Difficulties with Language Comprehension

The Subskills of Language Comprehension

Background Knowledge

The Complexity of Comprehension

Vocabulary

Course 3: Supporting Language Comprehension

Comprehension is the result of many processes and subskills that must be automatized and integrated.

A robust vocabulary is highly correlated with positive literacy outcomes. Use high-level vocabulary words when teaching, and incorporate explicit instruction in vocabulary and morphology.

Some students, including students with Developmental Language Disorder and some Multilingual learners, will require additional practice opportunities to develop the subskills of language comprehension.

Executive functioning, working memory, and multiple cognitive processes factor in to comprehension.

Several resources are given to help develop background knowledge and support vocabulary acquisition.

Visit bit.ly/RIDEStructuredLiteracy for these resources and more.

As a school, consider how you can work together to create a knowledge-rich environment for students in all grades.

The Science of Reading and Structured Literacy

Rhode Island Department of Education