



NEWS RELEASE

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Dynamic Literacy Launches *WordBuild Foundations* Series

Curriculum Expands Elementary Students' Vocabulary to Improve Reading Skills

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA. (Feb. 27, 2008) – Dynamic Literacy, a developer of vocabulary instructional materials, announces a new addition to its *WordBuild Vocabulary Development System™*. Studies show that students who understand how words are formed, by combining prefixes, suffixes and roots, tend to have larger vocabularies and better reading comprehension, according to the Harvard Graduate School of Education. The new Dynamic Literacy series, *Foundations*, is the first of two series in the *WordBuild Vocabulary Development System* designed to boost classroom performance by improving student skills in vocabulary, language and reading comprehension.

“Every year we work to close the achievement gap among our students,” said Kristen Williams, Elementary Language Arts Coordinator at Albemarle County Public Schools. “A common factor that sets our students apart is their vocabulary skills. We can’t control the amount of language practice students receive at home, so it’s our responsibility to ensure students receive the vocabulary instruction they need to comprehend language found in academic texts.”

Intended for students in grades 3-5, but available for intervention in grades 6 and higher, *Foundations* contains two years of vocabulary instruction. The series is based on morphology, or the study of the units of meaning in words. Just as phonics helps a student “sound out” unfamiliar words, a mastery of Morphics™ helps a student “mean out” unfamiliar words. The curriculum teaches students how English words are constructed by focusing on the meanings of prefixes, roots and suffixes, also known as morphemes. Once students learn the definitions of common morphemes, they gain the skills to decipher thousands of unfamiliar words, and their vocabularies increase exponentially.

“*Foundations* impacts student achievement across the curriculum,” said Williams. “The lessons and activities teach students how to pull words apart, and learn the meanings of those individual parts. In subjects such as math and science where students are often faced with complex words, *Foundations* provides them with the confidence to stop and derive the meaning based on the knowledge they’ve gained from the *WordBuild Vocabulary Development System*.”

MORE

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Student activity books from *Foundations* present a year's worth of classroom exercises that focus on the grammatical roles of prefixes and suffixes in ordinary English words, and the meanings of the most frequently used Latin and Greek affixes. Each activity is designed to encourage conversations about words, which increases the student's awareness of morphics. Unlike memorized word lists, weekly study is centered on affix families that facilitate vocabulary connections to science and other academic content areas.

"Our teachers found that *Foundations* filled an important gap in their classroom instruction," said Williams. "Whether students had advanced skills or needed extra practice in vocabulary, the *Foundations* instructional materials furnished teachers with instruction activities tailored to their students' individual needs. In addition, teachers were impressed with how the program integrated with current technologies used in the district, such as interactive whiteboards."

The *WordBuild Vocabulary Development System* consists of two series, *Foundations* and *Elements*. Intended for grades 3-5, but available for vocabulary instruction intervention for grades 6 and up, *Foundations* contains two years of morphics-based instruction. *Elements* is intended for grades 5-9, but is available for vocabulary instruction intervention for grades 10 and up, and contains three years of morphics-based instruction. Prices start at \$9.95, with volume discounts to \$5.95 for individual student activity books, plus \$99 per teacher for software and instructional materials.

For more information on the *WordBuild Vocabulary Development System*, or to speak with a sales representative, visit www.dynamicliteracy.com or email info@dynamicliteracy.com.

About Dynamic Literacy

Dynamic Literacy, LLC is committed to improving vocabulary, language and reading comprehension skills for students through the *WordBuild Vocabulary Development System™*. Based on frequently used Latin and Greek roots, the program is a series of educational materials designed to teach students how words are built by focusing on the meaning of prefixes, roots and suffixes. Gaining the skills necessary to decipher unfamiliar words helps improve students' performance in the classroom and on high-stakes assessments. The company was established in 2002 and is headquartered in Charlottesville, Va. For more information, visit www.dynamicliteracy.com or phone 888-696-8597.

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