



Everything you need for the literacy
component of your homeschooling plan.

Suitable for years 1-8.



iDeaL[®]

Individualised Diagnostic explicit approach to Learning

for **HOMESCHOOLERS**

iDeaL is a **complete**,
comprehensive, and
cost-effective approach
that **lifts literacy outcomes**.

“**Poipoia te kākano kia puawai**”

Nurture the seed and it will blossom.

– He whakatauki

Powered by



Learning MATTERS
Because Learning Differences Exist

“Every decision to homeschool is unique.”

I am Carla McNeil; founder of Learning MATTERS, former school principal and classroom teacher, and mother of two sons – one with dyslexia.

After years of research, professional development (both nationally and internationally), monitoring student progress and working with thousands of students with dyslexia, I have seen incredible progress time and time again. **How?** By using the explicit and evidence-based approach to teaching literacy, known as Structured Literacy.

Structured Literacy is an approach that benefits all children, especially those with learning difficulties. This approach ensures nothing is left to chance when children are developing, mastering, and extending crucial literacy skills and knowledge.

The team at Learning MATTERS is passionate about lifting literacy outcomes in New Zealand. We absolutely believe this can be achieved through clear and consistent direction using a Structured Literacy approach.

As advocates for change, we set out to develop an effective and efficient way to make Structured Literacy accessible to schools, children and parents across New Zealand.

This is why we developed the iDeal Approach to Structured Literacy.

The iDeal Approach provides the knowledge, appropriate assessments, reporting systems and multisensory resources to explicitly teach foundation literacy skills using a Structured Literacy approach.

We welcome your questions with regards to incorporating Structured Literacy into your Homeschooling Programme. **Contact us** and let us guide you in supporting your child with a personalised learning plan.

Carla and the Learning MATTERS team



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My experience with Learning MATTERS, has been pivotal in me gaining a more in-depth understanding of using a Structured Literacy approach and learning how to execute teaching our son to read and write.

Their efficient, engaging step by step approach has lead to him building confidence in himself and great progress being made in a short space of time.”

Homeschooling Parent

Why Structured Literacy?

Structured Literacy is an approach to the teaching of reading, writing, and spelling that is founded on an extensive multidisciplinary body of evidence-based research called The Science of Reading.

This research contains findings from many disciplines and encompasses Cognitive Psychology, Neuroscience, Linguistics and Education. Researchers have used a significant number of studies around the world to analyse the way the brain learns to read.

The science is clear; we must explicitly and consciously teach our children in ways that build and develop neural pathways when learning to read. When we understand how the brain builds this network, we are then able to recognise when parts of the network may not be wiring and firing. Intervention can then occur to develop these specific areas of need.

Nothing is left to chance when a Structured Literacy Approach is used – no more frustration and stress when trying to ‘guess’ words using the outdated three-cueing system!

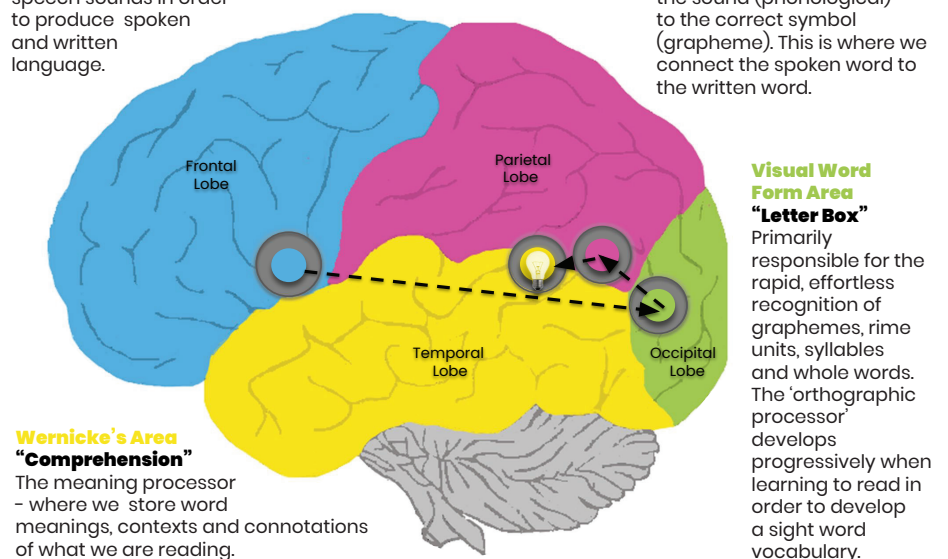
This is an approach that supports ALL learners, not just those with learning differences. By explicitly teaching foundation skills and then building on these blocks, reading, spelling and writing success is achieved.

