LANGUAGE!®

The Comprehensive Literacy Curriculum

PROVEN TO CLOSE THE LITERACY ACHIEVEMENT GAP

Literacy intervention for grades 3–12

VOYAGER SOPRIS LEARNING®

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LANGUAGE! CHANGES LIVES ...

- Rapidly advances developing readers to **grade-level literacy**
- Fills gaps in literacy learning and ensures **strong foundational skills**
- Builds student experience with **literary and informational text**
- Prepares students for **literacy in content areas**
- Provides comprehensive results documentation—**proven to accelerate growth**
- Meets specific student needs with **multiple entry and exit points** and **ongoing differentiation**
- Teacher-directed, engaging activities to empower teachers to **deliver quality instruction**
- Incorporates Six Traits of Writing to help students build **sophisticated writing skills**

About the Author

Dr. Jane Fell Greene, an esteemed author and educator, is the mind behind the fourth edition of *LANGUAGE!*®. With a rich background in language arts and a passionate commitment to improving literacy, Dr. Greene has dedicated her career to developing educational materials that address the diverse needs of learners. Her innovative approach and practical solutions have not only enhanced the learning experiences of countless students but also provided invaluable resources for educators striving to make a difference.

Not only does *LANGUAGE!* have more than 30+ years of positive results, it earned a perfect score from the Florida Center for Reading Research, has been endorsed by CASE (the Council of Administrators of Special Education), and is referenced six times in the book *Overcoming Dyslexia* by Dr. Sally Shaywitz.

LANGUAGE! Overview

"Accelerate student growth in literacy foundations, reading, and writing!"

WHAT IS THE *LANGUAGE!* CURRICULUM?

LANGUAGE! is an intensive intervention for students in grades 3–12 who are substantially below grade-level expectations for literacy. With an explicit, systematic approach that is proven to accelerate the growth of striving readers and nonreaders, *LANGUAGE!* integrates instruction across key literacy strands—foundational skills, writing, vocabulary, fluency, grammar, comprehension, and spoken English.
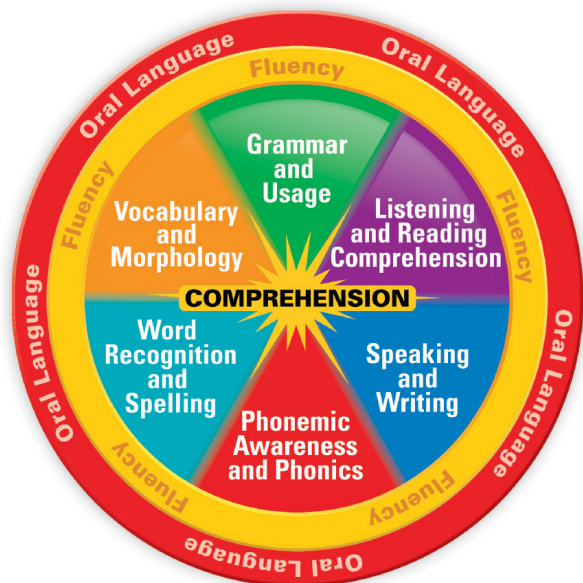
From Oral Fluency to Sound

STEP ☀ Speaking and Listening to the English Language
STEP 1 Phonemic Awareness and Phonics
STEP 2 Word Recognition and Spelling
STEP 3 Vocabulary and Morphology
STEP 4 Grammar and Usage
STEP 5 Listening and Reading Comprehension
STEP 6 Speaking and Writing

to Text in Every Lesson

Research shows

20% of elementary students nationwide have significant problems learning to read.

75% of all students behind in reading in third grade remain behind through high school.

Students with significant literacy gaps need more than a single focused intervention, they need intensive, comprehensive, scaffolded instruction focused on foundational and advanced word-recognition skills.

SCIENCE OF READING

Based on the science of reading and Structured Literacy, *LANGUAGE!* guides teachers and students through a scaffolded, explicit, systematic, and cumulative approach to learning.

- Phonemic awareness and phonics are taught by the teacher and help students learn the building blocks of language.
- Spelling rules and sound-to-letter correspondences are taught explicitly by the teacher.
- Engaging lessons includes learning word roots/origins with focus on pronunciation and content-based language to develop the meaning of words.
- Concepts are taught in a concrete manner by taking abstract grammatical terms and using "key questions" to discover parts of speech and to better understand how words function in sentences.
- Fluency development is built into every lesson with multiple opportunities to assess progress. Students chart fluency progress for words, phrases, and passages as they move through the curriculum.
- Through the daily six-step lesson and three levels of text students engage with reading and language in a scaffolded way to reach the ultimate goal of reading and writing comprehension.

