

Invented Spelling Week 5 (3)

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214 / Reading Improvement

commonly represented, whereas vowels are rarely indicated. Additionally, the letter-name stage is evident in children's spellings of words (are = "R"

and you = "U").

3. *Phonetic Stage*: Each phoneme is delineated with its accurate or approximate grapheme. Although not always accu-

Figure 2

Stage & Primary Characteristic

Sample

Prephonetic:

Letters do not represent sounds.



(The bunny likes to jump.)

Semi-phonetic:

Letters represent some of the sounds in words.



(Mom made a turkey.)

Phonetic:

Words are spelled the way they sound.

Her is
Som Fun
Colrs
wen you
arnd you
Mak the wrld
go arnd.

(Here is some fun colors. When you're around, you make the world go around.)

Transitional:

Spelling patterns are evident.

The weelk Befor
the geogre tree
fair we will get
redy.

(The week before the geography fair, we will get ready.)

Conventional:

The majority of words are spelled correctly.

(Correct spelling.)

Figure 3

Stages of Invented Spelling

Gentry's Stages	Henderson's Stages
Prephonetic	Emergent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No focus on the alphabetic principle. • Letters and/or marks are random. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter names may be used. • Invented alphabet systems and scribbles are used
Semiphonetic	Letter-Name Spelling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mostly consonants are used. • One to three letters are typically used to spell entire words. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Words are spelled phonetically. • Vowels are used, but often incorrectly.
Phonetic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The child understands the concept of a word.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All phonemes are represented with letters. • The child understands the concept of a word. 	
Transitional	Within Word Pattern
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many spelling patterns are incorporated, but not always correctly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silent marking vowels are used. • Most one-syllable, short vowel words are spelled correctly.