

# **Teacher Tip Sheets Green Series: Review**

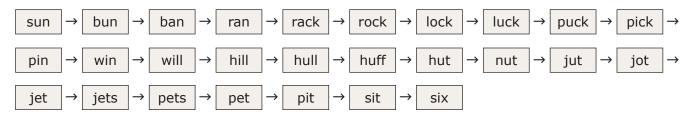
Sylla Sense

Green Circle — Illustrated: Get Up Cat

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, Elkonin boxes, etc.:
  - tap, got, lap, rim, fan, red, yet, pot, ten, and, gas, pin, tan, dock, rack, lick, peck, mock, bins, lips, mugs, kin, kids, vets, wed, will, wig, jam, job, less, cuff, sill, jazz, yes
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:



3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
six red hens	sat	in the tub
a rat and a dog	will huff	at a vet
Jeff and his pets	fell	on the big rock
ten packs	can pick	off the red deck

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., six red hens can just be hens).

#### **Comprehension Corner**

# Get Up Cat ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

#### Vocabulary Development

What does Ack mean? Why does Cat say this?

#### Inferencing

- Why are the animals all standing around Cat's bed on Page 15?
- Why do you think Cat's fur is standing up on the last page?

#### Making Connections

- Do you find it hard to get up in the morning?
- How do you know when it's time to get up?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- · What was your favourite part?

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# **Teacher Tip Sheets Green Series: Review**



Green Circle — Illustrated: Get Up Cat

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



# ☆ Introduced in Review

Review of all concepts

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

• note suffix <-s> as students encounter it and support where needed

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Green Circle - Illustrated: The Log



#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, Elkonin boxes, etc.:
  - thin, thick, bath, with, path, math, thud, moth, that, this, then, them, mock, hack, deck, pick, vet, web, pill, less, hiss, off, red, buzz, jet
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences. A good opportunity arises to address syntax if the resulting sentence is not grammatically correct (e.g., A dog and a moth <u>runs</u> on the path.) → A dog and a moth <u>ran</u> on the path.)

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
a dog and a moth	did math	at the vet
the thick fog	sat	to the thin log
Seth and his duck	will buzz	in a hot bath
this red mat	runs	on the path

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., a dog and a moth can just be a moth).

### **Comprehension Corner**

# The Log ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

# Vocabulary Development

The animals say, "Ack!" when the log breaks.
 What do you think this means?

#### Inferencing

- Why do you think the author chose to use an ellipsis in this text?
- What do you think caused the log to break?

#### Making Connections

- Have you ever balanced on something thin like a log?
- Have you ever fallen into water unexpectedly?
   Was it fun, or scary?

# Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?

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Green Circle - Illustrated: The Log

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



# ☆ Introduced in Step 1

consonant digraph /th/ unvoiced (e.g., "thin"), and /TH/ voiced (e.g., "this" in addition to "the")

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- has a "voiced" phoneme (e.g., this) and an "unvoiced" phoneme (e.g., think)
- the mouth position for both phonemes is the same, and distinct (tongue between teeth)
- voiced has already been introduced in the context of the, but additional words are included in this book

# Punctuation/Text Features — Tips and Activities to Try



# ☆ Introduced in Step 1

ellipsis

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

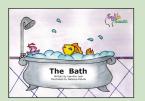
- an **ellipsis** is a punctuation mark comprised of three dots
- an ellipsis can represent a dramatic pause, or hesitation
- in "The Log," the ellipsis provides an opportunity for students to make inferences

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

### **Key Concepts to Understand**

note suffix <-s> as students encounter it and support where needed

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Green Circle — Illustrated: The Bath

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - ship, shops, shut, shun, shed, shin, shells, shock, shack, wish, bash, hush, mesh, lash, lush, fish, dish, cash, gush, this, that, thin, thick, them, jugs
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences. A good opportunity arises to address syntax if the resulting sentence is not grammatically correct (e.g., Shad and Bill shuts the lid on the shell. → Shad and Bill shut the lid on the shell.)

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
a red ship	shuts the lid	on the shell
this sad fish	had a big shock	to his shed
Shad and Bill	can shop	at the shack
his wish	will dash	in a big dish

You can differentiate for students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., a red ship can just be a ship).

## **Comprehension Corner**

### The Bath ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

## Vocabulary Development

- What is a pal?
- Can you think of another word for pal?

#### Inferencing

- Why do you think the animals encouraged Cat to join them in the bath?
- Why do you think Cat is so shocked?

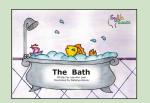
#### Making Connections

- Have you ever gotten wet when you didn't plan to?
   How did you feel?
- Have you ever given a pet a bath? If so, tell us about your experience.

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?

