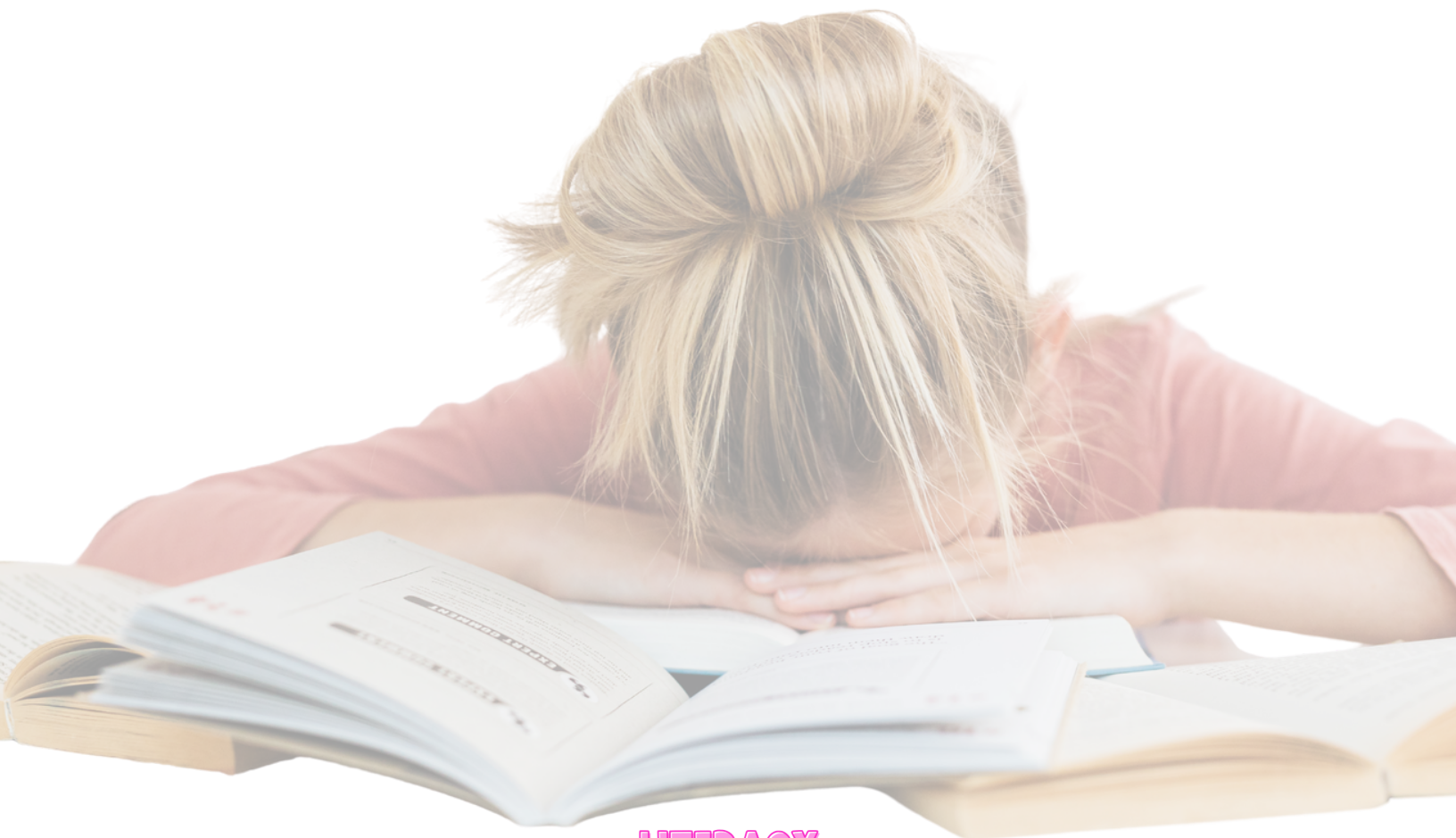


3 STEPS TO SUPPORTING STRUGGLING READERS

So that you can stop the frustration and see real reading growth!



SUPPORTING STRUGGLING READERS

A 3-Step Framework

If you've ever thought...

- "They can sound out words, *but do it on every word.*"
- "They just guess *instead of reading.*"
- "They try and try... *but still can't figure words out.*"
- "Nothing *I'm doing is working.*"

You're not alone.

Not all struggling readers struggle for the same reason—and that means they don't all need the same support.

IN THIS GUIDE...

there are **4 common types** of phonics-based struggling readers, but these are NOT the ONLY kinds of struggling readers.

Many children even exhibit characteristics of *multiple types*, but this is a starting place for **identifying the cause** of their difficulties so you can make the **right instructional decisions** to move them FORWARD!

LITERACY
with
CARLY



STEP 1: ASSESS

Before you can support a struggling reader, it's essential to understand exactly where they are in their reading journey. Assessment gives you the insight you need to target instruction effectively—saving time and helping students gain confidence faster.

