Language Tree Online

ELD1 and ELD2

Curriculum Alignment to the Science of Reading Framework

Language Tree Online

Introduction

The Science of Reading is a comprehensive body of research from multiple disciplines—cognitive psychology, neuroscience, linguistics, and education—that explains how students learn to read and what instructional methods are most effective.

Core Principles of the Science of Reading

Unlike speaking, reading is a skill that requires *explicit instruction*. The brain must rewire itself to link written symbols with sounds and meaning. Effective reading instruction relies on systematic phonics teaching, rather than rote word memorization or guessing strategies based on context clues. Instead, literacy success requires two equal components: the ability to decode words and strong language comprehension skills.

Instructional Implications

The Science of Reading stresses that effective instruction is built on these five foundational elements:

1. **Phonics:** involves teaching students the connections between letters and their corresponding sounds, whether examining individual letters or letter combinations.
2. **Phonemic Awareness:** covers developing the ability to recognize and manipulate the individual sounds in spoken language. This includes skills like identifying rhyming words, recognizing alliteration, breaking sentences into individual words, counting syllables, and blending or rhyming.
3. **Vocabulary:** encompasses the breadth of words students can comprehend and appropriately use when reading and communicating.
4. **Fluency:** refers to reading with appropriate accuracy, speed, and expression while maintaining comprehension.
5. **Comprehension**: is the ability to fully understand and interpret the meaning of written text.

For multilingual learners, the ideal approach is comprehensive and integrates **oral language development, spelling and writing practice**, **listening comprehension**, and **strategies for fostering student motivation and engagement** alongside literacy development.

About the Language Tree Online Program

Language Tree Online provides standards-based curricula for English Language Development. The program is leveled and scaffolded appropriately for different proficiency levels: ELD1 serves beginners and newcomers with limited transferable skills (Proficiency Levels 1 & 2), while ELD2 serves intermediate and long-term English learners (Proficiency Levels 3 & 4).

Both ELD1 and ELD2 include three core lesson modules:

- Foundational Literacy Skills (FLS)
- Collaborative Listening and Speaking (CLS)
- Language Function and Construction (LFC)

Each module contains a series of lessons targeting specific language and literacy skills. The following section demonstrates how Language Tree Online's levels, modules, and lessons address each of the five Science of Reading pillars.

Program Alignment to the Science of Reading

1. Phonics	Language Tree Online Lessons Language Skill or Function Addressed	
	ELD1	ELD2
Sound-symbol relationships or the relationship between letter(s) and the sound(s) they represent	▪ **FLS Lesson 3:** Letter Sounds ▪ **FLS Lesson 4**: First and Last Sounds	▪ **FLS Lesson 5**: Long and Short Vowels ▪ **FLS Lesson 6**: Listening for the Schwa Sound ▪ **FLS Lesson 7**: Identifying Diphthongs ▪ **FLS Lesson 8**: R-Controlled Words ▪ **FLS Lesson 9**: Frontal Phonemes: Spelling Patterns for /j/ and /s/

2. Phonemic Awareness	Language Tree Online Lessons	
	Language Skill or Function Addressed	
	ELD1	**ELD2**
Recognizing and manipulating discrete sounds	• **FLS Lesson 5:** Blending and Segmenting Sounds • **FLS Lesson 6**: Medial Vowel Substitution • **FLS Lesson 7**: Rhyming • **FLS Lesson 8**: Syllables	• **FLS Lesson 1**: Phoneme Deletion • **FLS Lesson 2**: Phoneme Substitution • **FLS Lesson 3**: Phoneme Addition • **FLS Lesson 4**: Phoneme Deletion

3. Vocabulary	Language Tree Online Lessons	
	Language Skill or Function Addressed	
	ELD1	**ELD2**
Comprehending known and unknown words	• **American School Culture Vocabulary Builder**: School-related and survival vocabulary • **CLS Lesson 12**: Using Specific Language for Speaking and Writing	• **FLS Lesson 10**: Prefixes and Prefix Words • **FLS Lesson 11**: Suffixes and Suffix Words • **CLS Lesson 12**: Selecting Language Resources

4. Fluency	Language Tree Online Lessons	
	Language Skill or Function Addressed	
	ELD1	**ELD2**
Reading with comprehension and speed	• **FLS Lesson 1:** Letter Knowledge (pre-fluency) • **FLS Lesson 2:** Upper and Lowercase Letters (pre-fluency) • **FLS Lesson 9:** Syntax	• **CLS Lesson 6:** Reading/Viewing Closely • **LFC Lesson 2**: Understanding Cohesion • **LFC Lesson 1**: Understanding Text Types

5. Comprehension	Language Tree Online Lessons	
	Language Skill or Function Addressed	
	ELD1	**ELD2**
Fully understanding written text	▪ **CLS Lesson 2:** Interacting via Written English ▪ **CLS Lesson 6:** Reading/Viewing Closely ▪ **CLS Lesson 8**: Analyzing Language Choices ▪ **LFC Lesson 1**: Text Structure ▪ **LFC Lesson 2**: Personal Pronouns and Connecting words	▪ **CLS Lesson 2:** Interacting via Written English ▪ **CLS Lesson 6:** Reading/Viewing Closely ▪ **CLS Lesson 7:** Evaluating Language Choices ▪ **CLS Lesson 8**: Analyzing Language Choices ▪ **LFC Lesson 1**: Understanding Text Types

Other Language Skills	Language Tree Online Lessons	
	Language Skill or Function Addressed	
	ELD1	**ELD2**
Speaking, spelling, writing, and listening comprehension	▪ **CLS Lesson 1:** Exchanging Information and Ideas ▪ **CLS Lesson 3:** Opinions/Negotiating/ Persuading ▪ **CLS Lesson 4:** Adapting Language Choices ▪ **CLS Lesson 5:** Listening Actively ▪ **CLS Lesson 9**: Presenting ▪ **CLS Lesson 10**: Writing ▪ **CLS Lesson 11:** Justifying and Arguing ▪ **LFC Lesson 3:** Using Verbs and Verb Phrases ▪ **LFC Lesson 4:** Using Nouns and Noun Phrases ▪ **LFC Lesson 5:** Modifying to Add Details ▪ **LFC Lesson 6:** Connecting Ideas ▪ **LFC Lesson 7:** Condensing Ideas	▪ **FLS Lesson 13**: Spelling Double Consonant Words ▪ **CLS Lesson 1:** Exchanging Information and Ideas ▪ **CLS Lesson 3:** Supporting Opinions and Persuading Others ▪ **CLS Lesson 4:** Adapting Language Choices ▪ **CLS Lesson 5:** Listening Actively ▪ **CLS Lesson 9**: Presenting ▪ **CLS Lesson 10**: Writing ▪ **CLS Lesson 11**: Justifying/ Arguing ▪ **CLS Lesson 12:** Presenting ▪ **LFC Lesson 3:** Using Verbs and Verb Phrases ▪ **LFC Lesson 4:** Using Nouns and Noun Phrases ▪ **LFC Lesson 5:** Modifying to Add Details ▪ **LFC Lesson 6:** Connecting Ideas ▪ **LFC Lesson 7:** Condensing Ideas