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Green Circle - Illustrated: The Bath

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**

# ☆ Introduced in Step 2

consonant digraph <sh>/sh/ (e.g., "ship")

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- review concept of digraph (a grapheme comprised of two letters representing one phoneme)
- digraph <sh> can be found in the initial, medial or final position in a word

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

• note suffix <-s> as students encounter it and support where needed

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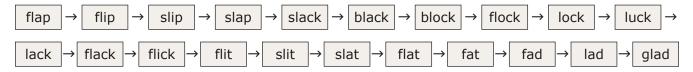


Green Circle — Illustrated: The Hot Sun Green Circle — Photo: Fat Cat

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

## Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - plan, blip, slim, glad, flop, glass, black, flat, swim, flick, swell, block, flack, swam, flap, plum, blob, flip, slip, slop, sled, slid, glop
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:



3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
a glad sloth	can flop	in the lip gloss
Jan's slim glass	plops	on the flat path
the black block	slid	in the slush
Pat's plum	will flip	at the black well

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., on the flat path can just be on the path).

### **Comprehension Corner**

### The Hot Sun ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

#### Vocabulary Development

- What does it mean to be glad?
- Can you think of another word for glad?

#### Inferencing

- Why do you think Cat does not want to jump in the pond?
- Why do you think Cat is glad at the end of the story?

#### Making Connections

- Do you like to go swimming? Why or why not?
- What sorts of things do you like to do when it is hot?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?

#### Continued on next page.

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Green Circle — Illustrated: The Hot Sun Green Circle — Photo: Fat Cat

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Comprehension Corner (Cont.)**

#### Fat Cat ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

### Vocabulary Development

- Review the concept of taking a nap.
- How is a *nap* different from going to sleep at night?

#### Inferencing

- Why do you think Fat Cat naps in so many places?
- Why do you think Dad is happy that Fat Cat is napping on him?

### Making Connections

Do you ever take naps? Do you like napping? Explain why or why not.

# Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?

# Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try



### ☆ Introduced in Step 3a

initial consonant clusters with continuous sound as second phoneme (e.g., <pl>)

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- consonant clusters are two or more adjacent consonant letters, each representing their own phoneme (often referred to as a "blend")
- it is easier to isolate phonemes when both consonants have a continuous sound within the cluster (e.g., <sw>, <sl>)



Tip: Consider using Elkonin boxes when introducing consonant clusters, as they are difficult for students to isolate. Start with consonant clusters that have continuous sounds. When working with words that have affixes, only include a box for each phoneme in the base (e.g., use c-a-t and not c-a-t-s). Affixes should not be included in the Elkonin box. It is important that suffixes are understood as a unit of meaning and not sounded out.

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Green Circle - Illustrated: The Hot Sun Green Circle — Photo: Fat Cat

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try



## ☆ Introduced in Step 3a

suffix <-s> as possessive

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- suffix <-s> can indicate possessive
- suffix <-s> as a possessive always follows a noun (e.g., Mary's truck, the dog's bowl)
- suffix <-s> as a possessive usually follows an apostrophe

# Punctuation/Text Features — Tips and Activities to Try



# ☆ Introduced in Step 3a

apostrophe for possession

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- an apostrophe is a punctuation mark
- one of the uses for an apostrophe <s> is to indicate possession (e.g., Dad's truck)

Page 3 of 3 July 2025 © SyllaSense Inc. Green Series: Step 3a





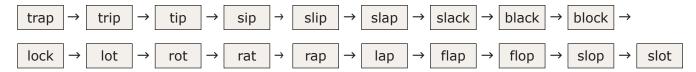


Green Circle — Illustrated: Dad's Truck Green Circle — Photo: Red Dog

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - plan, trip, slim, trap, flop, grass, black, glad, trick, grill, smell, snap, block, flick, brim, drip, trap, trim, prop, flap, snack, sniff, drum, drop, flip, snip, track, truck
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:



3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences. A good opportunity arises to address syntax if the resulting sentence is not grammatically correct (e.g., *Trin and Jazz drops the block on the grass.* → *Trin and Jazz drop the block on the grass.*)

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
Trin and Jazz	can snap the trap	on the grass
the slim trap	drops the block	in his pack of snacks
a big drop	will trick his dad	on the back of the truck
Dad's black grill	trips	at the track

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., can snap the trap can just be can snap).

# **Comprehension Corner**

#### Dad's Truck ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

# Vocabulary Development

- What does it mean to be cross?
- Can you think of another word for cross?

#### Inferencing

- Why do you think Ben and his pets sneak into the back of the truck?
- Why do you think Dad was cross?

# Continued on next page.

## Making Connections

- Have you ever been left behind? How did it make you feel?
- Tell us about something you like to do with your family.

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- · What was your favourite part?

