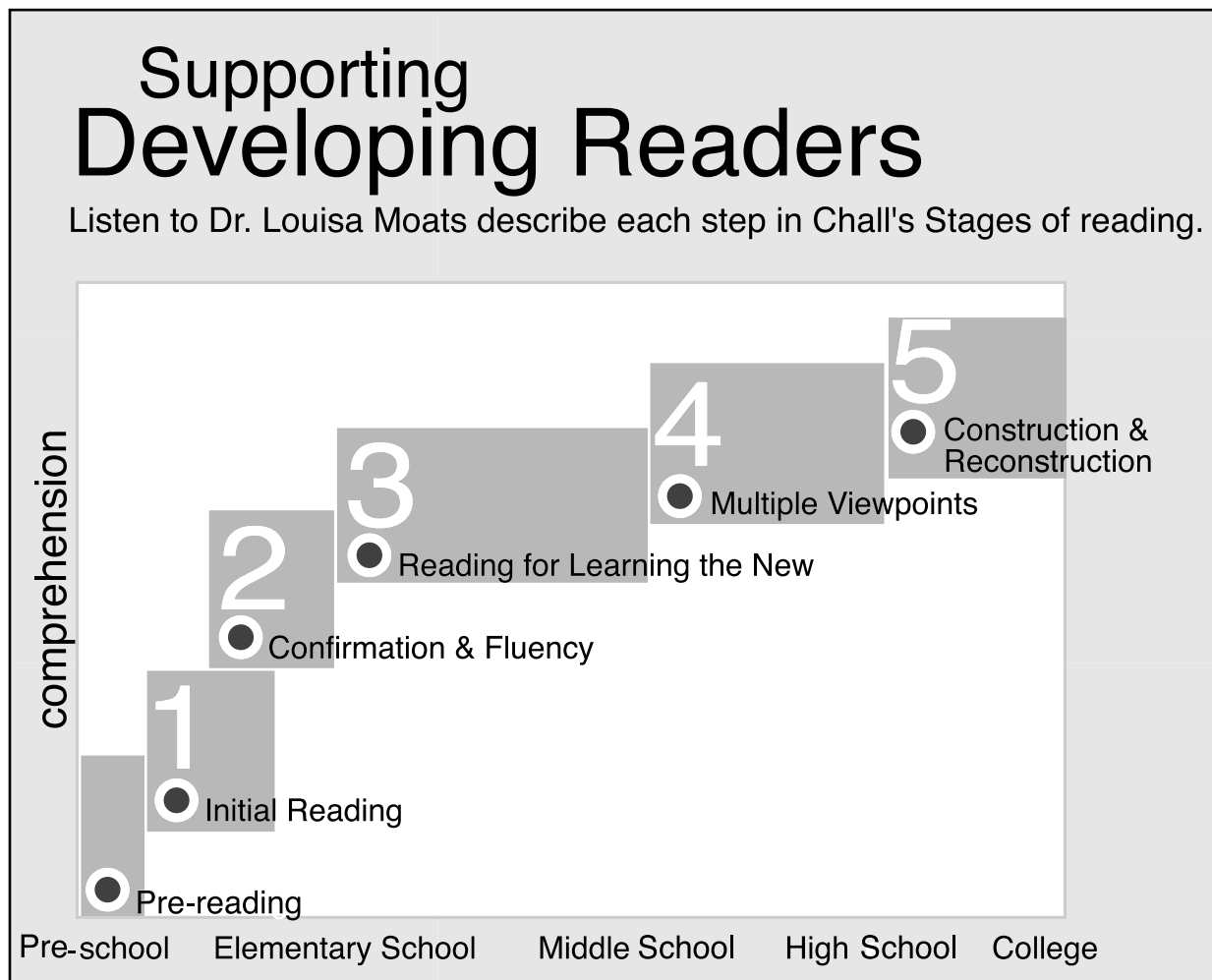


A Look at the Research

What's Inside?

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Chall's Stages of Reading Development



Stage 0 Prereading

Oral language development

Stage 1 Initial Reading

Letters represent sounds

Sound-spelling relationships

Stage 2 Confirmation and Fluency

Decoding skills

Fluency

Additional strategies

Stage 3 Reading for Learning “the New”