KEY FEATURES

LANGUAGE! REACHES A BROAD RANGE OF STUDENTS WHO NEED INTERVENTION
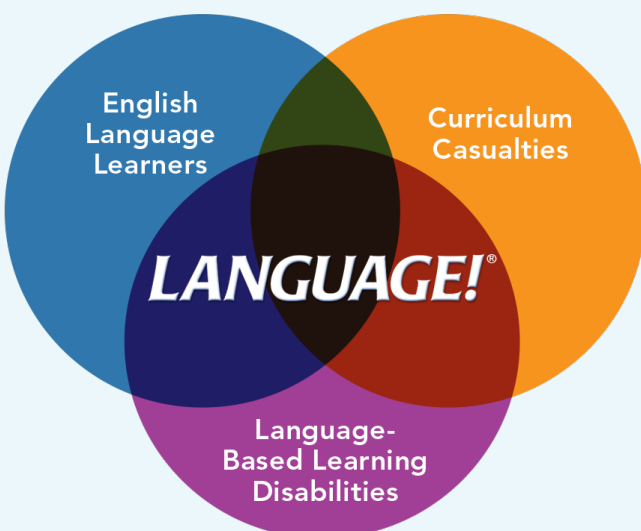
- Addresses Tier II, III, and IV interventions
- Made for ALL students—students who are general education, special education, students with dyslexia, ELLs, or students that require RtI or have IEPs
- Addresses the root of the problem by building solid foundational skills in all domains of literacy
- Has robust assessments with entry points at three different levels to place students where they need instruction
- All assessments are conducted on paper but can be monitored by the teacher online using VPORT® assessment system
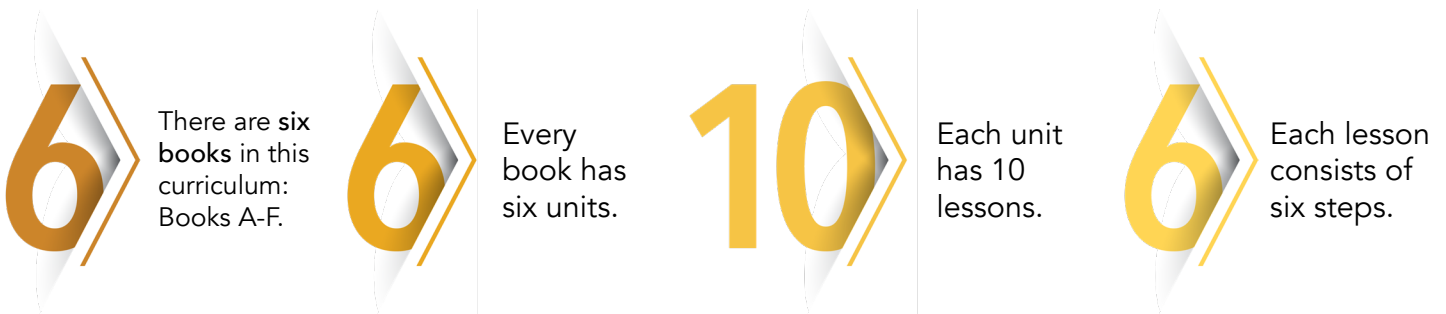
DATA-DRIVEN, DIFFERENTIATED LESSONS

- Helps students meet Academic Yearly Progress and increase growth
- Pacing schedule allows acceleration of student learning from pre-primer to grade 12 in reading
- Flexible implementation model customized to districts' pacing and acceleration needs
- Appropriate placement and data-driven instruction moves students through *LANGUAGE!* and back into their core curriculum
- Motivates students to interact with text by having multisensory activities
- Differentiation tools that provide more engaging opportunities to access reading and writing
- Supports students beyond the *LANGUAGE!* classroom

Program Structure

LANGUAGE! INTEGRATES INSTRUCTION ACROSS KEY LITERACY STRANDS AND TRANSLATES IT INTO CONSISTENT SIX-STEP LESSONS

TEACHER-GUIDED INSTRUCTION

What do lessons look like?