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Green Circle — Illustrated: Dad's Truck Green Circle - Photo: Red Dog

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Comprehension Corner (Cont.)**

#### Red Dog ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

### Vocabulary Development

- What is a track?
- Can you think of another word for track?

#### Inferencing

Why do you think Red Dog likes to go on trips with Dad?

### Making Connections

- Have you ever gone on a trip? Where did you go?
- What do you like to do for fun with your family?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

Which page was your favourite in the book? Explain why you enjoyed it.

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



### ☆ Introduced in Step 3b

initial consonant clusters with continuous sound as second phoneme (e.g., , <sn>)

# Key Concepts to Understand

- consonant clusters are two or more adjacent consonant letters, each representing their own phoneme (often referred to as a "blend")
- it is easier to isolate phonemes when both consonants have a continuous sound within the cluster (e.g., <sw>, <sl>)
- when consonant clusters are found at the end of a base it is common for students to omit the first phoneme in the cluster



Note: Spelling words can be challenging for students. The mouth formation for /tr/ is very similar to /ch/, so students often write <chr> instead of . Explain that, although these words may sound and feel like /ch/ combined with /r/ when we are saying them, we consistently use to spell them. When <chr> is spelled in English, it is pronounced /kr/ (e.g., chrome). It is important to practice a lot of words that start with . Some students also find <dr> words challenging, and perceive them as /j/. Extra practice with these words is beneficial as well.

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Green Circle - Illustrated: Dad's Truck Green Circle — Photo: Red Dog

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

note suffix <-s> as students encounter it and support where needed

# **High-Frequency Words — Tips and Activities to Try**



# ☆ Introduced in Step 3b

"of"

### **Key Concepts to Understand**

- in Old English, of and off were the same word
- of is a function word, and became shorter (function words are written with as few letters as possible)
- <o> is pronounced as a schwa in of function words are not stressed
- /v/ represented by <f> /v/ and /f/ are voiced and unvoiced pairs (mouth formation is the same)

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Green Circle — Illustrated: Red Dog in the Mud Green Circle — Photo: Kids Can

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - chip, chess, chat, chick, check, chill, much, such, chop, chap, scrub, scram, scrap, scruff, splash, split, press, trap, trick, flip, snap, snack, chips, chicks, scraps
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences. A good opportunity arises to address syntax if the resulting sentence is not grammatically correct (e.g., Chad and his dog scrubs in the bath. → Chad and his dog scrub in the bath.)

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
six chicks	got such a chill	with the scraps
his big chin	scrubs	in the bath
Chad and his dog	can split	on the track
the big splash	will chat	in the muck

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., *Chad and his dog* can just be *Chad*).

### **Comprehension Corner**

# Red Dog in the Mud ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

#### Vocabulary Development

Continued on next page.

- · What does it mean to chill?
- Can you think of another word for scrub?

#### Inferencing

Why do you think Red Dog jumped in the mud?

#### Making Connections

- How do you cool yourself down when you are hot?
- Have you ever made a big mess in your house?
   Tell us about what happened.

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Retell the story. What was your favourite part?
- What is the problem in this story? How is the problem solved?

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Green Circle — Illustrated: Red Dog in the Mud Green Circle — Photo: Kids Can

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Comprehension Corner (Cont.)**

### Kids Can ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

### Vocabulary Development

- What is a chick?
- Can you think of another name for baby animals?

#### Inferencing

- Why do you think the author called this book "Kids Can"?
- Do you think "Kids Can" is a good title?

#### **Making Connections**

- Do you ever help with the cooking? What is your favourite meal?
- What do you like to do for fun with your family?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

Which page was your favourite in the book?
 Explain why you enjoyed it.

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**

# ☆ Introduced in Step 4

consonant digraph <ch>/ch/ (e.g., "chip")

#### • 3 consonant cluster (e.g., <spl>, <scr>)

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- review concept of digraph (a grapheme comprised of two letters representing one phoneme)
- digraph <ch> can be found in initial, medial, and final position
- consonant clusters are two or more adjacent consonant letters, each representing their own phoneme (often referred to as a "blend")
- consonant clusters with three consonants can be challenging for students using Elkonin boxes can help students isolate the phonemes in these clusters it is very important for students to notice what is happening in their mouths when they pronounce the phonemes (e.g., "I need to close my lips after the /s/ in split to form the /p/.")

