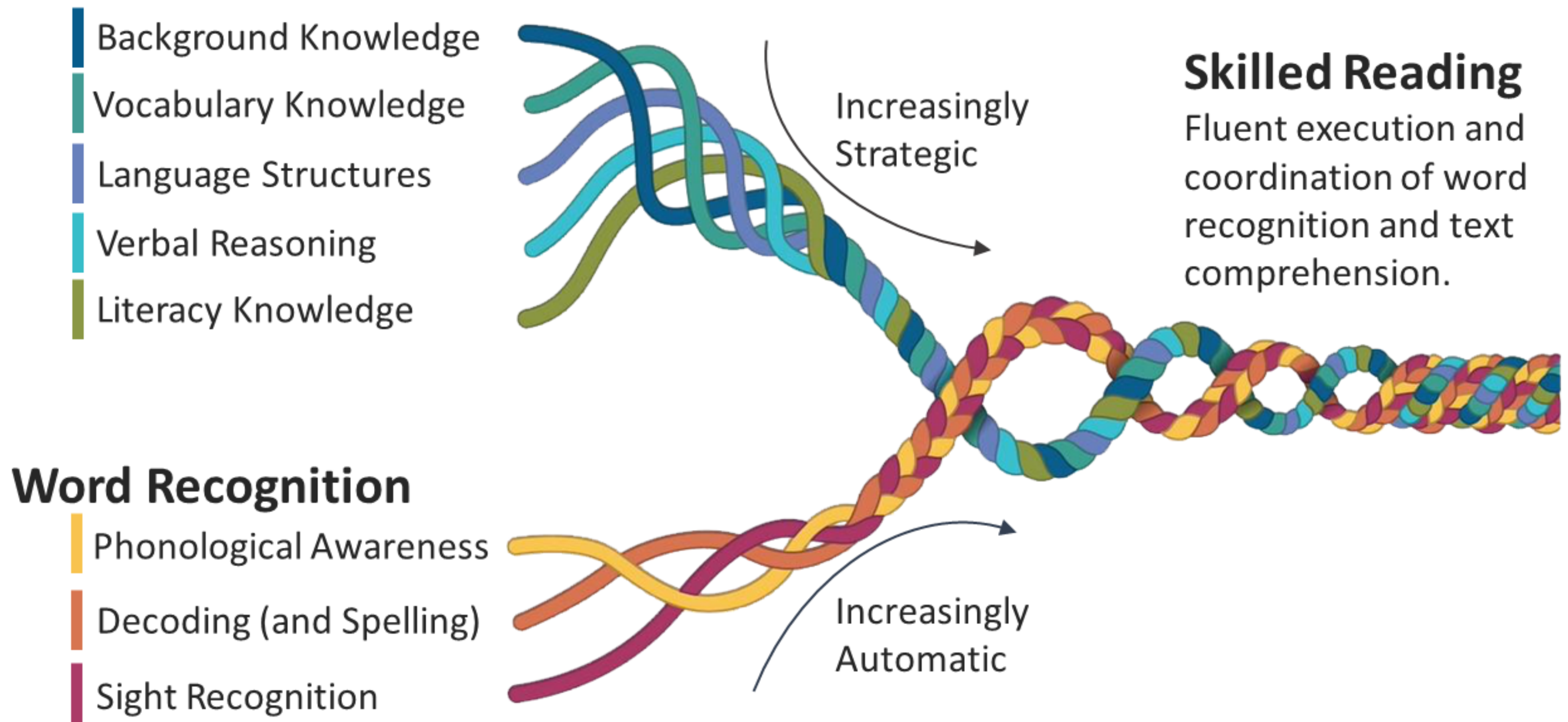


Learning to speak is an innate skill. It happens naturally by listening to others.



Learning to read is cultural and needs to be explicitly taught.