Expand vocabularies

Build background and world knowledge

Develop strategic habits

Stage 4 Multiple Viewpoints

Analyze texts critically

Understand multiple points of view

Stage 5 Construction and Reconstruction

Construct understanding based on analysis and

synthesis

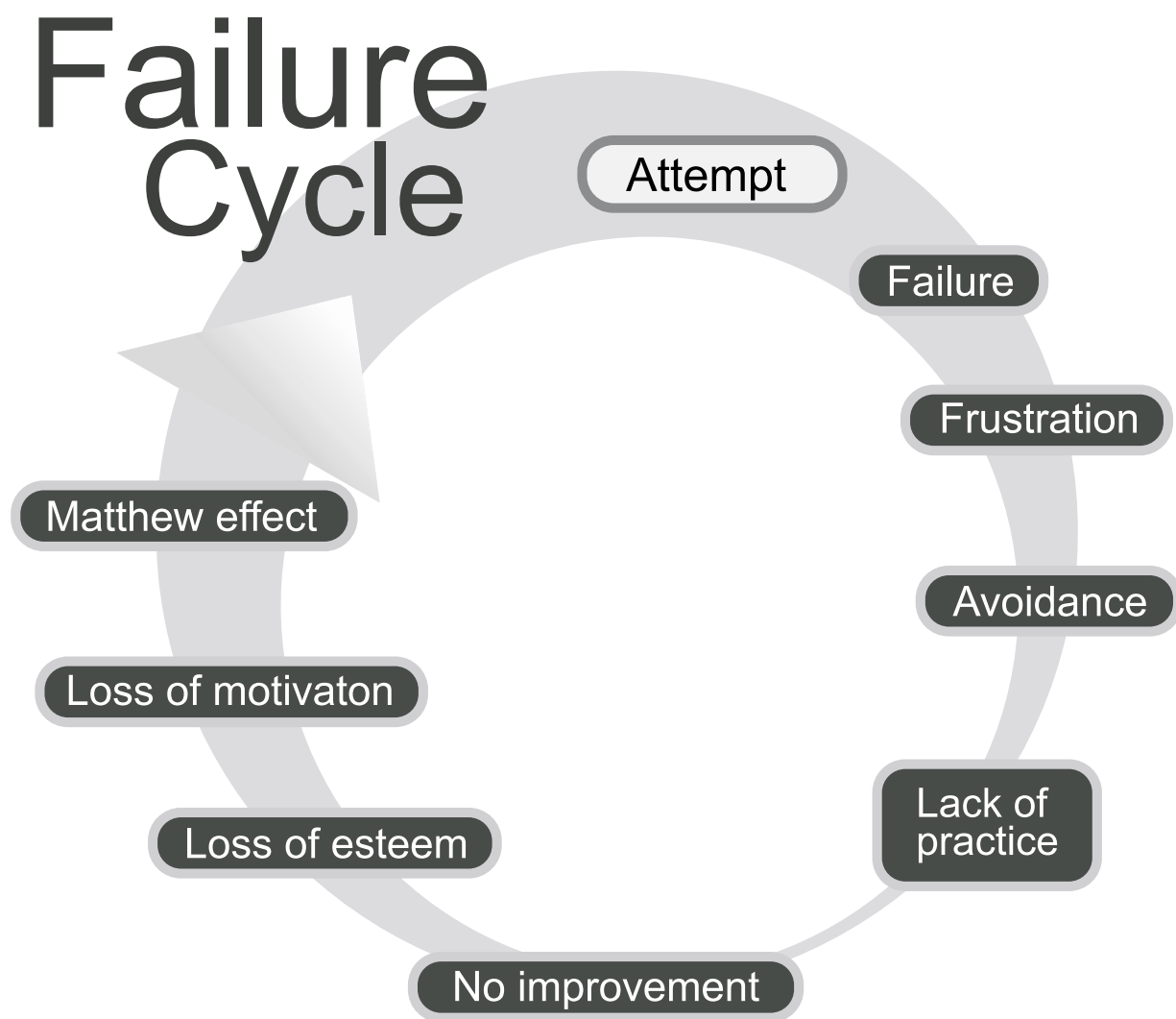
Chall's Stages of Reading Development

According to renowned professor Dr. Jeanne Chall, students proceed through predictable stages of learning to read. During the pre-reading stage up until about 6 years old, children begin to control language. By the time students reach kindergarten they should have some print knowledge and vocabularies of about 6,000 words. Many children can write their names.

In stage 1, children develop a sense of the alphabetic principle and use sound-spelling relationships. Through grades 2 and 3, the second stage of reading, students develop their decoding skills, their fluency and additional strategies to make meaning from text. Stage 3, which lasts from grades 4 through 8 is a time when students encounter wide varieties of texts and contexts, and all the reading demands that accompany these experiences. They must extend their vocabularies if they are to effectively obtain information from text; the texts also extend the background experiences and strategic habits of readers.

In stages 4 and 5, through high school and college, the language and cognitive demands of readers increase, and they are expected to analyze texts critically and understand multiple points of view. By stage 5, reading is considered truly constructive, that is readers take in significant range of information and construct their own understanding for their own individual uses based on analysis and synthesis.

The Failure Cycle



Nonfiction Books for Grades 3–5

Use these books to model and teach comprehension strategies.

Grade	Title	Author	Publisher
3	<i>Postcards From Pluto: A Tour of the Solar System</i>	Loreen Leedy	Holiday House
	<i>The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System</i>	Joanna Cole	Scholastic Inc.
	<i>A Book About Planets and Stars</i>	Betty Polisar Reigot	Scholastic Inc.
4	<i>All About Maps</i>	Catherine Chambers	Franklin Watts, Inc.
	<i>Do Tornadoes Really Twist?</i>	Melvin and Gilda Berger	Scholastic Inc.
	<i>Cities: The Building of America</i>	Gare Thompson	Children's Press
5	<i>The Declaration of Independence</i>	R. Conrad Stein	Children's Press
	<i>Stealing Home: The Story of Jackie Robinson</i>	Barry Denenberg	Scholastic Inc.
	<i>The Story of The White House</i>	Kate Waters	Scholastic Inc.