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Green Circle — Illustrated: Red Dog in the Mud Green Circle — Photo: Kids Can

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Orthographic Conventions/Patterns and Generalizations — Tips and Activities to Try

# ☆ Introduced in Step 4

unconventional spelling of "much" and "such"

## **Key Concepts to Understand**

- much, such (and which) are high frequency words
   that students need to be familiar with
- much, such (and which) do not follow the <-tch>
   spelling convention (use <-tch> to represent /ch/
   after a single short vowel, final to base) because
   they are function words and therefore written with
   as few letters as possible
- the <-tch> pattern is introduced later in the series

   depending on the age of your students, it might
   be worth pointing out to them that, although
   much and such are spelled as they sound, their
   spelling is unconventional

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

### **Key Concepts to Understand**

note suffix <-s> as students encounter it and support where needed

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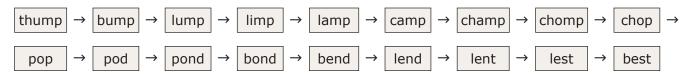


Green Circle — Illustrated: The Sled Green Circle — Photo: Frog at the Pond

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - went, fast, drift, bump, help, helping, thump, thumping, pond, ponds, branch, soft, bask, basking, next, bend, bending, rest, resting, check, checking, chill, chilling, splash
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:



3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
the champ	was bending	at the pond
a nest	hit a soft bump	on the sled
his hand	was drifting fast	off the ramp
Kip's best pig	went rushing	on a branch

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., was drifting fast can just be was drifting).

## **Comprehension Corner**

### The Sled ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

#### Vocabulary Development

What does drifting mean? What was drifting?

#### Inferencing

- · Why did Dog have a big grin?
- Why was Dog not checking the path?

#### Making Connections

· Whose sled was it?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- · Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?







Green Circle - Illustrated: The Sled Green Circle - Photo: Frog at the Pond

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Comprehension Corner (Cont.)**

## Frog at the Pond ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

### Vocabulary Development

What does basking mean?

#### Inferencing

Do you think Frog enjoyed falling off the thin branch?

#### **Making Connections**

Does Frog look like any other frog you have seen before?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



# ☆ Introduced in Step 5

final consonant clusters (e.g., <mp>, <st>, <nd> in addition to "and")

## **Key Concepts to Understand**

- consonant clusters are two or more adjacent consonant letters, each representing their own phoneme (often referred to as a "blend")
- when consonant clusters are found at the end of a base it is common for students to omit the first phoneme in the cluster (e.g., a student might read or spell wet, instead of went)



Note: It is important to ask students to cover the suffix with their finger in order to focus on the base when consonant clusters are in final position and have an attached suffix. When reading drifting, ask students to cover the <-ing> and read drift, ask them to release their finger and reread the entire word with the <-ing> — drifting.

Refer to the Morphology Background Information Sheets







Green Circle - Illustrated: The Sled Green Circle - Photo: Frog at the Pond

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try



### ☆ Introduced in Step 5

suffix <-ing> as present participle

#### **Key Concepts to Understand**

- a base is a structural element that forms the foundation of a written word (the term "root" refers to the etymological/historical source of the base)
- a free base is a base that functions independently/forms a complete English word on its own
- a suffix is a morpheme attached after a base - often changes grammatical structure or the "sense" of a word
- suffix <-ing> as a present participle (the form of a verb ending in <-ing>)

# **High-Frequency Words — Tips and Activities to Try**



### ☆ Introduced in Step 5

"was"

### **Key Concepts to Understand**

- historically, was was likely pronounced with a short <a> over the years, the /a/ has become increasingly reduced (schwa), as was is a function word
- the grapheme <s> can represent /s/ (unvoiced, as in sit), and /z/ (voiced, as in has)



Note: remember to say, "<s> can be pronounced as /s/," rather than "<s> says /s/"





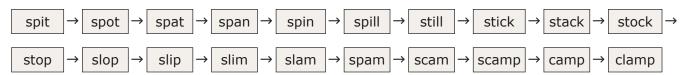


Green Circle — Illustrated: Fat Cat's Lunch Green Circle — Photo: The Trip

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - steps, lunch, lost, grass, check, fish, sulks, glad, last, still, stop, fast, spots, grab, crab, mask, swim, trip, sand, black, blocking, went, stack, spill, stick, slick
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:



3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences. A good opportunity arises to address syntax if the resulting sentence is not grammatically correct (e.g., Sam and Spot is still jumping to the bus stop. → Sam and Spot are still jumping to the bus stop.)

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
the stem	was stacking blocks	on the back steps
his stick	stops and sulks	at the pond
Sam and Spot	is still jumping	to the bus stop
Stan's mask	had spots	on his hand

You can differentiate for students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., *Sam and Spot* can just be *Spot*).

## **Comprehension Corner**

# Fat Cat's Lunch ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

#### Vocabulary Development

- Where did Fat Cat look for his lunch?
- Why was Fat Cat mad?

#### Inferencing

 What did Fat Cat want to eat when he couldn't find his lunch?

#### Making Connections

Have you ever lost your lunch?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?

Continued on next page.







