



UNLOCKING LITERACY: CHOOSING THE RIGHT APPROACH



VS

Traditional Phonics (Print to Speech)

- **Begins with print**, teaching letters and moves to sounds.
- **Mastery Approach:** Focuses on mastering one spelling pattern before moving on to the next.
- Teaches letters and sounds in isolation first
- **Uses decodable texts** for a longer period due to slower introduction of patterns.
- **Teaches phonics rules**, exceptions, syllable types, and syllable division.
- **High cognitive load** due to mastery-focused approach, extensive rules, and individual spelling patterns.

Structured Linguistic Literacy (Speech to Print)

- **Starts with sounds** and moves to print.
- **Pattern Approach:** Teaches multiple spellings simultaneously, allowing for faster progression.
- Teaches letters with their **sounds in context**, often in word building exercises.
- Faster introduction of patterns allows **quick transition to traditional texts**.
- **Emphasizes patterns over rules**, avoids complicated syllable distinctions.
- **Lower cognitive load** due to simultaneous introduction of patterns, allowing for faster progression.