# Components of Skilled Reading

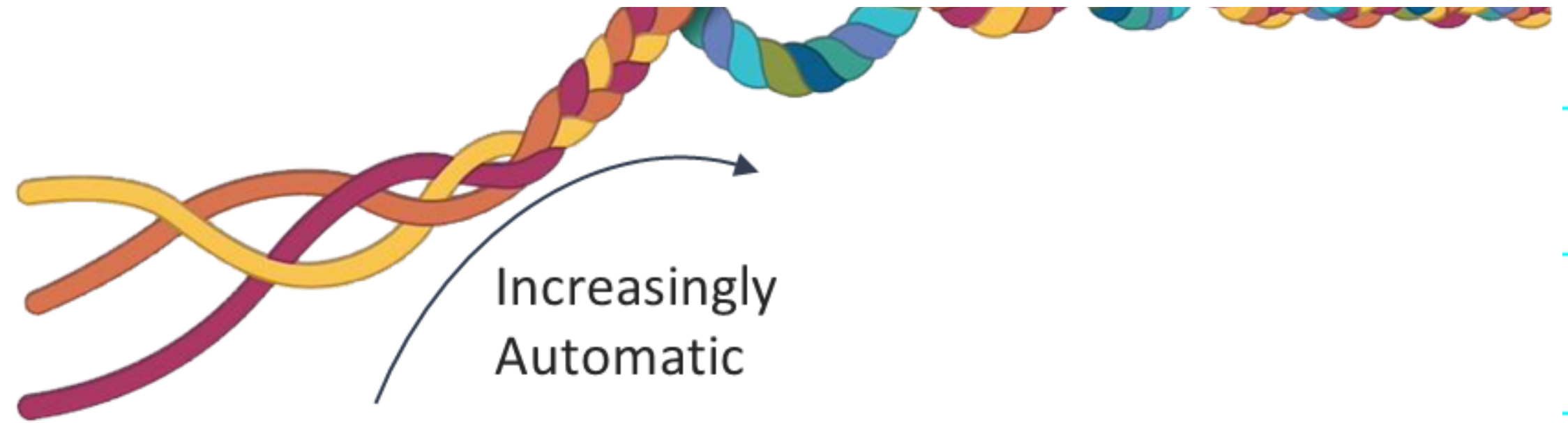


Scarborough, H. 2001. Connecting early language and literacy to later reading (dis)abilities: Evidence, theory, and practice. Pp. 97-110 in S. B. Neuman & D. K. Dickinson (Eds.) *Handbook of Early Literacy*. NY: Guilford Press.