Green Circle - Illustrated: Fat Cat's Lunch Green Circle — Photo: The Trip

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Comprehension Corner (Cont.)**

## The Trip ( ☐ Green Circle — Photo)

### Vocabulary Development

Describe the zip. What is a zip line? Have you ever been on one?

#### Inferencing

Why did Mom wear a hat?

#### Making Connections

What do you think Zack saw in the water?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

- Can you retell the story?
- What was your favourite part?

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**

## ☆ Introduced in Step 6

initial consonant clusters with stop sound as second phoneme (e.g., <st>, <sp>)

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- it is easier to isolate phonemes when both consonants have a continuous sound within the cluster (e.g., <sn>, <sl>) — be sure to practice this before moving on to consonant clusters with stop sounds
- consonant clusters are two or more adjacent consonant letters, each representing their own phoneme



Note: Consider using Elkonin boxes when introducing consonant clusters, as they are difficult for students to isolate. Start with consonant clusters that have continuous sounds. When working with words that have affixes, only include a box for each phoneme in the base (e.g., use c-a-t and not c-a-t-s). Affixes should not be included in the Elkonin box. It is important that suffixes are understood as a unit of meaning and not sounded out.

Refer to the Morphology Background Information Sheets







Green Circle — Illustrated: Fat Cat's Lunch Green Circle — Photo: The Trip

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Orthographic Conventions/Patterns and Generalizations — Tips and Activities to Try

## **Key Concepts to Understand**

 some students may pronounce Mom as "Mum", and others may pronounce it as "Mom" — support if needed

# **Punctuation/Text Features — Tips and Activities to Try**

# ☆ Introduced in Step 6

· capitalization for emphasis

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

• there are many ways to emphasize capitalized words (e.g., tone, stress, volume, intonation)







Green Circle — Illustrated: Spot, the Dog Green Circle — Photo: Cam

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

## Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing



Note: Review the Morphology Section before trying these words and phrases with students

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - jumped, yelled, rested, landed, picked, stacked, asked, helped, chilled, planted, tested, spelled, handed, licked, spilled, locked, basked, ranted
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
his soft dog	stacked the blocks	on his desk
Stan and his pal	rested	off the path
Sam and Chad	asked Dad	at the hill
the fun kid	ran and jumped	in the sun

You can differentiate for students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., ran and jumped can just be ran).

### **Comprehension Corner**

#### Spot, the Dog ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

#### Vocabulary Development

 Where were all the places Spot tried to join Sam and Chad?

#### Inferencing

 Do you think Spot should be allowed to nap on the bed?

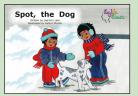
#### Continued on next page.

#### **Making Connections**

Have you ever been left out of an activity?

### Retelling/Summarizing

- How did the story end?
- Retell this story. What was your favourite part?







Green Circle — Illustrated: Spot, the Dog Green Circle - Photo: Cam

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Comprehension Corner (Cont.)**

## Cam ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

#### Vocabulary Development

• What does chilling mean? Can you think of other words that have a similar meaning?

#### Inferencing

What do you think Cam and the dog did to have so much fun?

#### Making Connections

- Would you want to go on a dogsled ride? Why or why not?
- Have you ever made something out of blocks? Describe what you built.

## Retelling/Summarizing

What was your favourite part of the story? Explain why.

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



## ☆ Introduced in Step 7

<-ed>/t/ (e.g., "jumped"), /d/ (e.g., "called"), and /əd/ (e.g., "landed")

## **Key Concepts to Understand**

suffix <-ed> can be pronounced three ways (e.g., jumped  $\rightarrow$  /t/, yelled  $\rightarrow$  /d/, rested  $\rightarrow$  /əd/)



Refer to the Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence Background Information Sheets for more information on schwa.

it is important to focus on the concept of a suffix and how it changes the meaning, rather than simply focusing on the three sounds that <-ed> can represent



It is key for students to understand the structure of words (prefix/base/suffix) and not sound out these affixes.







Green Circle — Illustrated: Spot, the Dog Green Circle — Photo: Cam

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Orthographic Conventions/Patterns and Generalizations — Tips and Activities to Try



• concept of schwa (/ə/) in unstressed syllables

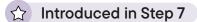
# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- polysyllabic words often have a syllable that holds the primary stress
- a vowel sound in an unstressed syllable/word is called a schwa
- a schwa is a non-distinct vowel sound that does not sound like any of the main vowels in isolation



Refer to the **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence Background Information Sheets** for more information on schwa

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try



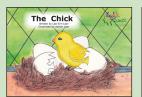
• suffix <-ed> as past tense of a verb

### **Key Concepts to Understand**

- written and spoken words in English are formed by combining structural units called morphemes
- morphemes are meaning units, contributing to the overall "sense" of a word or having a grammatical function
- <-ed> is often used as the past tense of a verb

#### **Morphology Activity**

• Ask students to jump and ask them what they did. "We jumped!" Ask what suffix was attached to the base, jump. Once they identify the suffix <-ed>, ask how <-ed> was pronounced. In the large group, repeat with yelled and landed. Provide each pair of students with an <-ed> morpheme/suffix card. Have one partner do an action (e.g., look) and call out the base (e.g., look) and the other will hold up the <-ed> and say the new word (e.g. looked). Students may come up with words such as felled and runned. Simply correct them because these "strong verbs" are not necessary to teach at this time.







