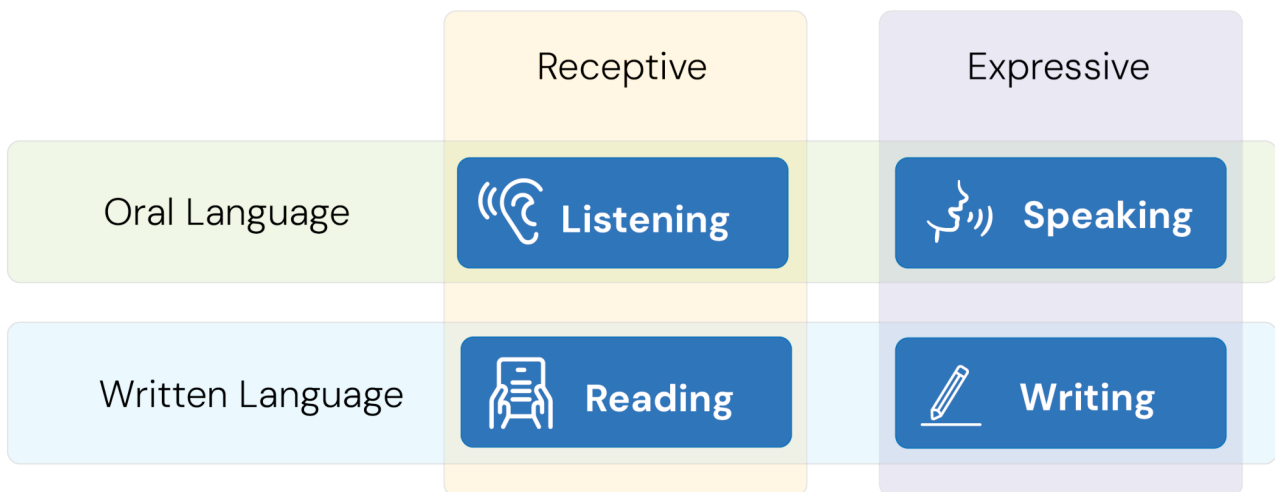
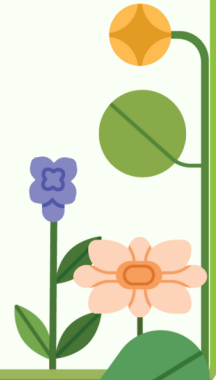
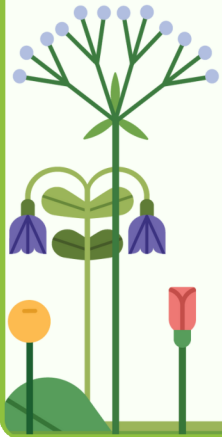


Literacy is Language

Reading and writing flourish when listening and speaking are cultivated.

How is literacy language?

Literacy is more than reading words on a page. Reading and writing grow out of listening and speaking, with oral language serving as the soil from which they take root. Students' oral language abilities shape how quickly and effectively they acquire decoding, comprehension, and writing composition skills. It is best to think of listening, speaking, reading, and writing as interconnected forms of language that flourish when the foundational soil is well nourished.



? What is Academic Language?

Academic language is a special type of complex language, used in both oral and written forms, to acquire and express knowledge. Complex language patterns operate at multiple levels, and all are essential for learning and literacy.

- **Words** (e.g., prefixes, suffixes)
- **Sentences** (e.g., subordinate clauses)
- **Discourse** (e.g., main ideas, story elements)

? Why Teach Language Patterns?



Direct and deliberate teaching of the shared features of listening, speaking, reading, and writing—the patterns of academic language—promotes efficient transfer from oral language to written language.

Students use language patterns (like lattice) and their background knowledge to generate inferences about unknown content.