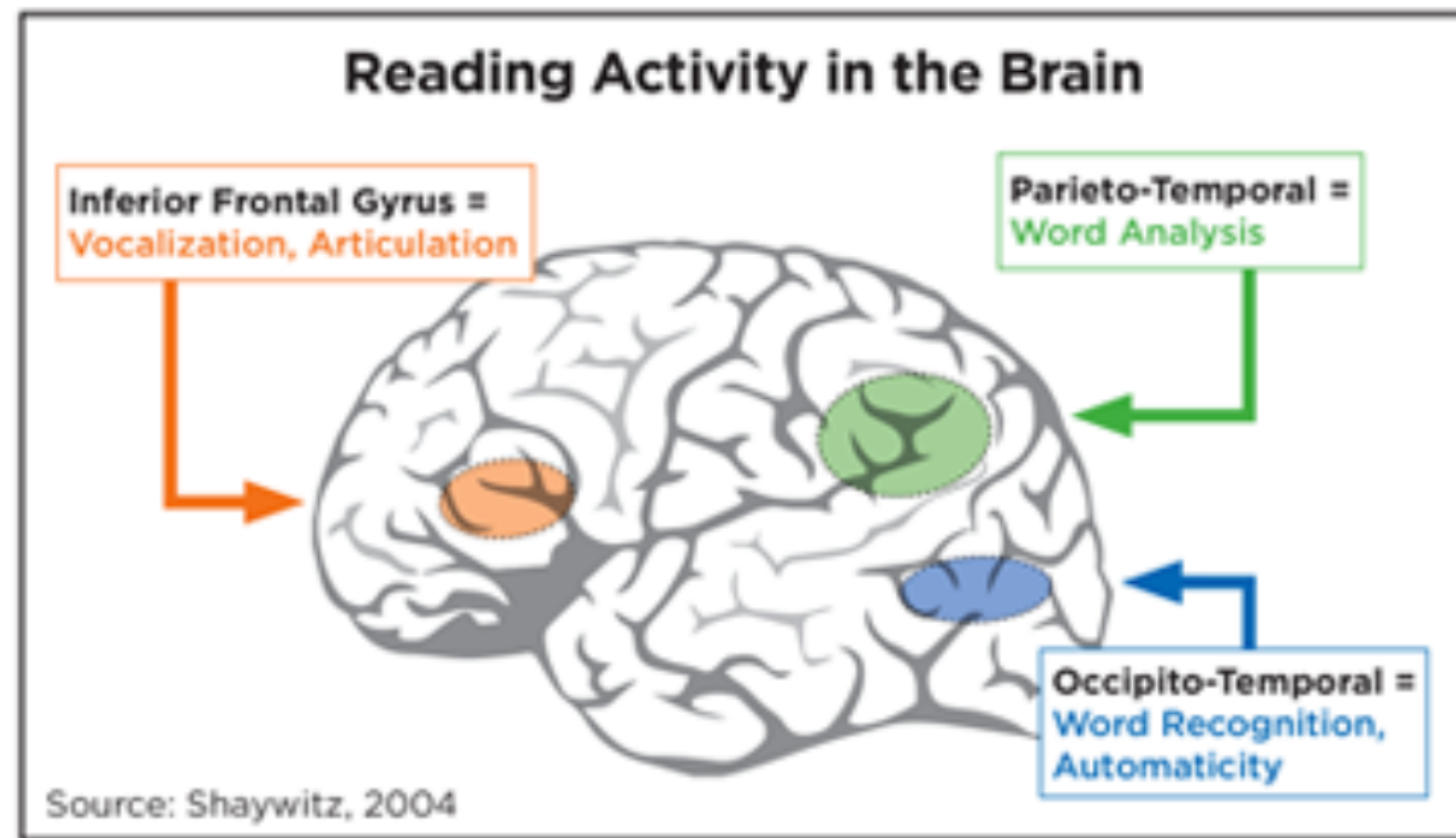
## Word Recognition

- Phonological Awareness
- Decoding (and Spelling)
- Sight Recognition



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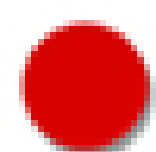
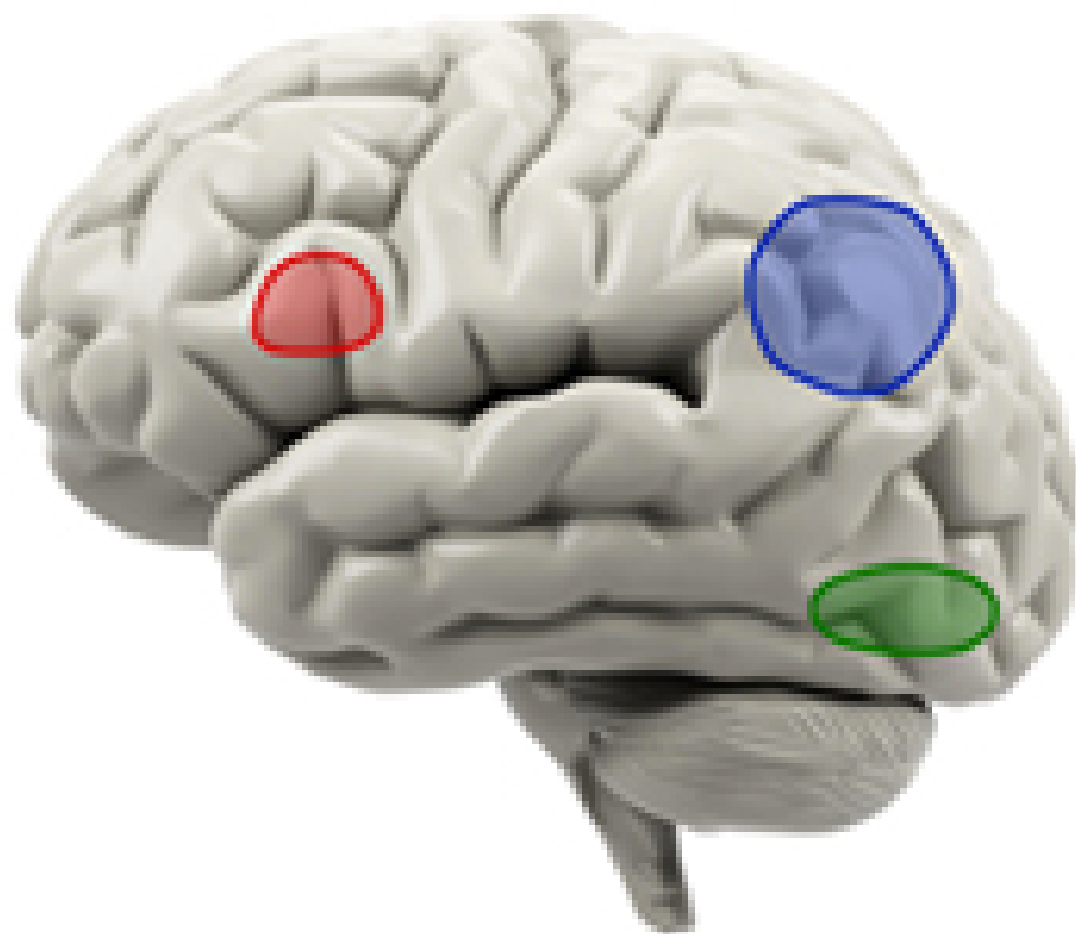
What areas  
of the brain  
are active  
when a  
person is  
reading?



