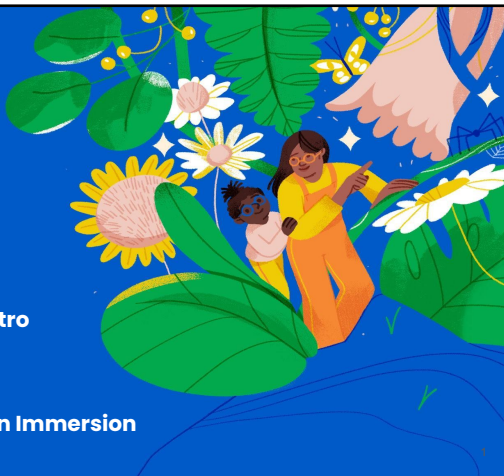


# Developing Phonological Awareness in Spanish

Presented by  
Erica Suarez and Laura Castro  
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International Conference on Immersion and Dual Language



## *In Loving Memory*

Dr. Michael Heggerty  
(1952-2013)

A dedicated and brilliant educator, who will continue to touch the lives of teachers and children for years to come.

**Thank you** for helping us honor his legacy.



## Hola y welcome!

- ★ Erica Suarez
- ★ Washington → Mexico → Chicago
- ★ English → español
- ★ Student → Teacher → Instructional Coach → Literacy Specialist
- ★ Read, run, travel, spend time with family



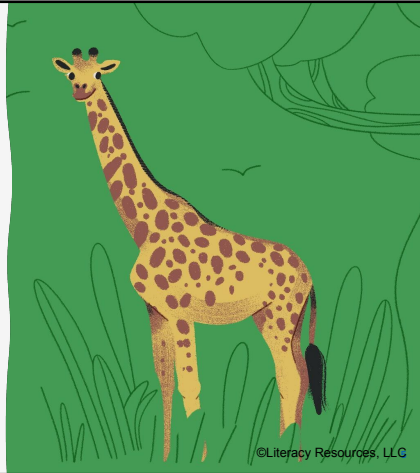
## Hola y bienvenidos!

- ★ Laura Castro
- ★ Chicago, Illinois → Buenos Aires, Argentina → Chicago, Illinois
- ★ English → Spanish
- ★ Student → Teacher → Instructional Coach → Literacy Specialist
- ★ Reading, knitting, podcasts, words



## Agenda for today's session:

- ★ Language and Literacy development
- ★ What is Phonological Awareness?
- ★ Why is PA Important in Spanish?
- ★ How do I teach Phonological Awareness in Spanish?
  - Connection to other early literacy foundational skills



# Language Development & Literacy

## What do each of these have in common?



## The 4 Language Domains

1



Listening

2



Speaking

3



Reading

4



Writing

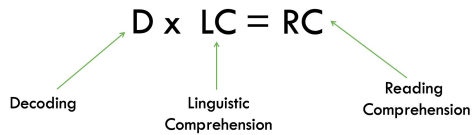


*"Los niños aprenden a hablar de manera natural y sin esfuerzo, pero hablar, leer y escribir no son lo mismo. La escritura es un código inventado por las personas...Aprender a leer no es natural...Leer implica descifrar un código...Se requiere una enseñanza explícita y progresiva."*

