

Not all reading skills are equal.

Children begin to learn reading skills at birth.

Some skills, such as learning letter names and hearing the sounds that make up words, are constrained or limited. Once you learn the name of the letter "A," you don't need to learn any more about that letter name. Other skills are unconstrained or unlimited, such as vocabulary. Learning the meaning of words is something that continues throughout life.

All reading skills are important. Comprehension skills, however, are the best predictor of long-term reading achievement and success.



Decoding Skills

Notice print

Know letter names and sounds

Hear the sounds that make up words

Usually learned by 3rd grade

Adult

High School

3rd Grade

Kindergarten

Birth



Comprehension Skills

Understanding the meaning of words and print.

Learned throughout life