

Teaching Pre-Reading and Writing Skills at Floreat

Focus on two areas:

Vocabulary awareness

Writing preparation

Fine motor

Gross motor

Vocabulary awareness

Children need to have a wide and varied vocabulary to be a truly successful readers.

Please read the below two sentences:

I want to tear the book. She shed a tear.

He is rowing with his wife. He is rowing with his wife.

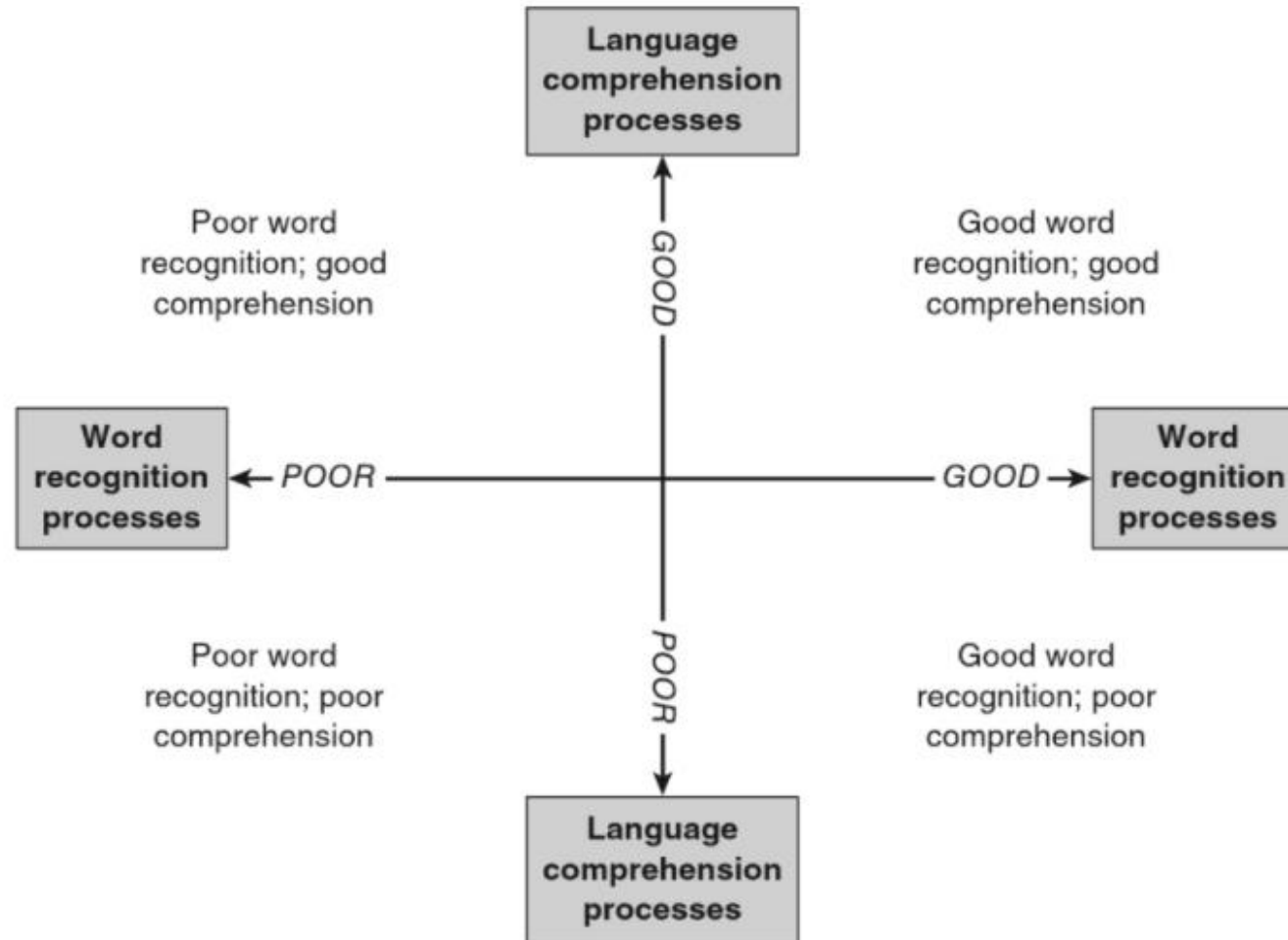
Exposing children to a varied and engaging vocabulary gives children the skills to decode these messages.

Vocabulary awareness

Young children learn and develop through being active in the world around them. They need to interact with language. Being involved in exploring and playing with words is vital to their development. So how can we do this:

- Teach funny songs/poems
- Read interesting and engaging stories
- Encourage 'why' and 'what if' questions
- Rhyming games

What we need to be aware of:



Gross and fine motor skills

Young children need to be able to manipulate both large and small movements before they are able to successfully hold and control a pen.

- Gross motor skills are the big movements such as running, crawling, swimming or hopping. Gross motor skills also help lay the foundation to be able to complete fine motor skill movement such as pinching or grasping
- Fine motor skills are little movements that the children need to be able to control small movements such as holding a pen. Having weak fine motor control is one of the biggest attributes to children not wanting to give writing a go.

Gross and fine motor skills

How can we help:

Gross motor

- Climbing/running/crawling/jumping
- Carrying/throwing objects

Fine motor

- Squeezing/rolling/pinching/spraying

Activities on the tables

- Collecting pom poms with tweezers
- Threading pasta onto string
- Squeezing, rolling and pushing the playdough
- Throwing the bean bag into the tyres
- Ribbon dancing
- Rhyming pairs
- Playing the initial sound game