

Contents

Understanding Oral Language Development 4

What Is Language?	5
The Role of Oral Language in Literacy Development	6
Early Development	6
Stages of Productive Oral Language Development	6
Essentials for Language Development	9
Language Modeling	9
Language Expansion	9
Testing Language Rules	10
Language Feedback	10
Valuing Language	11
Language-Producing Activities	11

Understanding Oral Language Assessment and Instruction 12

Oral Language Observation	13
Language Structure (Syntax)	13
Inflections (Word Endings)	13
Articulation	14
Oral Language Assessment	14
About the Assessment	14
How to Administer	14
Interpreting the Data to Inform Instruction	15
Implications for Instruction	16
Oral Language Instruction	18
Scaffolding Language Learning	18
Addressing Language Deficiencies: A Dual Approach	19
Linking Oral Language Instruction to Reading Instruction	22
Developing “Book Talk”	22
Observing the Preemergent Reader	22
Understanding Oral Language Scores and Reading Comprehension at Different Reading Levels	23
Implications for Guided Instructional Reading	24
Linking Oral Language Instruction to Writing Instruction	25
Building on Oral Language-Reading	25
The Importance of Individual Data	25
Oral Language-Reading and Oral Language Writing Are Reciprocal Strategies	25
Understanding Oral Language Scores and Writing Development	26

Understanding and Using Let’s Talk About It! 28

Oral Language-Reading	30
Oral Language: Photo	30
Oral Language-Reading: Photo and Text Card	32
Oral Language-Writing	33
Oral Language: Photo	33
Oral Language-Writing: Student Text	35

Reproducible Masters 37

Reading Focus Sheet	37
Writing Focus Sheet	38
Oral Language Assessment	39
Key Assessments—Reading Stages Chart	40