



Strong Start to reading™
"Making a difference in the life of a child"

Moving from the Known to the Unknown

Children learn best when they go from the known to the unknown. Starting with what they know will help to provide your child with some success before they are challenged to learn something new. When you add a new concept or skill, your child will be able to build on that success and have confidence to learn something that is new to them.

Let's see why...

- Beginning with what your child already knows gives them a feeling of accomplishment and they will be motivated to learn more.
- Your child will be able to connect new knowledge to previous learning.
- When you start with what your child knows they are encouraged to add to their learning as they develop more confidence in their skills.

Let's get started...

- Start with the letters, sounds or words your child knows and gradually add one or two new ones each day or each week. Can they identify the names or sounds of some of the letters of the alphabet, the ones in their names, for example? If so, start with those and add a couple of new ones as you go.
- Do they recognize a few words, such as their name, mom, dad, stop, for example? Start with those words they know automatically and add some new ones as you go.
- Let your child's ability guide you in deciding how many new letters, sounds or words to introduce.
- Reinforcing what they know and what they learn through repetition will help them to consolidate the learning.
- When moving from the known to the unknown, try to make connections to the prior learning so that your child can link the new information to what they already know.

Jayla

Luca

From knowing letters in their own name to knowing letters in their brother's name.

Help your child to grow in confidence as you start with what they know!