

IXL and the Science of Reading

Early literacy instruction grounded in research



IXL's ELA curriculum is designed using research-based best practices for effective early literacy instruction. Your readers will additionally be supported with instant feedback and professionally-recorded audio as they build knowledge and fluency at their own pace.

Here is how IXL supports each of the fundamental components of reading:

Phonological and phonemic awareness

IXL's foundational reading skills teach students how to **identify rhymes and syllables** as well as how to **recognize, segment, and blend sounds in words**.

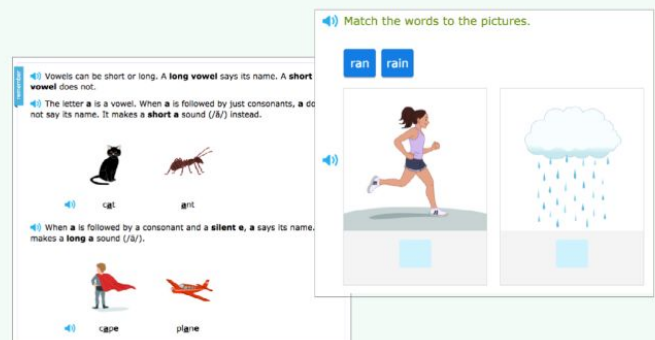
Students can work through problems independently using IXL's **professionally-recorded audio**, which allows them to hear the words and sounds they're asked to identify.



Systematic and structured phonics instruction

IXL's phonics skills follow a logical sequence from simple to more complex, allowing students to work through concepts in a systematic way. These skills cover everything from **consonant sounds and short vowels** to more advanced concepts like **diphthongs, R-controlled vowels, and multisyllabic words**.

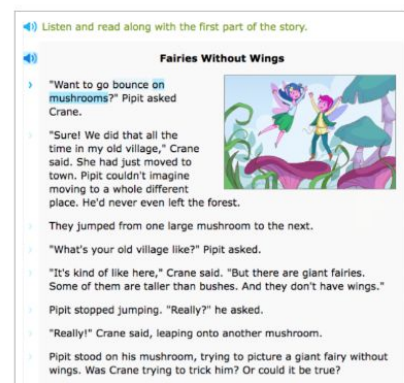
Our instant feedback and explanations provide students with **explicit instruction** on key concepts, helping them confidently sound out and spell new words.



Comprehension

IXL also gives students practice engaging with high-quality, complex texts in order to **build content knowledge and reading comprehension strategies**. Our skills feature literary and informational passages in a variety of genres and topics to spark students' curiosity and cultivate their love of reading.

All of these skills include audio and image support. In kindergarten and first grade, special **read-along audio support** highlights each word as it is being read, allowing students to follow along with the text as a professional voice artist models fluent reading.



Fluency


Through a variety of “read-alone” skills, featuring simple literary and informational texts, beginning readers can practice **reading independently** in order to build fluency. These texts offer audio support for the instructions, questions, and answers, but not for the main texts.

Our **sight word skills** also teach students to recognize high-frequency words quickly and effortlessly.

Read the first part of this passage about **blue whales**.

A blue whale is big. It is the biggest animal in the world.

When a blue whale is a new baby, it is as big as a car. When it is older, it is even bigger. It is as long as two school buses put together.



Complete the sentence.

A baby blue whale is as big as _____.

an adult whale two buses a car

Read the first part of the story.


Ice Skating Day

Behind the barn, there was a lake. Nate the duck ran to look at it.

"Yay! The water is all ice," he said. "Can I go ice skating?" he asked his mother.

Mother tested the ice. It was hard and safe. Nate could skate!

Nate put on his skates. He skated from one side of the ice to the other. He went very fast.



How does Nate know he can skate on the lake?

The ice is hard and safe.

He just got new skates.

The sun is very bright.





Vocabulary

IXL’s vocabulary skills teach students **key word-learning strategies**, like using word parts or context clues to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words, that help them build grade-appropriate vocabulary and bolster their reading comprehension.

Match the sentences to the pictures.

The **train** is long. I **train** my dog.

An end-to-end teaching and learning solution, IXL gives you all the tools and insights you need to maximize learning for every student.

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