-Aprendemos a Leer, Guía para el docente, 2018

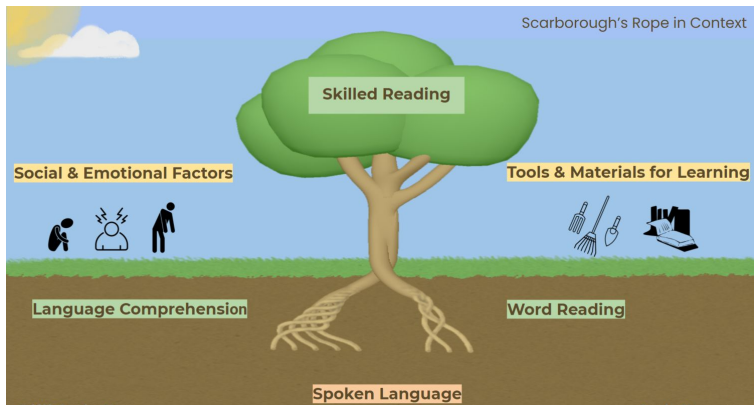
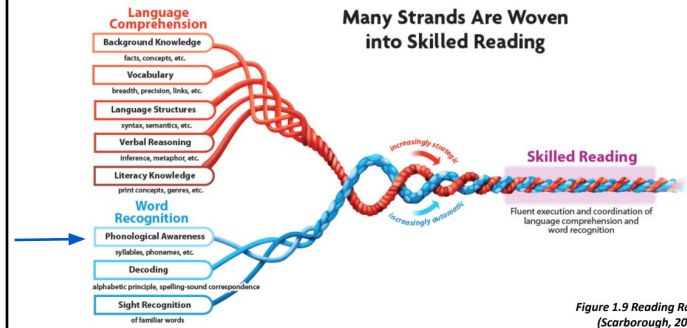
# The Simple View of Reading

SIMPLE VIEW OF READING (SVR)  
(GOUGH & TUNMER, 1986)



# Scarborough's Reading Rope

Many Strands Are Woven into Skilled Reading



What is phonological awareness?

## Phonological Awareness

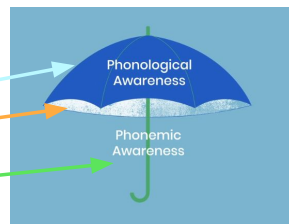
**Phonological awareness** is a broad skill that includes identifying and manipulating units of oral language.

### Levels of phonological awareness in Spanish:

**Lexical** = las palabras

**Syllabic** = las sílabas

**Phonemic** = los sonidos individuales



**Syllable awareness** is being able to isolate, blend, segment and manipulate syllables orally plays an important role in developing as a reading in the Spanish language.

**Phonemic awareness** is a subset of phonological awareness that focuses specifically on recognizing and manipulating phonemes; essential for developing proficiency as readers and writers in Spanish (and all alphabetic languages)

## Phonemic Awareness and Phonics are Different:

Phonological Awareness	Phonics
The main focus is on <b>syllables/sounds</b>	Main focus is on <b>letters/graphemes</b> and their corresponding sounds
Deals with <b>spoken language</b>	Deals with <b>written language &amp; print</b>
Lessons are <b>auditory</b>	Both <b>visual and auditory</b>
Students work with <b>manipulating syllables/sounds</b> in words	Students work with <b>reading and writing letters</b> according to their sounds, syllable types, and spelling patterns

Phonemic awareness training provides the foundation on which phonics instruction is built. Thus, **children need solid phonemic awareness training for phonics instruction to be effective.** (Blevins, 42)

## Phonics Instruction

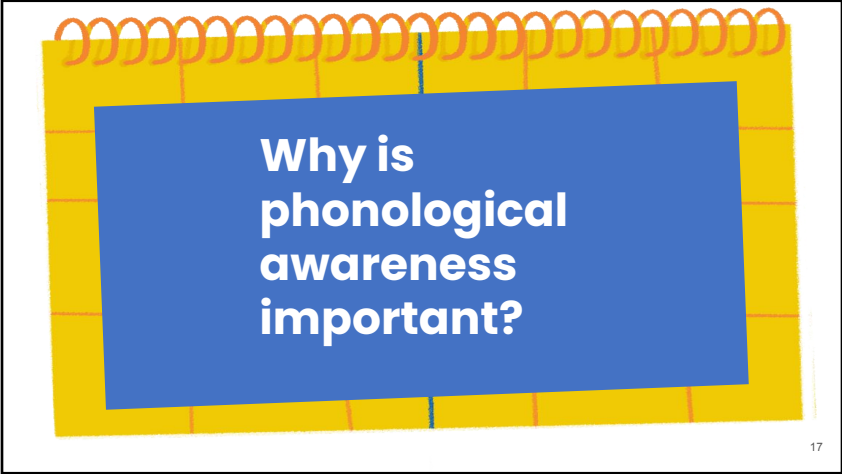
### What does **phonics instruction** typically look like in Spanish?