Green Circle — Illustrated: The Chick Green Circle — Photo: In the Bush

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - · chick, ranch, crack, nest, egg, fluff, put, push, split, batch, grasp, bush, hitch, witch, botch, hutch, hatch
- 2 Here are two word chains you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
the mad witch	scratched a lot	at the pitch
Patch	fetched the stick	in the bush
its mom	was sitting	on its back
a big rabbit	hopped	to the nest

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., scratched a lot can just be scratched).

# **Comprehension Corner**

# The Chick ( ○ Green Circle — Illustrated)

#### Vocabulary Development

- What did the chick have to do to get out of the egg?
- What does it mean to fetch something?

#### Inferencing

What do you think will happen next in the story?

#### **Making Connections**

Have you ever seen a real chick? Where?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

What was your favourite part of the story?
 Explain why.







Green Circle - Illustrated: The Chick Green Circle - Photo: In the Bush

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Comprehension Corner (Cont.)**

### In the Bush ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

#### Vocabulary Development

What's another word for bush?

#### Inferencing

 Why do you think Kim and Jem stopped to put sticks and rocks in the nets?

#### Making Connections

- Have you ever seen a map? Where?
- Have you ever come across a fox in your neighbourhood?

### Retelling/Summarizing

What was your favourite part of the story? Explain why.

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**

### ☆ Introduced in Step 8

- consonant trigraph <-tch>/ch/ (e.g., hatch)
- <u>/oo/ (e.g., bush)

#### **Key Concepts to Understand**

- <-tch> is typically used directly after a single, short, vowel (see "Red Dog in the Mud"/ "Kids Can" for exception words)
- there are a small group of words where <u> represents /oo/ (e.g., put, push, pull, bush, bull)

#### **Word Sort**

Provide students with the following (unsorted) words:

/ŭ/	/00/	
sun, crunch, bunch, fun, jump, club, just, mush	put, push, pull, bush, bull, full	

The goal is to make students aware that there is another phoneme represented by <u>.







Green Circle — Illustrated: The Chick Green Circle — Photo: In the Bush

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

## Orthographic Conventions/Patterns and Generalizations — Tips and Activities to Try

# ☆ Introduced in Step 8

- use <-tch> for /ch/ at the end of a base after a single (short) vowel
- vc/cv words (e.g., "rabbit")

# Key Concepts to Understand

- <-tch> is typically used directly after a single, short, vowel
- a simple way to read multisyllabic bases with short vowel syllables → when reading rabbit, students identify
  the first CVC chunk and cover the rest of the word, read <rab>, release finger and read <bit>, reread entire
  word rabbit
- syllable division is not necessary to teach at this time for spelling purposes → at this point students should
  be confident in reading closed-syllable bases so reading words such as, rabbit and Jasmin, will not be
  difficult to decode once they find the first CVC chunk



Refer to the Orthographic Conventions Background Information Sheets for more information on syllables

# **Word Sort**

Provide students with the following (unsorted) words:

<ch></ch>	<-tch>	
bunch, branch, ranch, lunch, crunch, pinch, bench, march, inch, finch, hunch, munch	hatch, patch, pitch, ditch, stitch, fetch, stretch, itch, match, catch, witch, switch	

- 1 Ask students to sort the words based on the two categories. Have them investigate when <-tch> is used.
- Prompt: "Circle the grapheme that comes before the <-tch>."



some additional <-tch> activities can be found at: <a href="https://www.alongthelearningjourney.wordpress.com/">www.alongthelearningjourney.wordpress.com/</a> 2019/12/28/post-8-closed-syllable-spelling-patterns







Green Circle — Illustrated: The Chick Green Circle — Photo: In the Bush

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

# ☆ Introduced in Step 8

- suffix <-s> as possessive without apostrophe in "its"
- doubling rule

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- its, when possessive, does not have an apostrophe so as not to be confused with the contraction
   it's> → it is
- the doubling rule is not necessary to teach at this time for spelling purposes → at this point the students should be confident in reading closed syllables, so words such as grabbed and spotted will not be difficult to decode



Refer to the Orthographic Conventions Background Information Sheets for more information on the doubling convention



Sylla Sense

Green Circle — Photo: The Ducks

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - quack, quick, flung, long, quit, quill, fling, sing, rang, sang, wing, bring, sting, stung, swung, song, sung, singing, swinging, bringing
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
his strong wing	stung his back	in the duck's nest
Quinn	quacked	at the king's hill
the quick duckling	was ringing the bell	on a quilt
his long neck	sung a song	with a long string

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., was ringing the bell can just be was ringing).

