Decoding in Action

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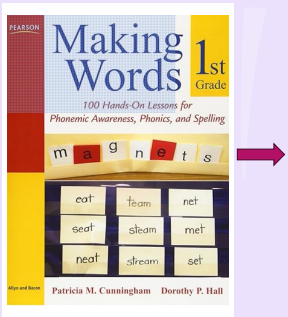
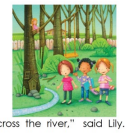


Let's Build a Fairy Bridge



"Our fairy cannot cross the river," said Lily.

"Our fairy needs a bridge to cross the river," said Kat.

"Yes, let's build a bridge!" said May

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Level G and Up

- Text to picture ratio greater
- Less picture support
- Requires better decoding skills
- Need more fluid decoding skills for unknown words
- But also, more **emotional confidence**
- More **persistence** to task

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Balance vs. Pendulum Swing

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Pendulum Swing

- Only decoding
- Give them good books and they will read
  - discourage decoding
  - just use meaning
- Scores tanked after pictures taken away
- Back to only decoding "Science of Reading"

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The **ART** of Balance

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The **ART** of Balance
Working with Words

- 1. **Great Decoding** – Making Words
  - all words in isolation
  - make words (closed set of letters)
  - sort words (beginning letters to rhymes)
  - transfer known to unknown (use "sat" to spell "splat")
  - Word Study – sight word instruction

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The **ART** of Balance

- 2. Decode unknown words with meaning'
  - Use story vocabulary – don't teach…decode
  - support the decoding with think out loud strategies
  - Use cloze sentences to assess decoding
  - Meaning + Decoding = Success

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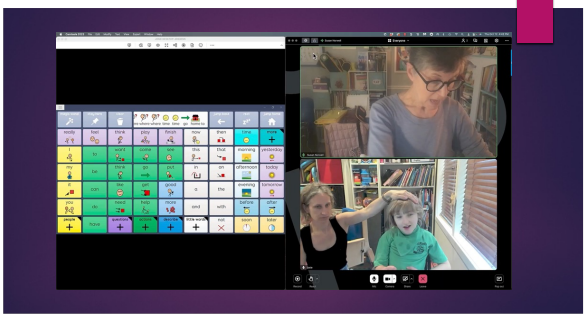

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The **ART** of Balance

- 3. Read decodable texts - link to Making Words lesson
  - Read a page at a time on "Voice Dream"
  - Highlight individual words – select for meaning
  - Read once through with playing with words
  - Read for meaning and fluency
  - Read multiple times independently
  - But continue reading leveled books
    - fiction and non-fiction

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Final thoughts…..

- "Balanced" wins the day
  - Should be fun
  - Should be effective
  - Lesson the anxiety
  - Good, systematic instruction
  - Lot of practice
  - All 4 blocks are essential

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Any Questions

- If you have any questions, please email
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If there are any subjects or ideas we have not covered, let us know. We are here to support.

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