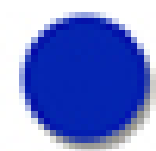


What is  
happening in the  
brain of  
someone who  
struggles to  
read?

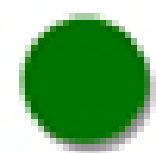




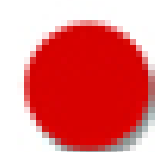
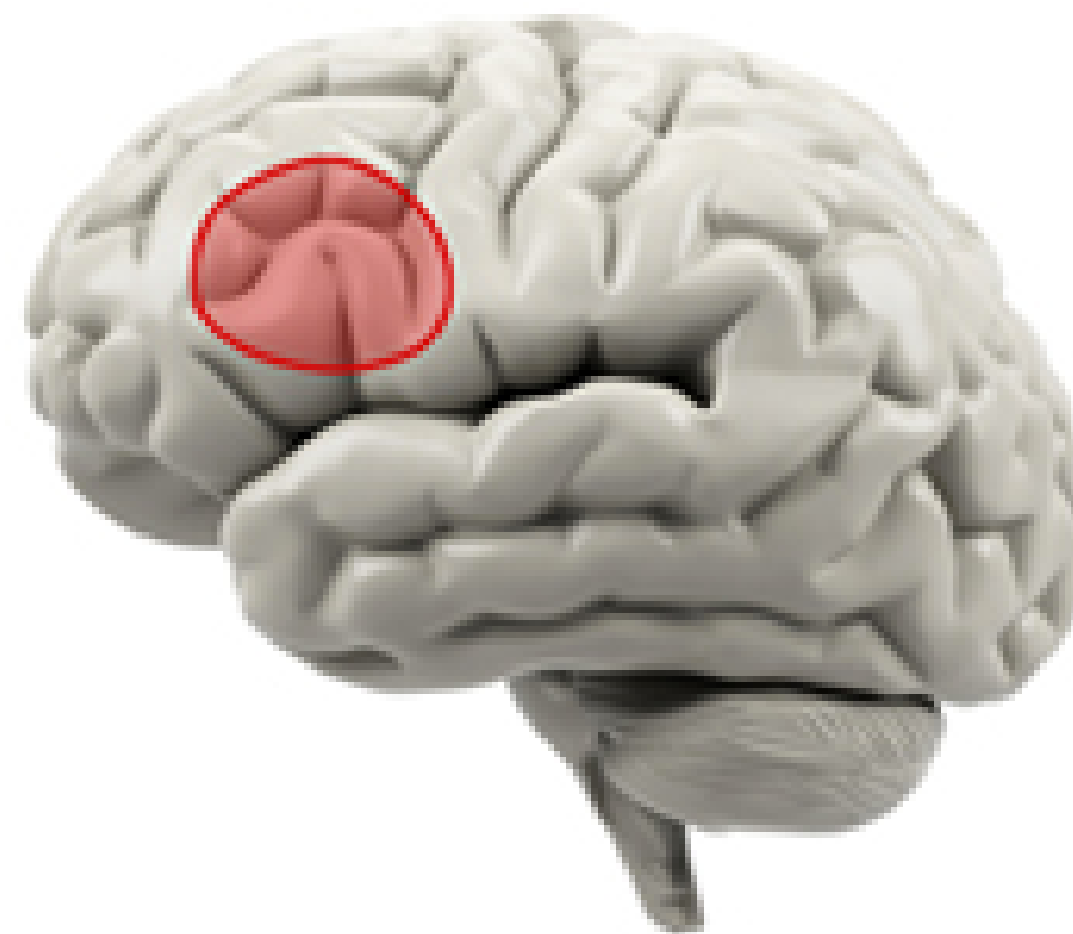
Broca's area, Inferior frontal gyrus  
(articulation/word analysis)



Parieto-temporal  
(word analysis)



Occipito-temporal  
(word form)



Broca's area, Inferior frontal gyrus  
(articulation/word analysis)



What does it feel like to struggle  
with word level reading?