6 There are **six books** in this curriculum: Books A-F.

6 Every book has six units.

10 Each unit has 10 lessons.

6 Each lesson consists of six steps.

- This consistent structure allows you and your students to begin to anticipate what's coming next.
- Writing is embedded in the lesson
  - Moving students from sentence to paragraph to multiparagraph writing
  - Provides instruction on how to respond to prompts that support grade-level and content-area writing
  - Variety of genre exposures such as narrative, persuasive, expository, and literary analysis
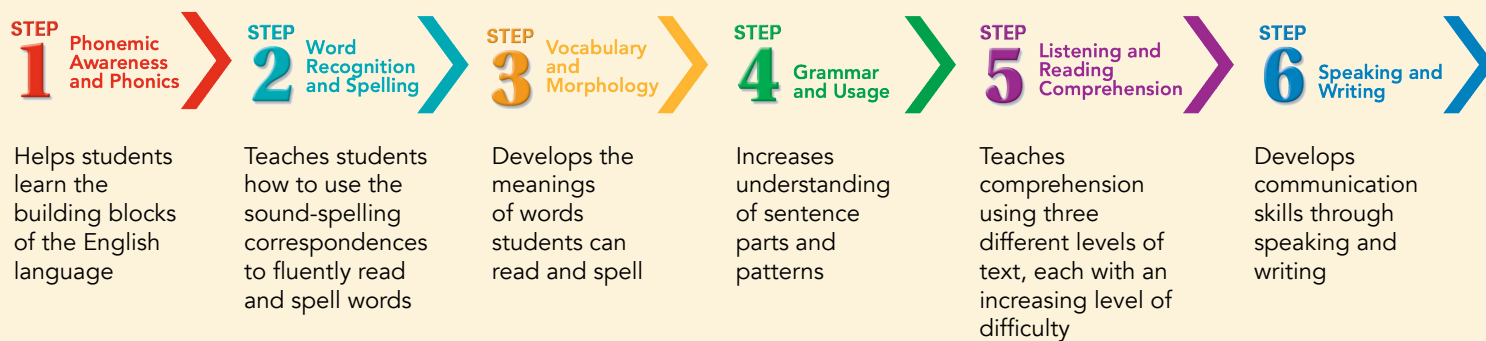
SIX STEPS FROM SOUND TO TEXT

LANGUAGE! takes students from oral fluency to sound to text in every lesson. These six steps provide the Scope and Sequence for the structure of *LANGUAGE!*

Students complete every step, every day making this an instructional design that answers the essential questions of what makes for good instruction:

- The Why—Helps teachers understand why they are teaching and lets students understand more of why they are learning the skills
- The What—Helps teachers understand what they are teaching and helps students understand what they are learning
- The How—How to adjust, how to differentiate, slow down, accelerate for individual students

LANGUAGE! CREATES MORE EFFECTIVE TEACHERS

STEP 1 Phonemic Awareness and Phonics

STEP 2 Word Recognition and Spelling

STEP 3 Vocabulary and Morphology

STEP 4 Grammar and Usage

STEP 5 Listening and Reading Comprehension

STEP 6 Speaking and Writing

Helps students learn the building blocks of the English language

Teaches students how to use the sound-spelling correspondences to fluently read and spell words

Develops the meanings of words students can read and spell

Increases understanding of sentence parts and patterns

Teaches comprehension using three different levels of text, each with an increasing level of difficulty

Develops communication skills through speaking and writing

INDIVIDUALIZED INSTRUCTION

GRADE-LEVEL READING AND CONTENT

LANGUAGE! contains a variety of genres and highly engaging texts which increase in difficulty within a unit. These texts are the key to accelerating reading achievement and comprehension by simultaneously filling in gaps in skills and exposing students to grade-level content and vocabulary.

- Decodable Text is text on the student's reading level
  - Phonics skills application
  - Builds fluency and practice decoding
  - Preteaches vocabulary and content
- Instructional Text is text used along with teacher guidance
  - Builds vocabulary and comprehension
  - Has a variety of text structures
  - Basis for writing in Step 6
- Challenging Text is text used for listening comprehension
  - Teacher uses as whole-group read-aloud
  - Expands knowledge, vocabulary, and comprehension
  - Exposure to a variety of literary genres and higher-order thinking skills

DIFFERENTIATED

Embedded within lessons is support for the teacher for enhancing and differentiating the learning experience.

- Customized teaching materials for students who need extra practice and reteaching
- Lesson focus and activities for linguistically diverse students
- Planning and pacing options for students who are ready to move on

LESSON PLANNING AND PACING

LANGUAGE! can be adjusted to fit into many different schedules. Lessons should be taught strategically but if time is limited can be distributed across several days.