- Teacher teaches the vowels, and then consonants.
- Students start to learn (memorize) the CV syllable pattern.
  - ◆ ma, me, mi, mo, mu
  - ◆ ma, pa, sa, la...
  - ◆ etc...
- Students read texts with these syllable patterns.
  - ◆ Mi mamá me ama. Amo a mi mamá.
- Minimal focus on oral language (listening & speaking)
  - ◆ Limited instruction: syllable structures or phonology
  - ◆ Limited within word phonemic awareness instruction
- ◆ Print to speech approach

*"La conciencia fonológica, como tal, requiere la manipulación mental de los sonidos del lenguaje sin apoyo del lenguaje escrito, es decir, sin necesidad de leer o escribir. No obstante, con lectores es muy recomendable combinar las tareas de conciencia fonológica con tareas de lectoescritura (Silva, 72).*

*Método Diverlexia, 2020*





## Why is phonological awareness important?

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## Research Findings


“El nivel de conciencia fonológica de niños de pre básica es predictor del progreso en el posterior aprendizaje de la lectura.”

- Bizama, M., Arancibia, M., Sáez, K., 2013

Heggerty

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## Research Findings



“La ausencia de conciencia fonológica es un factor explicativo de las dificultades de aprendizaje que muestran muchos niños en el proceso de adquisición de la lectura y escritura.”

- Jiménez González, J.E. & Ortiz González, M.R., 1999

Heggerty

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## Para los estudiantes bilingües

In fact, research has demonstrated that the ability to blend and segment individual phonemes is a strong predictor of overall reading achievement in Spanish, both for monolingual Spanish-speaking children and for Spanish/English bilingual children.

- Bravo, 2006; Branum-Martin, 2006

[Early Literacy Instruction in Spanish: Teaching the Beginning Reader By Karen Ford, Rebecca Palacios\(2015\)](#)

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# How to *connect* phonological awareness and phonics: a speech to print approach

## La conciencia fonológica Las destrezas y las actividades:



### Las rimas

- Repetir
- Reconocer
- Producir

### Aislar fonemas

- Inicial
- Final
- Medial

### Combinar

- Sílabas
- Fonemas para hacer las sílabas directas, inversas e mixtas
- Sílabas más complejas para hacer palabras

### Aislar sílabas

- Inicial
- Final
- Medial
- La sílaba acentuada
- La sílaba enfocada

### Segmentar

- Palabras de dos sílabas en sílabas
- Sílabas en sonidos
- Palabras largas en sílabas y sonidos

### Manipular

- Añadir sonidos o sílabas
- Quitar sonidos o sílabas
- Sustituir sonidos o sílabas
- Invertir: sílabas o sonidos

### Oral Language (Speech) → Written Language (Print)

Making connections between phonological awareness and phonics: **phoneme and syllable isolation**

#### Phonological Awareness

**Phoneme & Syllable Isolation**  
initial, final, and medial sounds

Initial: gato /g/  
Final: mis /s/  
Medial: sal /a/

#### Connect to Reading & Spelling

Connects to **decoding** as student match phonemes to graphemes

Connects to **encoding** as students match the sounds they hear to letters to write word.

A prerequisite for being able to manipulate phonemes in words

Victor el Vaquero  
Viaja por los Valles  
Vigilando que sus Vacas  
coman Vegetales.



ma  
mano  
cima  
mapache  
pluma  
sumado

### Oral Language (Speech) → Written Language (Print)

Making connections between phonological awareness and phonics: **blending**

#### Phonological Awareness

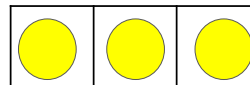
**Blending** - phonological synthesis

Phoneme level:

- m - a → ma
- s - o - n → son

Syllable level:

- ma - pa → mapa
- co - ci - na → cocina



#### Connect to Reading & Spelling

Transfers to **decoding** words in print

m o s c a

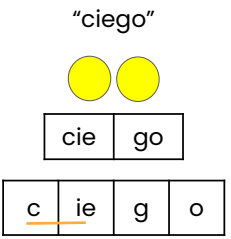
mos ca

La mosca se cansa.



Oral Language (Speech) → Written Language (Print)

Making connections between phonological awareness and phonics: **segmenting**

Phonological Awareness	Connect to Reading & Spelling
<p><b>Segmenting</b> - phonological analysis</p> <p>Phoneme level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>sa → s - a</li> <li>por → p - o - r</li> </ul> <p>Syllable level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pato → pa - to</li> <li>salchicha → sal - chi - cha</li> </ul> <p><b>La instrucción fonológica:</b></p> <p><b>Paso 1</b> → Diga la sílaba o palabra y corte los sonidos/las sílabas.</p> <p><b>Paso 2</b> → Cuente los sonidos de la sílaba o las sílabas de la palabra. Puede usar manipulativos para ayudar a los estudiantes a 'ver' los sonidos y las sílabas.</p>	<p>Transfers to <b>encoding (spelling)</b> words in print</p> <p>"ciego"</p>  <p><b>La instrucción fonética:</b></p> <p><b>Paso 3</b> → Determina cuáles grafemas corresponden con los fonemas para escribir las sílabas y palabras.</p> <p><b>Paso 4</b> → Enseña las reglas de ortografía</p>

Oral Language (Speech) → Written Language (Print)

Making connections between phonological awareness and phonics: **manipulating sounds and syllables**

Phonological Awareness	Connect to Reading & Spelling			
<p><b>Manipulation Tasks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Add</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Di <b>/a/</b>. Añade <b>/s/</b> al principio y la sílaba es...<b>sa</b></li> <li>&gt; Di <b>ma</b>. Añade <b>/no/</b> al final y la palabra es...<b>mano</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Delete</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Di <b>/me/</b>. Sin <b>/m/</b> queda...<b>/e/</b></li> <li>&gt; Di <b>veia</b>. Sin <b>/a/</b> queda...<b>ve</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Substitute</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Di <b>te</b>. Cambia <b>/t/</b> a <b>/l/</b> y la sílaba es...<b>to</b></li> <li>&gt; Di <b>cima</b>. Cambia <b>/ma/</b> a <b>/ne/</b> y la palabra es...<b>cine</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Supports students in reaching <b>phoneme proficiency</b> which is necessary to <b>orthographically map</b> speech to print. Orthographic mapping is when students can read words automatically &amp; fluently without decoding every word.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p><b>Añadir:</b> ma, mano sa, casa po, pon os, dos te, tle s, sue</p> </td> <td> <p><b>Quitar:</b> mesa, me cama, ma sin, si sol, ol dre, de too, oa</p> </td> <td> <p><b>Sustituir:</b> casa, masa, rosa, taza pato, palo, para, pasa cra/cia, bre/ble mano--noma</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>*Students need to be able to <b>isolate, blend, &amp; segment</b> phonemes in order to manipulate phonemes.</p>	<p><b>Añadir:</b> ma, mano sa, casa po, pon os, dos te, tle s, sue</p>	<p><b>Quitar:</b> mesa, me cama, ma sin, si sol, ol dre, de too, oa</p>	<p><b>Sustituir:</b> casa, masa, rosa, taza pato, palo, para, pasa cra/cia, bre/ble mano--noma</p>
<p><b>Añadir:</b> ma, mano sa, casa po, pon os, dos te, tle s, sue</p>	<p><b>Quitar:</b> mesa, me cama, ma sin, si sol, ol dre, de too, oa</p>	<p><b>Sustituir:</b> casa, masa, rosa, taza pato, palo, para, pasa cra/cia, bre/ble mano--noma</p>		

**La manipulación fonológica**  
¿Qué pasa en el cerebro tan rápido y automáticamente?

	Lo que el estudiante escucha...	Lo que sucede en el cerebro	Las destrezas fonológicas
1	mago	mago	Conciencia fonémica y silábica
2	añade /n/ después de /a/	<b>ma</b> <b>go</b>	Análisis silábica (2 sílabas)
3		<b>m:a</b> + <b>n</b> <b>go</b>	Aislar una sílaba (la que manipulará) Aislar un fonema y manipularlo
4		<b>man</b> <b>go</b> NO <b>ma</b> <b>ngo</b> ES	Síntesis fonémica Análisis silábica
5		<b>mango</b>	Combinar (síntesis fonémica y silábica)

Frequently Asked Questions Addressed



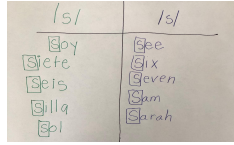
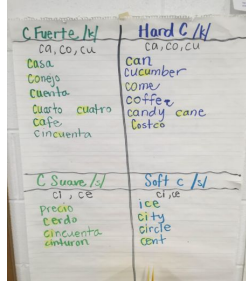
- ★ Teachers should refer to language and content allocation plans to determine language of instruction in phonological awareness. *Ideally students are receiving instruction in both languages.*
- ★ **Phonemic awareness** can be easily integrated into oracy and vocabulary instruction.
- ★ Lessons should be **oral** and **auditory** - for the 10 minutes of phonological awareness instruction there should be **no letters shown**.
- ★ **Phonics** should be taught **daily**, using the phonological awareness lessons as a warm-up to play with sounds, syllables, and words - creating a foundation for phonics instruction.





## Other Instructional Practices to Develop Foundational Skills

2. Sound wall
3. Metalinguistic instruction



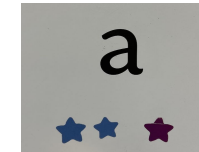
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## How can you include phonological awareness tasks in both English and Spanish?

Students need to receive phonological awareness/phonemic awareness in BOTH languages - but their brains are primed for their native language!

- Vocabulary and oracy instruction**
- Include a portion that mimics Heggerty
  - Silly rhymes
  - Isolating initial sound
  - Blending
  - Segmenting

**Make explicit connections between each language's phonology and orthography**



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la mentalidad	mentality	multiplicar	to multiply	prefijos	no /not
la neuroplasticidad	neuroplasticity	multiplique	I multiplied /d/	im-	improper
la responsabilidad	responsibility	sumar	to add	impro-	improper
la individualidad	individuality	sumé	I added /ed/	impro-	improper
la privacidad	privacy	reagrupar	to regroup	impro-	improper
la realidad	reality	reagrupé	I regrouped /t/	des-	disorder
la sinceridad	sincerity			des-	disorder

Argentina	México	EEUU
Vos	Tú	You
Vos sos	Tú eres	You are
Usted	Usted es	You are
Usted es	Usted es	You are

Oral	¿onde?	tons	Gonna	Wanna
Written	¿dónde?	entonces	Going to	Want to

35

### Heggerty Phonemic Awareness

[www.heggerty.org](http://www.heggerty.org)

**Preescolar**

**Kinder**

**Primaria**

**Ediciones nuevas para niveles Kinder y Primaria en 2022!**

**Amigos: Decodable Books (Spanish)**

La serie Amigos es un recurso de 8 libros decodificables de Heggerty. Los libros son diseñados para enseñar a los niños a leer palabras y frases que se componen de sonidos de los fonemas /c/, /a/, /o/, /n/ y /e/ para combinar sonidos para leer palabras y frases. Cada libro es decodificable, comprensible y divertido para los lectores principiantes del español.

Los libros de Amigos están diseñados para ser utilizados por los estudiantes de primer grado de español.

**Spanish Assessments**

These student assessments can be used to monitor student growth and the results can be used to guide instruction. The Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Spanish (P-A-C) assessments were updated August 23, 2022. Please note: Spanish P-A-C assessments were updated August 23, 2022.

**Pre-K Kindergarten Assessment:**

- Factmics A
- Factmics B
- Factmics C

**Kindergarten Assessment:**

- Spanish Kindergarten Baseline Assessment
- Spanish Kindergarten End of Year Assessment
- Spanish Kindergarten End of Year Assessment

**1st Grade Assessment:**

**Cartas de ABC en español**

Las combinaciones consonánticas y los diptongos.

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**Thank you so much for attending today!**

**Come visit us at Booth 4 for free swag!**

“Los estudios de la conciencia fonológica en niños concluyen que la capacidad para desarrollar un análisis fonológico del lenguaje hablado y escrito es fundamental, antes y durante el aprendizaje de la lectoescritura.”

- Montealegre y Forero, 2006