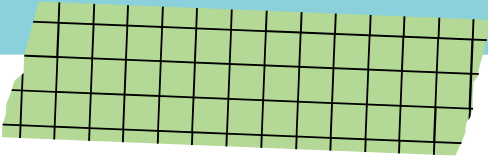
# Phonological Awareness/Phonemic awareness

## What is it?



### Defined:

***Phonological awareness*** is the ability to manipulate the chunks and individual sounds in words.

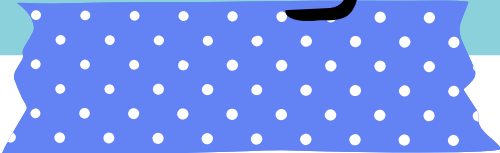


*phonological*: broader term-  
refers to whole words and  
individual parts

*phonemes*: individual  
sounds in words

chip= /ch/ /i/ /p/

# Hierarchy of Phonological Awareness Skills

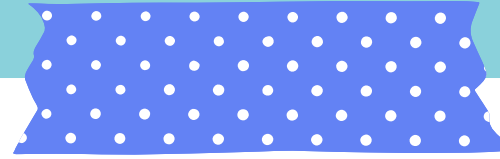
- 
- Word Awareness
  - Rhyme Awareness
  - Syllable Awareness
  - Onset Rime  
Manipulation
  - Phoneme Manipulation







# Parent Resource for Phonological Awareness



- Do activities to help your child build sound skills (make sure they are *short and fun*; avoid allowing your child to get frustrated)
  - Hand Games
  - Nursery Rhymes
- Help your child think of a number of words that start with the /m/ or /ch/ sound, or other *beginning sounds*.
- Make up *silly sentences* with words that begin with the same sound, such as "Nobody was nice to Nancy's neighbor".
- Play simple *rhyming or blending games* with your child, such as taking turns coming up with words that rhyme (go – no) or blending simple words (/d/, /o/, /g/ = dog).
- Read books with rhymes. Teach your child rhymes, short poems, and songs.



A green chalkboard with the word "phonics" written in white cursive. The board is decorated with various white line drawings of school-related items like books, pencils, trophies, and musical notes.



# Phonics/Decoding

## What is it?



**Phonics:** the understanding that there is a predictable relationship between the sounds of language and the understanding that there are patterns and predictable relationships with the letters that represent those sounds.

**Decoding:** breaking down the code to read words accurately

# How do I help with it?



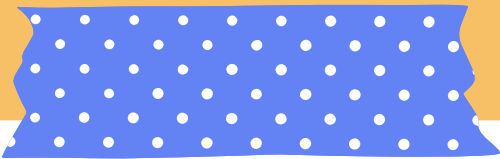
- Encourage your child to **look at all the letters in the word**
- **Discourage reliance on picture** cues as the first step
- Provide letter sounds** that might be unfamiliar to aid in decoding



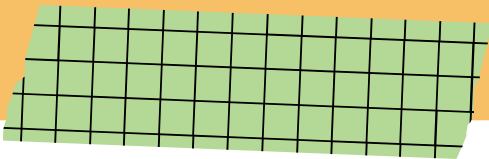
- Help your student figure out how to **chunk longer words** into more manageable parts
- **Cover prefixes and suffixes** read the base and then add them on



# What is a Sight word vs. High Frequency Words?



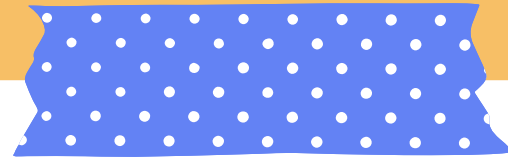
**Sight Words:** any word that can be read quickly and automatically without needing to decode. It is a word that is known by sight.



**High Frequency Words:** words that appear frequently in print. They are often phonetically irregular.



# What is Orthographic mapping?



Greek Origin

ortho= straight

graphos= writing

mental process we use to store words for  
immediate and effortless retrieval

requires:

phoneme proficiency

letter sound proficiency

# What is Orthographic mapping?



pear vs. pair



sent vs. set vs. send

tongue, bouquet, colonel,  
license, rendezvous, licorice

# Parent Resources



Reading Rockets

Put Reading First Parent Guide

Reading is Fundamental





# Thank you!

Do you have any questions  
for me before we go?



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