- Flexible and will fit into many different schedule types
- 45-120 minutes of instruction time should be allotted
- With pacing of 90 minutes per day, teachers and students should finish two books within one school year

ENGLISH LEARNERS

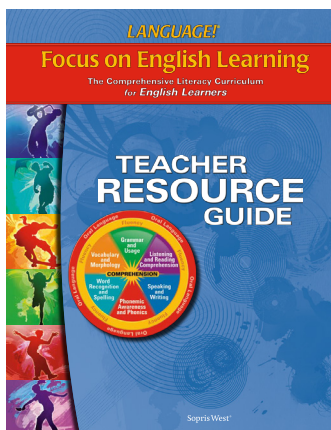## EMBEDDED INSTRUCTION AND SUPPORT FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

LANGUAGE! was designed to support all learners in the development of the English language. However, the following additions and programs are targeted to the specific needs of students who are at the beginning of their English language journey.

Focus on English Learning	*Everyday English PLUS*
This program offers quick lessons leading into the regular *LANGUAGE!* program that focuses on critical English language learning. Scaffolded to meet the needs of students, Speaking and Listening lessons are taught prior to each *LANGUAGE!* lesson in books A-C and are intended to provide an interactive lesson to introduce vocabulary.	Prepares English learners for entry into the *LANGUAGE!* program, is a full course and a standalone English language development program that is designed for students who are newcomers or students who have no English—very little English. This product can be bundled with *Focus on English Learning* and provides a solid foundation for success.

This is known as "Step 0" and includes:

- Frontloading lesson vocabulary
- Developing academic and base vocabulary
- Reviewing important grammatical points
- Providing practice in oral fluency skills

Prepares English learners for entry into the *LANGUAGE!* program, is a full course and a standalone English language development program that is designed for students who are newcomers or students who have no English—very little English. This product can be bundled with *Focus on English Learning* and provides a solid foundation for success.

- Nine units of study
- Targets English language newcomers in grades 6–12 with multimodal strategies
- Designed to enhance background and content knowledge while centering on everyday, real-life scenarios
- Full course designed to be taught for one semester (90 minutes/day) or can be spread across one school year (45 minutes/day)

Assessments

Placement	Baseline Assessment	Ongoing Assessment	Summative Assessment	Assessment System (VPORT)
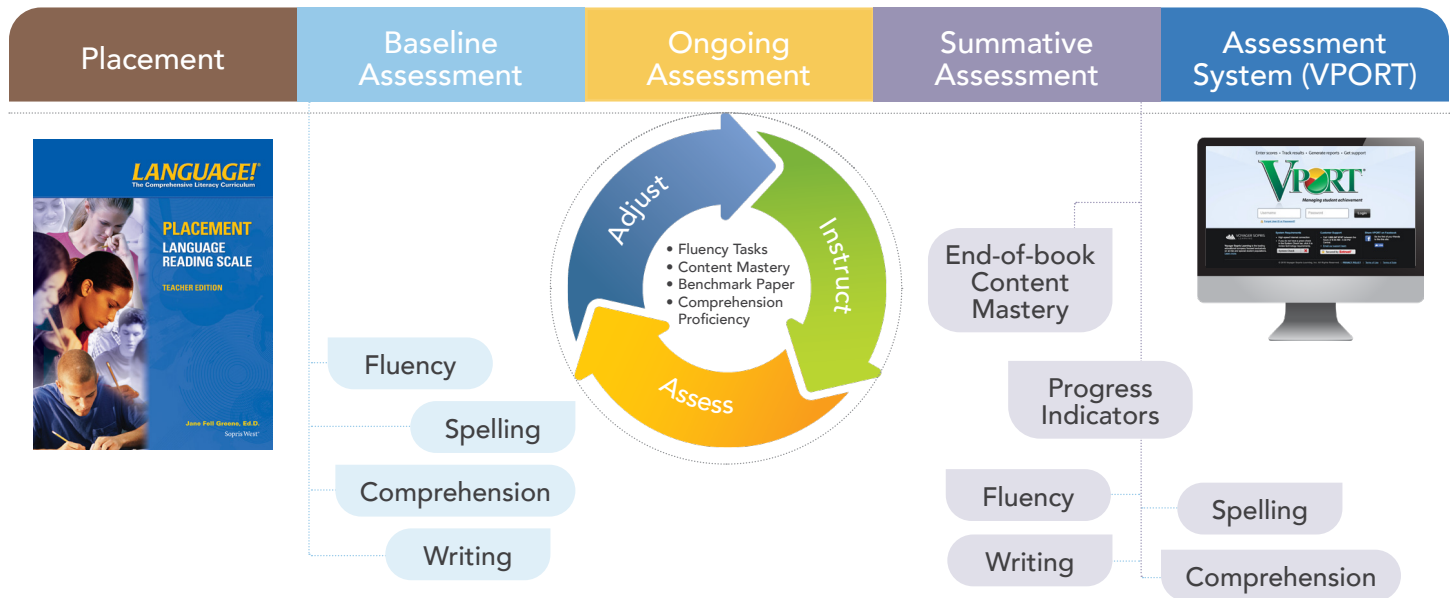
LANGUAGE! provides a variety of assessments including placements, baseline assessments, ongoing, end-of-unit assessments and more.

