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### **An introduction to a Hungarian motivation-based method for pre-forming reading**

This is a new approach to pre-forming reading skills for five to six year-old children and an emotional bridge between children and their most important cultural tool. The method uses tales and special forms of music as a motivational system. It invites children into a magical "tale world", where letters are impersonated by loveable balloons and exciting fairytale characters. The method requires minimal financial background and can be used in preschool, in kindergarten, or at home, to develop children's phonological awareness.

We found that the focus group separated syllables more efficiently than the control group ( $p=0,3\%$ ). The focus group produced better results in separating vowels from consonants in words ( $p=0,1\%$ ), in the perception of consonants ( $p=1,2\%$ ), even the working memory developed significantly ( $p=1,5\%$ ). In many measured aspects the standard deviation has also decreased, which suggests the positive effect on the whole group's metalingual skills. On reaching elementary school, children read vowels 2.3 times, consonants 2 times, and syllables 2.6 times faster, making significantly fewer mistakes than the control group. The method is easily adaptable to any language with shallow orthography.