#### **Comprehension Corner**

# The Ducks ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

#### Vocabulary Development

How did the ducklings get the nuts?

#### Inferencina

- Why do you think the children were feeding the ducks nuts instead of bread?
- Why do you think the ducklings swam off and hid at first?

#### **Making Connections**

Have you ever fed ducks?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

What was your favourite part of the story? Explain why.



Green Circle - Photo: The Ducks

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

## **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



# ☆ Introduced in Step 9a

ng>/ng/ (e.g., "long")

digraph <qu>/kw/ (e.g., "quick")

## **Key Concepts to Understand**

- <n>s (and <m>s) are difficult for students to isolate in words
- it is very effective to have students plug their noses while pronouncing /n/ in order to understand that <n>s are nasal phonemes
- students should have many opportunities to say words where <n> is in initial, medial and final position (while plugging and unplugging their noses) in order to recognize the sensation that producing nasal phonemes creates
- <q> will always be followed by a <u> in complete English words, therefore it is more efficient to teach <q> in the digraph <qu> and not in isolation

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

#### **Key Concepts to Understand**

note suffixes as students encounter them and support where needed

# Punctuation/Text Features — Tips and Activities to Try



# ☆ Introduced in Step 9a

quotation marks

#### **Key Concepts to Understand**

quotations mark the exact words that somebody says

# High-Frequency Words — Tips and Activities to Try



#### ☆ Introduced in Step 9a

"said"

#### **Key Concepts to Understand**

- it is important to explicitly teach that said is the past tense of say
- there are differing opinions among linguists as to the etymology of this word
- do not assume that <ai> is a digraph in the word said



Sylla Sense

Green Circle — Photo: The Chipmunk

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - watch, watching, watched, want, wanted, wanting, wad, thanks, think, shrink, drank, drink, pink, trunk, ink
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
the big fish tank	was quick to sink	on a trunk
the pink drink	stank	off the bunk
a wad of junk	wanted to shrink	in the rink
Hank	watched the chipmunk blink	at a bank

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., the big fish tank can just be the tank).

#### **Comprehension Corner**

## The Chipmunk ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

#### Vocabulary Development

What's another word for grin?

#### Inferencing

- Why do you think mom told Tess to "sit still"?
- · Where do you think the chipmunk took the nut?

#### Making Connections

Would you have been scared to feed the chipmunk as Tess did?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

• What was your favourite part of the story? Explain why.



Green Circle — Photo: The Chipmunk

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



# ☆ Introduced in Step 9b

<nk>/nk/ (e.g., "think")

## **Key Concepts to Understand**

- <n>s (and <m>s) are difficult for students to isolate in words
- it is very effective to have students plug their noses while pronouncing /n/ in order to understand that <n>s are nasal phonemes
- students should have many opportunities to say words where <n> is in initial, medial and final position (while plugging and unplugging their noses) in order to recognize the sensation that producing nasal phonemes creates
- the <a> when followed by a <w> is usually pronounced as /ŏ/
- when <wa> is followed by /g/ or /k/ (velar stop) the <a> represents a short sound /ŏ/

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

note suffixes as students encounter them and support where needed



Sylla Sense

Green Circle — Photo: The Bridge

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Words and Phrases for Reading and Writing

- 1 Here is a list of words that can be used for phonemic awareness activities, reading, dictation, game cards, etc.:
  - ball, call, fall, hall, stall, small, wall, smudge, wedge, nudge, badge, dredge, hedge, bridge, fridge
- 2 Here is a word chain you could complete with blending cards:

3 Here are phrases that can be used for reading and/or dictation practice. These phrases can be combined to create sentences:

Noun Phrases	Verb Phrases	Prepositional Phrases
Hank's small dog	wanted a ball	at the mall
the tall judge	was falling	on a ridge
a brick wall	can dodge	at the lodge
Madge	called	in the fridge

You can differentiate for your students by dropping some of the words in these phrases (e.g., the tall judge can just be the judge).

### **Comprehension Corner**

### The Bridge ( ○ Green Circle — Photo)

#### Vocabulary Development

- What did Tess see from the bridge?
- What is a ledge?

#### Inferencing

 How do you know that Mom was scared on the bridge? Who was not scared?

#### Making Connections

- Have you ever been on a swing bridge?
- Would you like to go on a swing bridge? Why, or why not?

