

Decodify™ Quick Reference for Substitutes & Support Staff

This sheet works for all Decodify levels (1–12). Use the same prompts whether the word is simple or advanced. If the classroom teacher left any IEP/504 or read-aloud directions, follow those first.

When a student gets stuck on a word, say only:

1. “Say it slowly.”
2. “Try another sound.”
3. “Break it into two parts.”

If the student is still stuck:

“Listen to me read it. Now you try.”

If they read the word but don’t know what it means:

“Use it in a sentence.”

If the student looks very frustrated or upset:

- Read the word for them.
- Have them repeat it once.
- Write the word down for the teacher.
- Then move on.

Record it, don’t teach it.

If a student struggles with the same word more than once, write it down for the teacher. Do NOT teach rules, explain patterns, guess strategies, slow the game, or change Decodify routines.

What the teacher will do later:

The classroom teacher will reteach any patterns or rules during instruction.

Student Struggle Notes (Optional):

Please refer to the Decodify Cheat Sheet, Student Disagreement Guide, or Behavior Guide to help you navigate issues that will come up during play. Also, note the names of students who were struggling during play.