Bloom 3 Session 7

Bloom Session 7

In this session, we will learn how to create a decodable reader in Bloom. The data files for this session are found in the subfolder *Data\Reader*.

Start Bloom.

Choose a Collection

1. The main window appears. Click **Other Collections**. The **Open/Create Collection** dialog box appears.
2. Select the **English Book**s collection. The main window reappears.

Create a book

1. In the **Sources for New Books** pane, select **Decodable Reader** template.
2. Click **Make a book using this source**.
3. We will be using the Decodable Reader tool to create the reader. Decodable reader allows to to introduce letters and sight words in various stages In the **Decodable reader Tool** pane, click **Set up Stages**.
4. First we want to add the graphemes that need to be taught. Click on the **Letters** tab. Copy the letters found in the file *Letters.txt* and paste them into the **Letters and Letter Combinations** textbox. Or you could just type them in.
5. Second we want to use a word list that can be used as suggested words for the book. Click on the **Words** tab. We could type or paste in the suggested words in the **Type Words Here** textbox. Or we can have the suggested words in a UTF-8 text file. Click **Sample Texts Folder**. Copy the text file (*EnglishWords.txt*) into the Sample Texts subfolder. This is subfolder that Bloom uses for getting suggested words. Close the subfolder. Now the path of the file is displayed in the **Place Text Files** textbox.
6. Third we want to create the various stages for decodable readers. Click the **Decodable Stages** tab. Stage 1 already exists. We just need to define it. Click **Stage 1**. In the **Previous and New Letters** table, select the letters for stage 1 (*Stages.txt*). In the **New Sight Words** textbox, add the sight words separated by spaces (*SightWords.txt)*.

   To add the next stage, click **Add Stage**. In the **Previous and New Letters** table, select the letters for stage 2 (*Stages.txt*).

   To add the next stage, click **Add Stage**. In the **Previous and New Letters** table, select the letters for stage 3 (*Stages.txt*).

   To add the next stage, click **Add Stage**. In the **Previous and New Letters** table, select the letters for stage 4 (*Stages.txt*).

   To add the next stage, click **Add Stage**. In the **Previous and New Letters** table, select the letters for stage 5 (*Stages.txt*).

   The paticipants should add the next 5 stages on their own (Stages.txt).

   All the letters should be selected. You can get a information report for all the stages by clicking **Generate a letter and word list report.** Now you are ready to create our reader. Click **OK**.

7. Note we are now ready to create a reader for a stage 1 reader. If we want to create a reader for another stage, change the stage number by click the adjacent arrows.

   In the **Front Cove**r page, enter **Stage 1 Reader** as the title for the book and insert a picture from the *Art of Reading* collection.

   Click **Add Page** and select **Basic Text & Picture** and then click **Add This Page**. In the new page, insert a picture of a boy from the *Art of Reading* collection and enter some text (e.g. Dad sees John. Mary and John see Dad.) What happens if you change Dad to Mom? Why?

   Click **Add Page** and select **Basic Text & Picture** and then click **Add This Page**. In the new page, insert a picture of a girl from the *Art of Reading* collection and enter some text (e.g. Mary sees an ant. Mary sees ants in the sand.) What happens if you change ant to spider? What happens if you change sand to grass? Why?

Exercise

1. Create a stage 2 reader of four pages.
2. Create a stage 3 reader of six pages.