Broca's Area **"Phonological Awareness"**

Primarily responsible for processing speech sounds in order to produce spoken and written language.

Angular Gyrus **"Phonics Chip"**

Allows the reader to attach the sound (phonological) to the correct symbol (grapheme). This is where we connect the spoken word to the written word.



Wernicke's Area **"Comprehension"**

The meaning processor – where we store word meanings, contexts and connotations of what we are reading.

Visual Word Form Area **"Letter Box"**

Primarily responsible for the rapid, effortless recognition of graphemes, rime units, syllables and whole words. The 'orthographic processor' develops progressively when learning to read in order to develop a sight word vocabulary.

The Principles and Elements of Structured Literacy

The iDeAL Approach has been founded on the principles and elements of Structured Literacy. This teaching approach involves careful and close monitoring. Every session is planned and based on successes and challenges from previous sessions and includes the following elements:

It is diagnostic. An initial assessment is carried out to identify exactly what your child does and doesn't know, in relation to the building blocks of reading success.

It is systematic and cumulative. Lessons follow a comprehensive scope and sequence (teaching order) that is thorough, increases in complexity and teaches syllable types and syllable division strategies as well as spelling patterns and rules.

It is multisensory. Two or more senses are engaged simultaneously during explicit teaching sessions.

It uses evidence-based resources and repetition. Knowledge and skills that have been taught in isolation are transferred to words and sentences using quality support materials and decodable texts.

It is explicit, direct and modified as necessary. Review is a core component of each lesson as

repetition is key to success and helps to build learner confidence. The children know what to expect and they understand that each lesson is part of a sequence that assists with developing their reading brain.

Children practise reading aloud. They will read passages and/or texts out loud to build reading fluency using the skills they have been taught.

Children receive prompt, corrective feedback.

About the iDeal Approach for Homeschoolers

The iDeal Approach encompasses four key elements that work together to ensure learner success. These elements support parents to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to effectively teach using a structured literacy approach. This ensures ALL ākonga are supported to master fundamental literacy skills.

The iDeal Approach:

- Is founded on extensive national and international research perspectives and findings
- Provides professional learning and knowledge to teach explicitly
- Provides a systematic, cumulative and clear scope and sequence aligned to resources and decodable texts
- Is diagnostic and provides the necessary tools to measure your child's progress
- Is New Zealand's only online Structured Literacy platform, and can be accessed anywhere and anytime with an internet connection
- Provides an online community which connects and supports through shared experiences
- Is tried, tested and trusted by homeschooling parents across New Zealand.



Why choose the iDeal Approach for Homeschoolers?



Build your knowledge

You will become increasingly knowledgeable, as you work through carefully selected learning modules. These have been crafted to help build your capabilities in order to successfully teach crucial literacy skills.



A community of learners

Become part of the iDeal Homeschooling Community and experience success together! Grow your knowledge alongside other homeschooling parents and connect and support each other through shared experiences.



Access to tools for assessment and resources

Teaching at your fingertips. No planning necessary. Assessments have been designed to guide and direct systematic teaching practices and provide a personalised learning plan for your child.



Confident teaching

Increased outcomes. No second guessing. Be reassured that you are not leaving literacy success to chance!

The iDeaL Online Platform

The core goal of the iDeaL Online Platform is ensuring homeschooling parents are fully supported with teaching materials and resources so their time and energy can be focused on teaching their tamariki.

