



Development of Phonological Awareness

When learning how to read, children first need to understand that spoken language consists of sounds that can be broken down into smaller and smaller parts – into words, into the syllables within words and finally into the individual sounds in words. It is important to note that the levels of phonological awareness are not discrete stages and neither do they develop in a fixed order. For example, as children become aware that words can be segmented into syllables, they may also be developing an understanding of the initial sounds of words.

Children’s development of phonological awareness can be shown as follows:

