The Reading Brain

Sound perception begins in the womb, and so does early language development.

In the early months of life, approximately one million new neural connections form every second.

BIRTH TO 6 1/2

CENTION TO BIRTH

In utero, the brain structures that will support language and learning start developing.

By about six months, communication and cognition skills evolve to babbling. By 18 months, babies come to understand that every object has a name.

SMONTHS TO 2 VEAR



670 18 MONTHS

At this stage, many children are developmentally able to hold a book, turn the pages of a board book, say single words and then two- to fourword phrases, point at pictures, name pictures and follow simple stories.

The explosion of neural pathways that began at birth starts switching to "pruning." Strongly developed pathways remain and weaker ones fade away.

Between ages 5 and 8, many children are ready to move through the reading stages — the novice stage, decoding stage and fluent stage.

8 TO 10 YEARS

TO 8 YEARS





At the fluency stage, a child can use all the special knowledge about a word – the letters, letter patterns, meanings, grammatical functions, roots and ending – quickly enough to think and in turn comprehend the meaning of what's

being read.



2 TO 5 YEARS

Children around this age start to understand that printed words represent spoken words, that spoken words are made up of sounds and that letters convey those sounds.



Fondation pour l'alphabétisation des enfants canadiens