



BLAST

**Basic Literacy
Acquisition Skill
Time**

Reading Keys to Unlocking Words

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Break the words into chunks

- Blends, vowel or vowel combinations, endings



Sound the word out

- Read the whole word, not just the beginning and guess!



Flex! Try both or other possible sounds

- Try both long and short vowel sounds
- Vowel combinations
 - ea long (eagle), short e (bread), long a (great)
 - ow (snow), ow (cow)
 - oo (zoo), oo (book)
- Hard/soft sounds to consonants
 - c (cat/city), g (go/giant) and ch (child/machine)
- Silent letters
- Letter combinations



Read ahead

- Continue reading to the end of the sentence, does a word "pop" that might make sense. Go back and reread to ensure it makes sense.



Look at the pictures for clues



Backtrack and reread

- Go back to the beginning of the sentence, there may be clues leading up to what word would make sense.



Try a word, Does it make sense?

- Try the word and reread the sentence.



Trust yourself!



Wait 10 seconds before helping or blurting out the word!