



# The Kindergarten Chronicles

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## Practical Strategies for Teaching Reading

Guided reading is a strategy that scaffolds students as they become independent readers. The teacher provides support for small groups of like readers as they learn to use various reading strategies (context clues, letter and sound relationships, word structure, etc.). Below is a list of practical strategies to help students gain the skills and knowledge required to read, regardless of their current instructional level.

### Small Group Lessons Ideas for Emergent Readers/Writers

- Read the "ABC" chart
- Sound Work
- Letter Work
- Students read a familiar book or teacher reads a new book to students
- Students choral read new book

- Reconstruct a cut-up sentence (see side box)
- Compose a sentence using interactive writing

### Small Group Lesson Ideas for Early Readers/Writers

- Students read a familiar book
- Teacher teaches or re-views a strategy: Start the tricky word, check in two places- picture and first letter, say more of the word, monitor for meaning, anchor on known word
- Introduce a new book
- Students read simultaneously but not chorally
- Retell the story using story retelling cards or story map
- Word Work with magnetic letters: diagraphs, blends, ed, ing, s, short vowel chunks -at, make and break high frequency

- words
- Return to text

### Small Group Lesson Ideas for Early Fluent Readers/ Writers

- Students read a familiar book
- Teacher teaches or re-views a strategy: Sound out a word in chunks, problem-solve a new word by analogy, begin to read in phrases, read the punctuation, skip-it strategy
- Introduce a new book
- Students read simultaneously- may stop and predict
- Talk about character development, make connections, write down new learning
- Word Work: vowel teams, simple CVCe patterns, rimes
- Return to text

## Southern Nevada Regional Professional Development Program

Volume 3, Issue 3

November/December 2007



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[www.rpdp.net](http://www.rpdp.net)

### Cut-up Sentence

#### Why?

- Reinforces concept of "word," and letter/sound knowledge.
- Teaches students to monitor using letter and word knowledge.
- Requires student to analyze word chunks.

#### How?

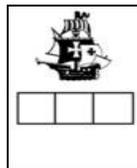
- Decide on a familiar sentence.
- Rewrite sentence on a sentence strip.
- Students practice reading the sentence.
- Students read each word as the teacher cuts each word apart.
- Teacher puts cut up sentence words out of order in a pocket chart.
- Students take turns reassembling the sentence and reading it.

## Ideas for Sound and Letter Work

**Sound Work** reinforces letter sounds.

- Sort picture cards into "pictures that sound like /b/ and pictures that do not.
- Sort picture cards into "pictures that sound like /b/, pictures that sound like /t/, and pictures that do not.
- Read corresponding sound book.

- Use Elkonin Boxes: Slowly say the name of a picture and practice pushing small counters or pennies into the boxes.
- Play bingo or lotto using picture cards.
- Add well practiced activities to the ABC literacy center for practice.



**Letter Work** reinforces the way a letter looks and links the letter name to its form.

- Sort letters for features: tunnels, straights, etc.
- Draw a circle in the middle of a magnetic surface; put a pile of letters in the circle. Ask students to "pull out all the b's."
- Give each student a mag-

netic board with four or five known or partially known letters in a line across the top. Ask students to pull down the letter and say its name and or say its sound.

b t m c