

Decodable Readers

Decodable readers are specially constructed to allow students to practise their decoding skills. They are made up of words that students can decode and a small number of high frequency, irregular words that students have been taught. By allowing students to apply their letter-sound knowledge and blending skills to read words in connected text, decodable readers can greatly assist students improve their reading accuracy and fluency.

Regular practise reading decodable books, with words that students can successfully decode, can boost confidence, allow mastery of letter-sounds relationships and allow students to apply their emerging reading skills.

Decodable books gradually build up the number of sound/spelling combinations that are used in books as the series progresses. The first few books might only use a handful of sounds (for example /s/, /a/, /t/, /i/ and /m/) and then as the books progress they will introduce more sounds/spelling combinations until they the books are using different vowel spellings and a range of prefixes and suffixes.

Decodable books are written for students learning to read in the early years (such as the Dandelion Reader and Launcher series and the Little Learners Love Literacy books) or for older students who need more practice to develop decoding skills to learn to read (such as the Dandelion Catch-up Reader series).

SPELD NSW [sells a range](#) of decodable readers for students in [Kindergarten to Year 2](#) and also for [older students](#).

You can also borrow decodable readers from some local libraries and, if you are in NSW, from the [Jill Sherlock Memorial Library](#). SPELD NSW Members can also borrow decodable readers from the SPELD NSW Library.

We have set out below some of the free decodable readers / texts that you can access online:

- **SPELD SA** free phonic readers – SPELD SA has an excellent range of free phonic readers that can be downloaded from their website or read on an iPad – [here](#) and [here](#)
- **Phonic Books UK** have published some [free decodable readers](#) with their Moon Dog characters doing activities at home. There are also worksheets to use with each book.
- **Oxford University Press** at the [Oxford owl website](#) has a range of free decodable ebook readers.
- **Sounds Write** have published their [First Step Decodable Readers](#) as free e-books. These books are great for beginner readers.
- [Fun Phonics](#) free readers
- [Free Phonetic Readers](#)
- Decodable Readers by [Auburn University](#)
- Core Knowledge have free online decodable readers which can be accessed [here](#) and [here](#)

There are also a range of decodable readers available as apps including:

- [Little Learners Love Literacy](#) have a range of decodable readers through the iOS and google play app store.
- [TAP](#) (Teen and Adult Phonics Library) have a collection of decodable stories available as an iOS app appropriate for teens and adults who are developing their phonics decoding skills.

If you come across any other free decodable readers please email us at enquiries@speldnsw.org.au and we will add these resources to our collection.

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