Phonics

"Reading" is defined as "talking in the sense of, as of language, by interpreting the characters with which it is expressed" (alphabet) or "uttering aloud or reproducing something written" (note sound element).

"Alphabet" is defined as "the series of characters used in writing a language, and intended to represent the sounds of which it consists.

"Writing" is defined as "one of the oldest arts, usually divided into ideographic writing (such as ancient hieroglyphics) in which signs represent ideas, and into phonetic writing, in which signs represent sound.

In all of these definitions, the idea of the correlation of the two senses of sight and hearing is clear. Phonics is a very basic science. It is merely the science of the association of the sight of words with the sound of words.

A child hears words and sees words; phonics is the tie-in. A child hears words he wishes to write; phonics is the tie-in.

How else can reading be possibly taught other than through the medium of phonics, the basic tool?

A child must see a word before he can read it. Therefore, all reading is sight reading. What do our "experts" mean by "sight reading" as a means of teaching "sight reading"? Can't quite figure this one out.

At any rate, I believe our modern educational "experts" slapped up and forgot to have the compilers of dictionaries and encyclopedias bring their definitions up to date to correspond with modern teaching methods.

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