

## PHONEMIC AWARENESS: A KEY TO LEARNING SUCCESS

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A phonemic awareness is the capacity to clearly perceive and distinguish speech sounds, and it is required to understand what we read. In identifying phonemes, the sounds are not letters or collections of letters. They are word parts, not sounds. Words are made up of sounds known as 'phones'. The phones are members of the underlying category referred to as 'phoneme'. For example, the words cup and pup, bad and bed, and fan and fad each possess three phonemes. These examples show how a single phoneme, whether in the first, middle, or last position of a spoken word, can alter its meaning. When learners participate in phonemic awareness activities, they enhance their capacities to recognize phonemes.

Phonemic awareness is one of the most accurate ways for assessing a student's ability to read fluently. Phonemic awareness is the ability to clearly hear and determine speech sounds, and it is vital to our comprehension of what we read. As an outcome, in an elementary classroom, a phonemic awareness program is an important tool for supporting students in achieving their full educational potential. Phonemic awareness is a cognitive ability that entails three distinct levels:

A learner who has learned a language is already familiar with its phonemes. The second important phase of teaching phonemic awareness represents explicit, conscious awareness of these components.

A Phonemic Manipulation is when a child uses a phonemic awareness program to learn to read a language with letters and can separate, differ, and distinguish between phonemes and letter sequences. The terms 'fit' and 'fought' are examples of manipulation.

The final phoneme sounds the same in both words, but is represented by a single letter (t) in 'bit' 'fit' and an additional letter (ght) in 'bought' 'fought'.

Involves encouraging students' ability to perceive, understand, and differentiate sounds within a word. For success in word decoding, you must possess the following skills:

- Recognize the phonic structure of a spoken language.
- connect sounds to the appropriate printed representation.
- automatically recognize the printed phonemic code.
- handle written letters phonetically.
- monitor effectively from left to right.
- efficiently blend sound together
- Give focus on detail.

The Essential Skills phonemic awareness program imparts learners in K-3 grade how to isolate 38 different phoneme sounds in words, as well as phoneme addition, deletion, and substitution. These phonemic awareness exercises develop competencies gradually and sequentially, facilitating mastery at each stage. Students benefit from clear and precise pronunciation of letter sounds as they work through over 200 phonemic awareness activities.

### *References:*

What Is Phonemic Awareness and Why Is It Important? ([learningreadinghub.com](http://learningreadinghub.com))

12 Effective Strategies for Teaching Phonemic Awareness – My Teaching Cupboard

Phonemic Awareness: Unlocking the Key to Reading Success – Starfish Literacy

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