



## Synopsis

To many teachers who began their careers with basal readers, the schwa sound was part of what led them to whole language in the first place. If they didn't even understand linguistic terminology themselves, how could they be expected to teach it to kids? Yet many teachers still wonder about letters and sounds and phonics. What role does phonics play in learning to read? Does it still have a place in classrooms where children are becoming literate through rich experiences with literature and writing? Why have the debates about phonics continued and in some ways grown more heated? In *What's a Schwa Sound Anyway?* Sandra Wilde answers these and many other questions related to phonics and its relationship to learning to read and spell. She makes a forceful case that teachers who have a working knowledge about the English sound system are not only more powerful observers of students' reading and invented spelling, but also more informed participants in the current debates about the role of phonics in learning to read. The first part of the book is a lively exploration of the English sound system and its relation to written language for both reading and spelling. This mini-course in linguistics is reader friendly and accessible to even the most linguistics-phobic classroom teacher. Of special interest to those who work with diverse populations is a chapter-length discussion of language variation such as Black English and its role in learning to read and spell. The second part of the book helps readers apply their new knowledge about sounds, letters, and the relationship between them to the classroom. Chapter 5, "Skills and the Big Phonics Debate," applies theory, research, and common sense to debates about the role of phonics in learning to read and spell. The next two chapters take a close look at a number of writing samples and reading miscues, illuminating how a knowledgeable teacher can appreciate "error" as a reflection of children's developing understandings of written language. Sandra Wilde's work with invented spelling has helped us discover that the better we understand what children are doing, the more responsive and creative we can be as teachers. *What's a Schwa Sound Anyway?* continues this work by helping teachers deepen and extend their knowledge base about written language and the way children perceive it, always with the goal of helping children continue to grow and develop as readers and writers.

## Book Information

Paperback: 172 pages

Publisher: Heinemann; 1 edition (April 21, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0435088653

ISBN-13: 978-0435088651

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars See all reviews (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #198,953 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Spelling #70 in Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Phonetics & Phonics #446 in Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Instruction Methods > Language Arts

## Customer Reviews

This book cuts to the chase and provides an understandable overview of linguistics and phonics. It speaks clearly to implications for writing, spelling and reading instruction, but does so in a very teacher friendly way.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

What's a Schwa Sound Anyway? A Holistic Guide to Phonetics, Phonics, and Spelling PHONICS - O Sounds - Book 4: Improve Your Child's Spelling and Reading Skills- Elementary School: The BEST PHONICS PROGRAM for children aged 5 to 10 Whats After Assessment?/Follow-up Instructions for Phonics, Fluency and Comprehension: Follow-Up Instruction for Phonics, Fluency, and Comprehension 25 Fun Phonics Plays for Beginning Readers: Engaging, Reproducible Plays That Target and Teach Key Phonics Skills-and Get Kids Eager to Read! Sound Innovations for String Orchestra -- Sound Development: Viola (Sound Innovations Series for Strings) Daily Word Ladders: Grades 1&#150;2: 150+ Reproducible Word Study Lessons That Help Kids Boost Reading, Vocabulary, Spelling and Phonics Skills! Words Their Way: Word Study for Phonics, Vocabulary, and Spelling Instruction, 4th Edition (Book, CD & DVD) Making Words Second Grade: 100 Hands-On Lessons for Phonemic Awareness, Phonics and Spelling Word Journeys: Assessment-Guided Phonics, Spelling, and Vocabulary Instruction Spelling Through Phonics: 30th Anniversary Edition Spelling Through Phonics Spelling Made Simple: Improve Your Spelling with This Practical, Self-Teaching Guide 2nd Grade Spelling Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Spelling Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Language Arts Flashcards) 1st Grade Spelling Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Spelling Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Language Arts Flashcards) Kindergarten Spelling Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Spelling Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Language Arts Flashcards) Spelling Smart!: A Ready-to-Use

Activities Program for Students with Spelling Difficulties Holistic Relaxation: Erase Anxiety!: Effective Natural Therapies, Stress Management Techniques, Holistic Remedies and Wellness Coaching for Busy People (Anxiety, Mindfulness, Yoga, Relaxation Book 1) The Better Bladder Book: A Holistic Approach to Healing Interstitial Cystitis & Chronic Pelvic Pain[ THE BETTER BLADDER BOOK: A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO HEALING INTERSTITIAL CYSTITIS & CHRONIC PELVIC PAIN ] by Cohan, Wendy (Author ) on Nov-09-2010 Paperback Critical Care Nursing: A Holistic Approach (Critical Care Nursing: A Holistic Approach (Hudak)) A Phonetics Workbook for Students: Building a Foundation for Transcription (The Allyn & Bacon Communication Sciences and Disorders)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)