You can be the best reading and writing workshop teacher in the world—but as big and important as that is, it is not enough. Your children will not be able to write persuasive letters asking the principal for a class turtle, nor will they be able to research the pros and cons of hamsters versus guinea pigs, or be able to stay up late at night reading by flashlight if they cannot get words onto and off the page. And for that, many children need you to teach phonics directly, according to a planned and researched sequence of instruction, using methods that have emerged from decades of practice and study.

The new Units of Study in Phonics:

- provide a lean and concise instructional pathway in phonics that is realistic and doable, and that taps into kids’ skills and energy for tackling the fabulous challenge of learning to read and write,
- introduce high-leverage phonics concepts and strategies in a way that keeps pace with students’ reading and writing and helps them understand when, how, and why they can use phonics to read and write,
- offer delightfully fun and engaging storylines, classroom mascots, songs, chants, rhymes, and games to help students fall head over heels in love with phonics and to create a joyous community of learners,
- align with state-of-the-art reading and writing workshops for a coherent approach in which terminology, tools, rituals, and methods are shared in ways that benefit both teachers and kids.

In the hurly-burly of classroom life, every minute you spend on one subject is less time spent on another subject. Lucy and her coauthors aim to protect time for authentic reading and writing, while also helping you teach a rigorous, research-based phonics curriculum.