Prior Knowledge

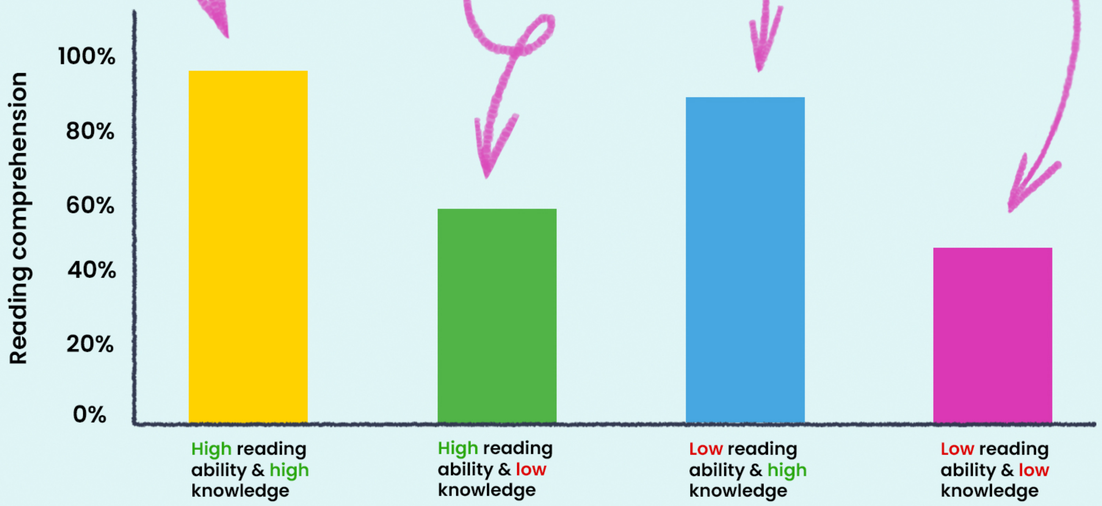
The Baseball Study

Recht and Leslie, 1988

This is an unsurprising finding as we would expect participants with strong reading and strong prior knowledge to do the best.

This is an unsurprising finding as we would expect participants with weak reading and weak prior knowledge to do the worst.

This is surprising and demonstrates the crucial role that prior knowledge plays.

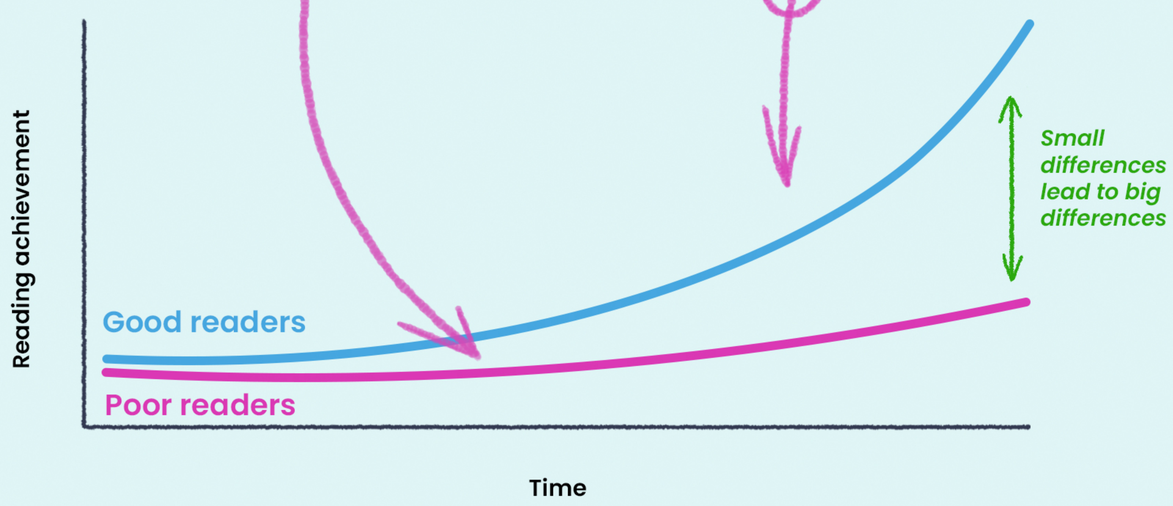


The Matthew Effect

Stanovich, 1986

Early success fuels motivation. Students strengthen their skills, build their knowledge and progress at a faster rate.

Early struggles result in missed opportunities to strengthen skills or build knowledge. Progress is therefore slow.



Department of Education

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