FORMAL & INFORMAL

Use a combination of formal and informal assessments:

Informal assessments: *Observe your student reading aloud, note which words they struggle with, and record any patterns in their errors. Quick running records or anecdotal notes can reveal valuable clues.*

Formal assessments: *Use standardized tools to measure skills like phonemic awareness, decoding, fluency, and comprehension. These provide benchmarks and help track progress over time.*

ANALYZE MISCVES

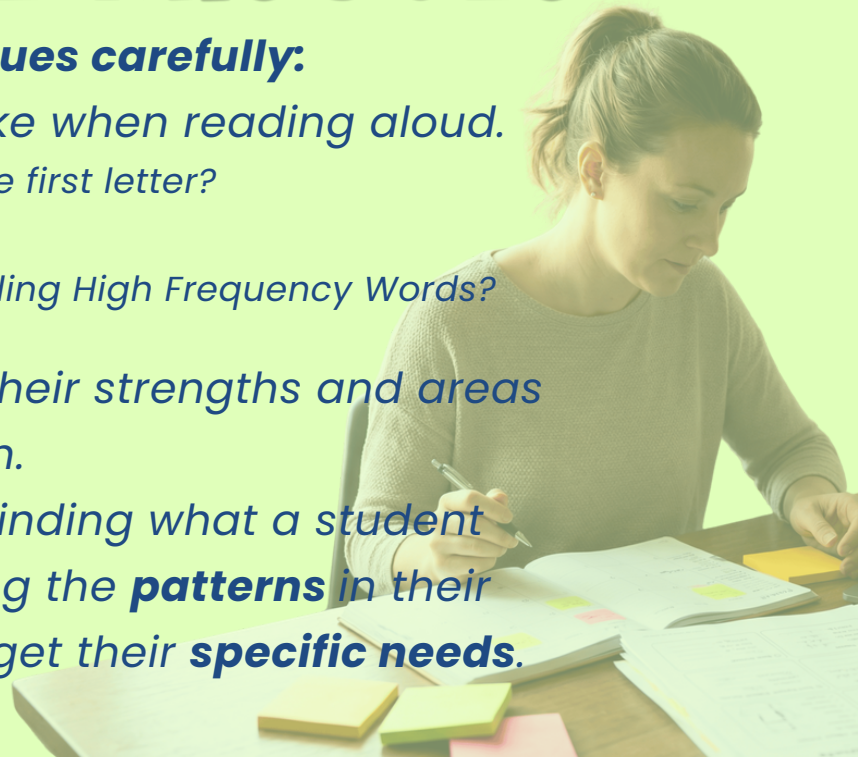
Analyze reading miscues carefully:

Look at the errors students make when reading aloud.

- Are they guessing words based on the first letter?
- Skipping parts of words?
- Sounding out too many words? Including High Frequency Words?

Each miscue tells a story about their strengths and areas for growth.

*Assessment is not just about finding what a student "can't do." It's about uncovering the **patterns** in their reading behavior so you can target their **specific needs**.*



STEP 2: IDENTIFY STRUGGLING READER

Common Phonics-Based Difficulties

THE OVERANALYZER



"They can sound it out...but that's all they do."

- ✓ Sounds out nearly every word
- ✓ Reads slowly & word-by-word
- ✓ Struggles with automaticity

What's really happening:
Over-relying on sounding it out strategy.

THE AVOIDER



"They don't even try to sound it out."

- ✓ Avoids sounding out words
- ✓ Waits for teacher to provide word
- ✓ Says "I don't know"

What's really happening:
Lacks tools to break apart words.

THE GUESSER



"They look at one letter and guess the rest."

- ✓ Looks at first letter only
- ✓ Guesses instead of decoding
- ✓ Skips or replaces words

What's really happening:
Using context instead of reading.

THE OVER-WORKER



"They try and try... but still can't figure it out."

- ✓ Tries to sound out words
- ✓ Gets stuck and frustrated
- ✓ Blends sounds incorrectly or slowly

What's really happening:
Missing key skills.

*Not an all-inclusive list-These are just some common types of phonics-based struggling readers.

STEP 3: TARGETED INSTRUCTION

Each type needs a **DIFFERENT APPROACH.**

THE OVERANALYZER



- *Build Automaticity*
- *Practice High Frequency Words*
- *Encourage Using Multiple Strategies*

THE AVOIDER



- *Stop Providing Words*
- *Prompt for Support*
- *Repetition of Strategy*

THE GUESSER



- *Activities that Draw Attention to All Parts of a Word*
- *Word Attack Skills*
- *Use Finger to Track*

THE OVER-WORKER



- *Strengthen Phonemic Awareness*
- *Lots of Exposure to Same Patterns*
- *Automaticity Drills*

Learn **EXACTLY** what to do
for each type of struggling reader
_____ in my **FULL course!** _____

