



Early Reading Instruction: What Science Really Tells Us About How to Teach Reading

By Diane McGuinness

MIT Press Ltd. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Early Reading Instruction: What Science Really Tells Us About How to Teach Reading, Diane McGuinness, Early Reading Instruction is a comprehensive analysis of the research evidence from early writing systems to computer models of reading. In this book, Diane McGuinness provides an innovative solution to the "reading war" -- the century-old debate over the efficacy of phonics (sound-based) versus whole-word (meaning-based) methods. She has developed a prototype -- a set of elements that are critical to the success of a reading method. McGuinness shows that all writing systems, without exception, are based on a sound unit in the language. This fact, and other findings by paleographers, provides a platform for the prototype. Other elements of the prototype are based on modern research. For example, observational studies in the classroom show that time spent on three activities strongly predicts reading success: learning phoneme/symbol correspondences, practice at blending and segmenting phonemes in words, and copying/writing words, phrases, and sentences. Most so-called literacy activities have no effect, and some, like sight word memorization, have a strongly negative effect. The National Reading Panel (2000) summarized the research on reading methods after screening out thousands...



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