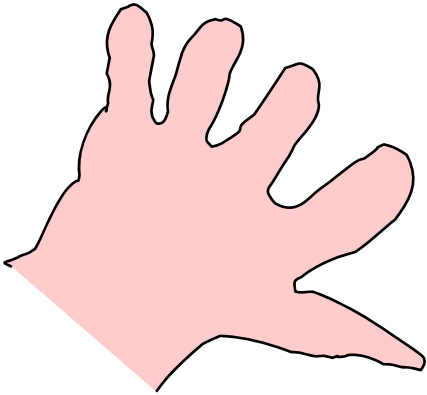


Big 5 of Reading

This definition is actualized through the “Big 5” of reading.



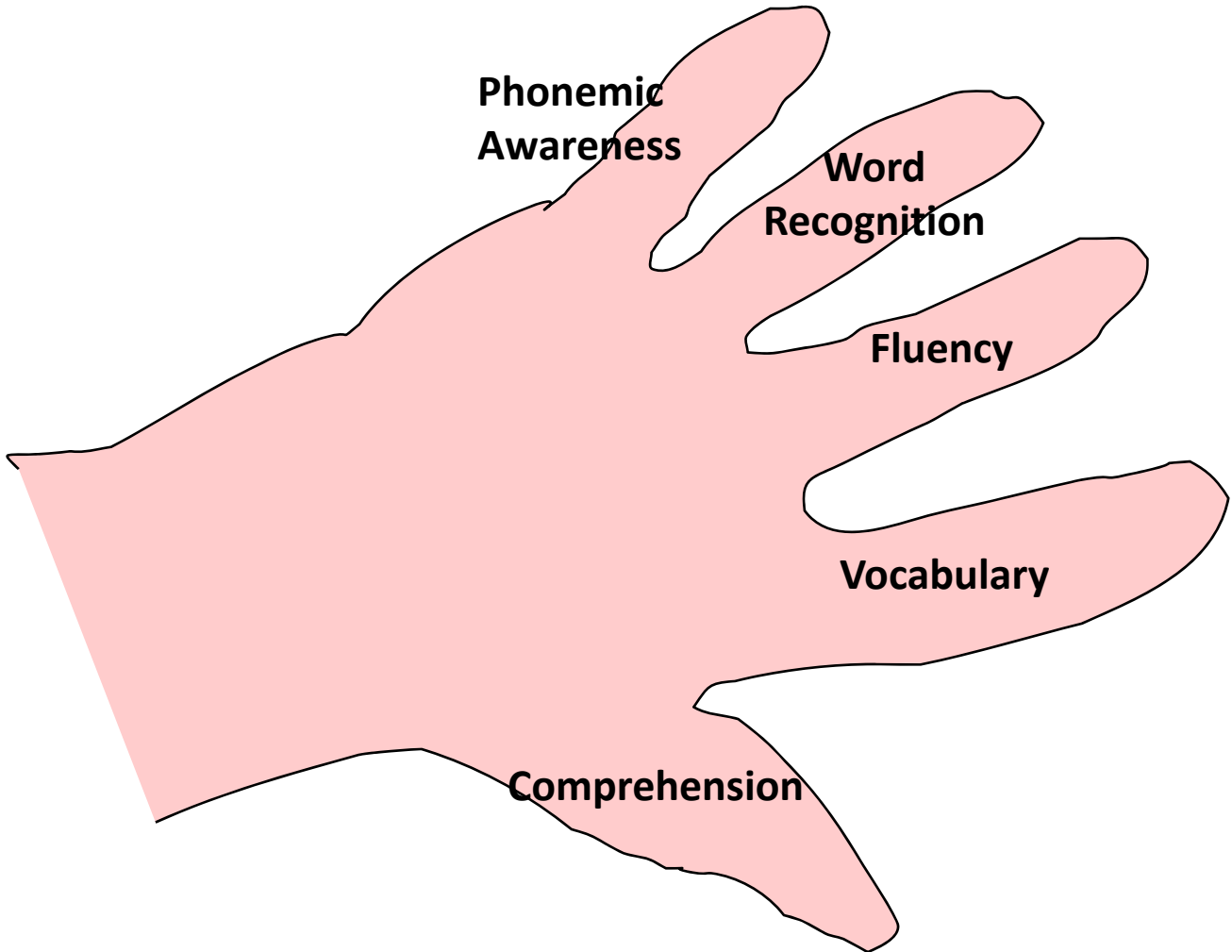
Phonemic awareness: ability to work with the smallest unit of sound, the phoneme. Skills include rhyming; segmenting words into syllables and sounds; substituting beginning, middle, and end sounds; and counting the number of sounds in words.

Word recognition: ability to decode words. Skills include knowing basic phonograms (e.g., sounds that letters represent) and applying them when reading text. Phonics instruction is a primary component of word recognition.

Fluency: ability to read text at a good pace and with appropriate phrasing (as compared to word-by-word reading). Fluency is key to comprehension. If readers need to expend extensive energy into sounding out words, they may not have the needed “brain power” to understand what they are reading.

Vocabulary: ability to understand the meaning of words. Skills include knowing the meaning of common words as well as specialized vocabulary within content areas.

Comprehension: ability to understand what is being read. Comprehension is THE outcome of reading. Skills include a) identifying main ideas and supporting details for informational text; b) identifying setting, characters, problem, and solution for narrative text; c) sequencing information; and d) analyzing text for meaning through text-to-self connections, text-to-text connections, and comparison and contrast of information across multiple text.



**Phonemic
Awareness**

**Word
Recognition**

Fluency

Vocabulary

Comprehension