

The Key Learning Center

What is Multisensory Structured Language Education (MSLE)?

MSLE refers to an approach to teaching the language skills of reading and writing. It involves several key components. MSLE is considered to be *essential* for effectively teaching students with language-based learning differences. Its components are research-based. Further, MSLE meets the same criterion as the National Reading Panel's recommendations for effective reading programs for *all* children.

Content of MSLE – *What is taught.*

- **Phonology and Phonological Awareness:** The study of speech sounds and how they work within the language . It is consider the foundation of reading.
- **Sound-Symbol Association:** The knowledge of the various sounds in the English language and their correspondence to the letters and combinations of letters which represent those sounds (also called the *alphabetic principle*).
- **Syllable Instruction:** A syllable is a unit of language with one vowel sound. Teaching includes the six syllable types and syllable division rules.
- **Morphology:** Morphology is the study of how morphemes are combined form words, these include basewords, prefixes, roots, and suffixes.
- **Syntax:** Syntax is the set of principles that dictate the sequence and function of words in a sentence in order to convey meaning. Grammar, sentences types and language mechanics are taught.
- **Semantics:** Semantics is that aspect of language concerned with meaning. Vocabulary and comprehension skills are integrated into each lesson.

The Principles of Instruction- *How it is taught.*

- **Multisensory (AVK):** Teaching is done using all learning pathways in the brain (visual, auditory, kinesthetic) simultaneously in order to enhance memory and learning.
- **Systematic and Cumulative:** Skills are taught in an organized logical order from simple to complex following the logical order of the English language.
- **Direct Instruction:** The inferential learning of any concept cannot be taken for granted. Multisensory language instruction requires the direct teaching of all concepts with continuous student-teacher interaction and regular review and reinforcement. Students are challenged to think about language and how it works.
- **Diagnostic Teaching:** Prescriptive teaching is based on the careful and continuous assessment of the individual student's needs. The content presented must be mastered to the degree of automaticity.
- **Synthetic and Analytic Instruction:** Synthetic instruction presents the parts of the language and then teaches how the parts work together to form a whole. Analytic instruction presents the whole and teaches how this can be broken down into its parts. Instruction continually interchanges both pieces keeping learning active and thoughtful.

Information taken from *International Dyslexia Association*. See Facts Sheets listed below:

http://www.interdys.org/ewebeditpro5/upload/Multisensory_Teaching.pdf

[http://www.interdys.org/ewebeditpro5/upload/OG_Based_and_or_Multisensory_Structured_Language_Approaches\(1\).pdf](http://www.interdys.org/ewebeditpro5/upload/OG_Based_and_or_Multisensory_Structured_Language_Approaches(1).pdf)