Informative instructional videos, professional development modules and specific teaching resources are provided for parents. These support a diagnostic, systematic, and cumulative approach to the delivery of Structured Literacy through direct instruction.

Importance is placed on supporting parents to learn effective lesson sequences that are delivered using the principles of explicit instruction.

The iDeaL Online Platform also provides assessment tools, an automated 'start teaching from' tool, and a progress-monitoring system.

Learning Modules and Instructional Videos for Parents



Learn about: The Science of Reading, the principles and elements of Structured Literacy, the process of Orthographic Mapping, reading fluency, syllable types, syllable division, spelling rules and more.

Modules contain carefully selected material including videos and readings, and conclude with a quiz to check your progress and understanding.

Assessment Tools



These determine your child's capabilities and immediate teaching needs in phonological awareness, alphabetic principle, and fluency.

Stage 1, 2, 3 and 4 assessments can be administered to all learners in Years 1-13, including those who are struggling with reading and writing. The ability to measure progress in the areas that sit beneath reading fluency gives greater insight into what might be 'missing' in your current teaching approach.

Reporting and Progression Monitoring



Your child's data can be entered into the iDeaL Online Platform where it is automatically saved. Reports can then be generated which show you where to begin teaching and enable you to track learning progress.

Resources



A comprehensive suite of resources are housed on the iDeaL Online Platform. These include scope and sequences for phonological awareness and alphabetic principle, teaching PowerPoints and lesson plans, instructional practice videos, over 100 systematic concepts organised into four stages, roll and read activities for building fluency, vocabulary activities and more than 50 electronic and printable decodable texts.

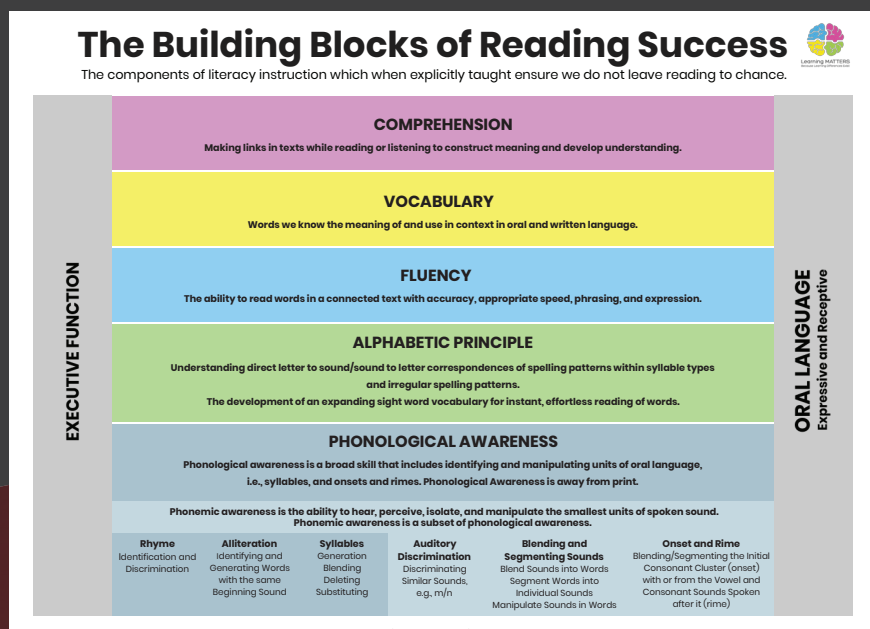


Using the iDeal Online Platform

The content within the iDeal Online Platform (teaching materials and resources) has been carefully aligned with both the New Zealand Curriculum and Literacy Learning Progressions.

The iDeal Approach for Homeschoolers emphasises teaching that is clear, systematic and unambiguous for your child.

Assessments on the iDeal Online Platform identify the diagnostic needs and strengths of Phonological Awareness, Alphabetic Principle (coding knowledge and skills), Fluency, and Comprehension, as outlined in the Building Blocks of Reading Success.



