Science of Reading Aligned Instruction:
Build knowledge while developing reading strategies from phonics to fluency.

Phonics instruction is a crucial part of how children learn to read. But it’s only part of the equation. The Science of Reading shows that skilled readers must have strong language comprehension—such as background knowledge and vocabulary—in addition to strong word recognition. Language comprehension is made up of five key elements—background knowledge, vocabulary, language structures, verbal reasoning, and literacy knowledge.

By incorporating an integrated approach to reading comprehension instruction, Let’s Find Out® (for Kindergarten), Scholastic News® (for Grades 1–6), and Storyworks® (for Grades 1–6) develop students’ knowledge of content as well as skills and strategies.

“Schools that adopt curricula that simultaneously build word recognition and language comprehension skills can boost student reading outcomes, especially when instruction begins in early grades.”

—James S. Kim and Zhongyu Wei
Harvard University, 2022
Build Cross-Curricular Knowledge and Skills

Let’s Find Out and Scholastic News are the complete cross-curricular resources for Grades K–6 that develop knowledge in science, social studies, and other content areas with engaging, on-level nonfiction texts. Including ELA skills activities and much more, these print and digital magazines equip educators to effect the most up-to-date pedagogy in reading instruction.

How Let’s Find Out and Scholastic News Align to the Science of Reading

**Build Background Knowledge**
- Dig deeper into word and world knowledge with text sets that focus on a single topic, enabling students to strengthen reading skills and apply what they read.
- Read on-level, multigenre articles and talk about a variety of curricular topics in science, social studies, history, and SEL.
- Learn relevant facts and other information by watching high-interest nonfiction videos.
- Apply new knowledge by doing extension activities.

**Grow Big Vocabularies**
- Introduce important academic and content-area words in articles, videos, and vocabulary slideshows.
- Support vocabulary acquisition with photos and other images, child-friendly definitions, and read-aloud audio with text-to-speech.
- Reinforce vocabulary instruction through grade-specific, interactive skills activities and online games.
- Engage in rich discussions about vocabulary through discussion prompts and questions.

**Expand Literacy Knowledge**
- Introduce text structures such as description and compare/contrast.
- Practice navigating text features such as headlines and captions with motivating activities.

**Apply Verbal Reasoning**
- Sharpen verbal reasoning skills such as critical thinking and making inferences by reading and discussing articles as a class.
- Engage in close reading with questions about texts and assess understanding with comprehension checks.

**Learn Language Structures**
- Model age-appropriate sentence structure and grammar with authentic nonfiction texts.
- Practice syntax and grammar skills with writing activities, skills sheets, and online games.

**Practice Decoding Skills**
- Learn letter-sound correspondences such as blends, digraphs, and long vowel sounds by doing interactive skills activities.
- Boost phonics skills with online learning games, activities, and skills sheets.

*In Grade K and higher grades as needed*
Develop Comprehension Skills While Building Knowledge

*Storyworks* is the complete multigenre ELA resource for Grades 1–6 that pairs thrilling, diverse texts with motivating interactive skills activities. By sparking reading excitement that leads into skill-building practice, we help educators provide critical word-recognition and language-comprehension instruction that develops knowledgeable readers.

How *Storyworks* Aligns to the Science of Reading

**Build Background Knowledge**
- Read on-level, multigenre articles and talk about a variety of curricular topics in science, social studies, history, and SEL.
- Dig deeper into word and world knowledge with multiple articles that focus on a single topic or essential question, enabling students to strengthen reading skills and apply what they read.
- Learn relevant facts and other information by watching nonfiction videos.
- Gain additional knowledge from Background Builder slideshows and apply it by doing extension activities.

**Grow Big Vocabularies**
- Introduce important academic and content-area words in articles, videos, and vocabulary slideshows.
- Support vocabulary acquisition with photos and other images, child-friendly definitions, and read-aloud audio.
- Reinforce targeted vocabulary instruction with developmentally appropriate activities.
- Engage in rich discussions about vocabulary through discussion prompts and questions.
- Explore words that have multiple meanings in a vocabulary lab feature.

**Expand Literacy Knowledge**
- Read diverse texts across literary genres, including informational texts, fiction, narrative nonfiction, graphic novels, and poetry.
- Introduce text structures such as description and compare/contrast.
- Practice navigating text features such as headlines and captions.

**Apply Verbal Reasoning**
- Read and discuss articles to sharpen verbal reasoning skills, including critical thinking and making inferences.
- Engage in close reading with questions about texts and assess understanding with comprehension checks.
- Explore figurative language—including metaphors, similes, and personification—in fiction and poetry texts.

**Learn Language Structures**
- Model age-appropriate sentence structure and grammar with authentic texts.
- Build syntax and grammar skills with writing activities and interactive skills sheets.

*Features vary by title.*
Whether you need a complete curriculum or a supplemental resource, Scholastic Magazines+ provides flexible solutions that enhance reading comprehension instruction in Grades K–6 and beyond. Each one supports best practices from the Science of Reading, developing knowledge across the content areas and ELA skills for more successful readers.

“Magazines serve as learning supports by helping to develop literacy skills through close reading, ‘an instructional practice that makes complex texts accessible using repeated reading, cognitive scaffolding, and discussion’ (Wertz, 2014, p. 78). They offer students the opportunity to perform close readings of relevant and current fiction and nonfiction texts.”

—Scholastic Research & Validation, Scholastic Magazines+ Research Foundation

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