TriPoint
Autism & Literacy
EDUCATION SERVICES

# IS YOUR CHILD GETTING THE READING INSTRUCTION THEY NEED?

## A Parent's Checklist for Understanding Effective Reading Instruction

Learning to read takes more than exposure to books. Children benefit from clear, systematic instruction and opportunities to practice.

Use this checklist to understand your child's reading instruction and identify questions to discuss with their teacher.

Not sure about an item? That's a great place to start a conversation!

### SIX THINGS TO LOOK FOR

- ☐ **Sounds Come First**
  My child is learning to hear, identify, blend, and separate the sounds in spoken words.
- ☐ **Phonics Is Taught Explicitly**
  My child is taught how letters represent sounds and how to use those connections to read unfamiliar words.
- ☐ **Practice Matches Instruction**
  My child has opportunities to read words and texts that reinforce the phonics patterns they've learned.
- ☐ **Understanding Matters**
  My child is building vocabulary, listening comprehension, and an understanding of what they read.
- ☐ **Reading and Spelling Work Together**
  My child practices spelling and writing using the sound-letter patterns they're learning.
- ☐ **Progress Is Monitored**
  My child's reading development is checked regularly, and instruction is adjusted when additional support is needed.

### FIVE QUESTIONS TO ASK YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

1. How are phonics and spelling taught?
2. Does instruction follow a clear sequence of skills?
3. How often is my child's reading progress assessed?
4. What happens if my child isn't making expected progress?
5. How will we know whether additional support is working?

#### WHEN TO ASK FOR EXTRA SUPPORT

If your child consistently struggles to sound out words, reads very slowly, guesses unfamiliar words, or becomes frustrated during reading, it may be time to ask for additional support.

You don't need to wait until your child falls significantly behind to ask questions.

### SCAN TO EXPLORE OUR KNOWLEDGE LIBRARY

Looking for reliable information about reading instruction, dyslexia, autism, and educational support? Explore our growing collection of articles and resources for families and educators.

tripointeducation.ca/resources/

### QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S READING?

TriPoint offers dyslexia and literacy consultation and structured literacy intervention.

tripointeducation.ca/contact/