Using Assessments

Diagnostic assessment is carried out to identify exactly what your child does or doesn't know, in relation to the Building Blocks of Reading Success.

Assessment not only measures your child's strengths, but also identifies their next teaching and learning steps in phonological awareness and alphabetic principle. Information from easily administered assessments is entered onto the iDeal Online Platform, which creates an auto-analysis report of your child's data.

Begin Teaching From

Our reports provide clear direction indicating where to begin teaching in the systematic iDeal **Scope and Sequence** (teaching order). This also enables identification of progress made over time.

It is systematic, comprehensive and cumulative. The scope and sequence is thorough, increases in complexity and teaches syllable types and syllable division strategies, as well as spelling rules. This enables you to go as fast as you can but as slow as you must.







The following Scope and Sequence outlines are shown below:

- **iDeal Stage 1 Pre Concepts**
(5 weeks of 4 lessons and supporting resources)
- **iDeal Stage 1 Phonological Awareness**
(12 components : 3 levels for each)
- **iDeal Stage 1 Alphabetic Principle**
(22 concepts : 52 weeks of 4 lessons and supporting resources)
- **iDeal Stage 2 Spelling**
(35 concepts : 35 weeks of 4 lessons and supporting resources)
- **iDeal Stage 3 Spelling**
(37 concepts : 37 weeks of 4 lessons and supporting resources)
- **iDeal Stage 4 Spelling**
(30 concepts : 30 weeks of 4 lessons and supporting resources).





The **'BEGIN TEACHING FROM'** links directly to the appropriate teaching resources that are available and relevant to the Scope and Sequence.

	game	lake	bikes	rides
	use	gave	ride	use
	like	games	give	home
	lake	bike	u	Supporti
	use	gave	got	
	home	rides	home	likes

Supporting Material

We offer the following options to become part of the iDeaL Approach for Homeschoolers community:

iDeaL BASIC

- ✓ **Access to the iDeaL Online Platform**
- ✗ **One-on-One 2-hour Coaching Session with Specialist Educator**
 - A navigational tour of the iDeaL Online Platform
 - A talk through assessment flowchart
 - How to complete an assessment (the assessment will be completed with your child for you to view and understand)
 - How to enter results
 - How to generate reports
 - Finding your child's starting point and how to use the iDeaL scope and sequence
 - Review of the lesson structure including how to teach a lesson.
- ✗ **One-on-One half hour Coaching Session with Specialist Educator**
 - First check-in point after 2 weeks of using iDeaL.
- ✗ **One-on-One half hour Coaching Session with Specialist Educator**
 - Final follow-up session after reassessment and advise on reassessment guidelines and advice on next steps to take.

\$286 per annum

Subscription is per user and paid annually/bi-annually. Equates to \$23.80 per month.

iDeaL PLUS

- ✓ **Access to the iDeaL Online Platform**
- ✓ **One-on-One 2-hour Coaching Session with Specialist Educator**
 - A navigational tour of the iDeaL Online Platform
 - A talk through assessment flowchart
 - How to complete an assessment (the assessment will be completed with your child for you to view and understand)
 - How to enter results
 - How to generate reports
 - Finding your child's starting point and how to use the iDeaL scope and sequence
 - Review of the lesson structure including how to teach a lesson.
- ✓ **One-on-One half hour Coaching Session with Specialist Educator**
 - First check-in point after 2 weeks of using iDeaL.
- ✓ **One-on-One half hour Coaching Session with Specialist Educator**
 - Final follow-up session after reassessment and advice on reassessment guidelines and on next steps to take.

\$684 per annum

Subscription is per user and paid annually/bi-annually. Equates to \$57.00 per month.

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It really makes it simple to integrate Structured Literacy into our homeschooling. We have only been using iDeaL for a few weeks but we are loving it.

I feel very confident in the approach (with the plethora of information at our fingertips within the platform and the helpful support) and are excited to see how our children progress. I only wish I had found iDeaL years ago!”

Homeschooling Parent

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