

## Advisory Program Description

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Name of Entity: Phonemic Awareness: The Skills That They Need to Help Them Succeed Written by Dr. Michael Heggerty
Contact Information: Alisa VanHekken alisa@literacyresourcesinc.com
Type of Program: Supplemental Program
If this program is intervention or supplemental which component(s) of reading are addressed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phonemic Awareness <input type="checkbox"/> Phonics <input type="checkbox"/> Fluency <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehension
Grade Level: K-2
Summary of the program: Literacy Resources, Inc. was founded by Dr. Michael Heggerty in 2004, and is the publisher of his Phonemic Awareness curriculum, <i>Phonemic Awareness: They Skills That They Need to Help Them Succeed</i> . Dr. Heggerty served as an educator for over 34 years. As a first grade classroom teacher, he served as a leader in an action research project on the importance of phonemic awareness in acquiring and mastering sound reading skills. He continued to research and develop phonemic awareness curriculum materials in the succeeding years. The curriculum, <i>Phonemic Awareness: They Skills That They Need to Help Them Succeed</i> is a result of his research and classroom work.  Alisa VanHekken has worked as a Kindergarten and 1 <sup>st</sup> grade classroom teacher and as a Reading Specialist. She worked closely with Dr. Heggerty and learned to use the Phonemic Awareness curriculum from Dr. Heggerty himself. She also used the curriculum with many students and saw reading improvement and growth as a result. Alisa came to work with Literacy Resources, Inc. as a Literacy Consultant in 2013, and has provided teachers with training in the Phonemic Awareness curriculum throughout the United States and Queensland, Australia. Alisa has also worked to revise and update the English curricula for Preschool, Kindergarten, and primary grades.  <i>Phonemic Awareness: They Skills That They Need to Help Them Succeed</i> is a supplemental curriculum for Kindergarten and primary grade classrooms. The short, daily lessons provide students with consistent and explicit instruction in ten essential Phonemic Awareness skills. Through oral and auditory activities, students learn to blend and segment sounds, recognize and produce words that rhyme, identify initial, medial, and final sounds, and manipulate sounds in words.  Schools across the United States are using the Phonemic Awareness lessons in their classrooms each day. Hundreds of teachers across the United States have been trained by Alisa VanHekken to gain an in-depth understanding of the curriculum components. Numerous schools across the state of Illinois, along with Chicago Public Schools in Chicago, IL, Austin Public Schools in Austin, TX, West Fargo Schools in West Fargo, ND, Fort Zumwalt School District in Missouri, teachers in Glendive, MT, teachers in Queensland, Australia, and teachers in Livingston Parish Louisiana implement the curriculum in their schools throughout the school year. Literacy Specialists from the Mississippi Department of Education are assisting teachers throughout the state with successful implementation of the curriculum in elementary school classrooms. The Phonemic Awareness curriculum materials have been purchased by more than 2500 schools and school districts within the past two years.