PLACEMENT

Data from the *LANGUAGE!* Reading Scale Placement Test indicates which of three entry points are appropriate for each student.

Entry points:

- Book A
  - Students with poor decoding skills
  - Students still glued to print
  - Students with reading comprehension at a pre-primer level-grade 2.5
- Book C
  - Students with basic decoding skills
  - Students with a lack of advanced word-analysis skills
  - Students with reading comprehension at grades 3.0-5.0
- Book E
  - Students who are in grades 7–12
  - Students who are proficient in sound-symbol correspondence and higher word analysis skills
  - Students who are reading 2+ years below grade level

BASELINE ASSESSMENT

Administered only once after a student's placement and prior to entering the *LANGUAGE!* curriculum. Scores on baseline tests constitute the starting point for measuring a student's progress through the curriculum.

ONGOING ASSESSMENT

The regular testing of student mastery of the content, concepts, and skills taught in the curriculum and ensures teachers have current information about each student to adjust pacing or provide instructional support activities for individual students.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

At the end of each book and assesses critical skills of literacy.

DASHBOARD: ASSESSMENT SYSTEM (VPORT)

An easy-to-use database that allows teachers and administrators to record, track, and report student test results. Teachers and administrators can monitor student growth through reports that can be generated at the individual, class, building, and district levels.

Materials

Teacher Kit	Student Edition	Interactive Text	Online
Two volumes per book	One volume per book	One volume per book	• Ebook versions of the teacher and student editions
Supports instruction with:	Supports instruction with:	Supports Practice with:	• Interactive Whiteboard lessons
• At-A-Glance	• Handbook	• Teacher Modeling	• Instructional Planning tools
• Content Map	• Visual Vocabulary (Books A and B)	• Guidance Practice	
• Lesson Planner	• Vocabulary	• Independent Practice	
• Planning and Pacing Guides	• Glossary of Terms	Contains:	
• Answer Guides	Contains:	• Lesson Checklist	
Contains:	• Multiple Readability Levels	• Resources	
• Student Text	• Decodable	• Fluency practice with charts to monitor progress	
• Appendix	• Instructional	• Vowel and consonant charts	
• Contrastive Analysis	• Challenge	• Letter tiles	
• Glossary	Placement and Assessment Books	• Word Bank	
Transparencies and Manipulatives			
Placement and Assessment Books			

Customer Success

- Expert support
- Voyager Sopris Learning® will partner with you throughout with engaging, professional learning options including:
  - Launch training
  - In-person or virtual training
  - Support sessions

"Transforming students into confident readers"

Success Stories

WHAT DO EDUCATORS SAY?

"We have seen zero-readers learn the alphabet and sounds, and how to build words—they are actually reading for the first time in their lives! There is a sense of excitement among the students as they enter the LANGUAGE! classes, and they are making tremendous progress."

—*Sandra Kelly, National LANGUAGE! Trainer*

"In over 20 years of teaching secondary students, I have never seen a program that so methodically and systematically addresses the needs of teen nonreaders. I have witnessed some students develop very strong reading skills in a short period of time as the 'holes' from their past were filled in."

—*Jina Virtue, Literacy/ Language Arts Coordinator, Los Angeles Unified School District*

"We are cheerleaders for LANGUAGE! because this curriculum has improved reading instruction throughout our district. Our LANGUAGE! students are confident and equipped with life skills that will take them beyond the world of academia. Our teachers know how to teach reading and embrace the challenge of educating students who have been labeled as 'struggling readers.'"

—*Tracey Burrell, Bossier Parish School Board, Bossier City, LA*