#### Retelling/Summarizing

What was your favourite part of the story?
 Explain why.



Green Circle - Photo: The Bridge

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

## **Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence — Tips and Activities to Try**



## ☆ Introduced in Step 10

trigraph <-dge>/j/ (e.g., "bridge")

## **Key Concepts to Understand**

- <-dge> is used directly after a single, short, vowel to represent /j/
- <g> is often softened to /j/ when followed by an <e>, <i>, or <y> (this is more consistent when /j/ is at the end of a base), and is less reliable than the soft <c> convention
- the <a> when before an <I> is usually pronounced as /ŏ/ even when the <I> is not pronounced (e.g., walk, talk)

#### **Word Sort**

Provide students with the following (unsorted) words:

<j></j>	<-dge>		
jam, jug, jog, jot, jump,	edge, wedge, badge, lodge, dodge,		
junk, just, jinx, job, jest	smudge, bridge, fridge, ridge, fudge		

Ask students to sort these words based on the two categories. Have them investigate when <j> is used versus when <-dge> is used.



Prompt: "Circle the grapheme that comes before the <-dge>."

# Orthographic Conventions/Patterns and Generalizations — Tips and Activities to Try



#### ☆ Introduced in Step 10

- <al> (<a> as short /ŏ/ when followed by <l>, e.g., "tall")
- use <-dge> for /j/ at the end of a base after a single (short) vowel



Green Circle — Photo: The Bridge

#### IT IS ESSENTIAL TO PRE-TEACH THE CONCEPTS INTRODUCED IN EACH BOOK PRIOR TO READING!

# Morphology — Tips and Activities to Try

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

note suffixes as students encounter them and support where needed

# **High Frequency Words — Tips and Activities to Try**



### ☆ Introduced in Step 10

"they"

# **Key Concepts to Understand**

- they is best taught alongside the words them and their as they are all "people connected" and all share the <e> grapheme
- very few words ending in <ey> are pronounced as /ā/
- they has two graphemes: and <ey>

#### References

These sheets are being offered as a free download because the more we understand our language, the more powerful decodable books can be for our students. Each tip sheet provides Key Concepts to Understand and Tips and Activities for Grapheme/Phoneme Correspondence, Orthographic Conventions/Patterns and Generalizations, Morphology, and Phonetically Irregular Words. It is essential to pre-teach the concepts using this tip sheet prior to reading the book. There is nothing inherently decodable about a book. Decodability is a relationship between the student and the book. If the concepts in a book have been taught, the book is decodable.

The information for these sheets has been compiled from a wide variety of sources. Many thanks to those in the field who have researched, practiced, and shared their knowledge with educators. Please note: these sheets are based on our current understanding, both from our studies and from our personal experience. As we continue to learn, our understanding will evolve. If we reach a point where we feel these sheets need to be adjusted, we will do so and provide updated versions for free download

Here is a list of the resources we have used and courses/workshops we have completed:

Source	Details
<ul> <li>www.funlearning.ca</li> <li>O-G Fundamentals/O-G Associate Practitioner</li> <li>O-G practicum</li> <li>SWI Workshop</li> <li>Grammar Workshop</li> </ul>	Liisa is an OG Fellow and teacher trainer based in Toronto. I highly recommend her courses, and cannot thank her enough for getting me started on this journey! Liisa provides OG training with supervised practicums, as well as a range of general workshops.
<ul> <li>www.rebeccaloveless.com</li> <li>Teaching Real Script</li> <li>SWI for Early Readers</li> <li>Beyond the Intro</li> <li>The High Frequency Word Project - Rebecca Loveless</li> <li>&amp; Fiona Hamilton</li> </ul>	Rebecca is a Structured Word Inquiry Coach based in California. Her courses are practical, informative, and inspirational — a great way to see how morphology can be explored with young learners!
<ul> <li>www.learningaboutspelling.com</li> <li>Beneath the Surface of Words – Sue Hegland</li> </ul>	Sue Hegland is the author of "Beneath the Surface of Words", which is a fantastic resource that has significantly broadened my understanding of morphology. Her attached Youtube video is also very informative.
<ul> <li>www.tbox2.com</li> <li>Real Spelling Toolbox – Real Spelling and Pascal Mira</li> </ul>	This book is our go-to reference for Orthographic Phonology, Orthography and Morphology. We would highly recommend getting a lifetime subscription!
<ul><li>www.etymonline.com</li><li>Etymonline By Doug Harper</li></ul>	This is a free Online Etymology Dictionary that gives explanations of the history of words.
www.wordworkskingston.com/WordWorks/Home.html  • Peter Bowers	Peter Bowers is a Structured Word Inquiry Coach extraordinaire. His courses are practical, informative, and inspirational — a great way to see how morphology can be explored with young learners!