

Alabama Course of Study English Language Arts (2021)

Founded in 2007, Great Minds PBC has evolved from an education advocacy start-up to a respected curriculum developer providing the highest-quality materials and professional development to schools and districts nationwide. In pursuit of its goal of raising expectations for every student, Great Minds® enlists educators to write curricula based on proven learning strategies to reward students' natural curiosity, build knowledge, and cultivate lifelong critical-thinking skills. Writing teams collaborate to ensure a consistent structure and vision for learning within and across all grade levels. We are pleased to bring you our newest kindergarten through grade 5 foundational skills offering, *Arts & Letters™: Reading Foundations*.

Reading Foundations provides systematic, explicit instruction in the foundational reading skills students need to become proficient, confident readers. Grounded in the Science of Reading, lessons develop phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, word recognition, and fluency in the early grades, advancing to morphology, advanced spelling, and reading multisyllabic words in grades 3–5. The program builds the decoding and word-analysis skills students rely on to read increasingly complex texts. The curriculum provides guidance for supporting all learners at key moments in the lessons.

Each grade in *Reading Foundations* contains 160 lessons, comprising a full year of instruction. *Reading Foundations* was intentionally designed to be implemented alongside *Arts & Letters: Language Arts*, the knowledge-building English language arts core. Together, the two programs form a comprehensive literacy block in which students learn foundational skills and immediately apply them to rich, knowledge-building texts—building both strong reading skills and deep knowledge. Through this strategic integration, students can successfully achieve the proficiencies of Alabama standards while benefiting from the coherent, research-based design of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Alabama standards and *Reading Foundations* follows.

Literacy Foundations

Fluency

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.FL.11 Apply previously-taught phoneme-grapheme correspondences to multisyllabic words with accuracy and automaticity, in and out of context.	Grade 2, Lessons 52–54 and 72–74.
LF.FL.12 Read and reread grade-appropriate text accurately, automatically, and with meaningful expression at a rate which supports comprehension.	Grade 2, Lessons 1–2, 4–5, 7–8, 10–11, 13, 17–18, 20–21, 23, 27–28, 30–31, 33, 37–38, 40–41, 43, 47–48, 50–51, 53, 57–58, 60–61, 63, 67–68, 70–71, 73, 77–78, 80–81, 83, 87–88, 90–91, 93, 97–98, 100–101, 103, 107–108, 110–111, 113, 117–118, 120–121, 123, 127–128, 130–131, 133, 137–138, 140–141, 143–144, 146, 150–151, 153–154, 156
LF.FL.13 Read grade-appropriate poetry, noticing phrasing, rhythm, and rhyme.	Grade 2, Lessons 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 37, 38, 40, 41, 43, 47, 48, 50, 51, 53, 57, 58, 60, 61, 63, 67, 68, 70, 71, 73, 77, 78, 80, 81, 83, 87, 88, 90, 91, 93, 97, 98, 100, 101, 103, 107, 108, 110, 111, 113, 117, 118, 120, 121, 123, 127, 128, 130, 131, 133, 137, 138, 140, 141, 143, 144, 146, 150, 151, 153, 154, 156 <i>Language Arts</i> addresses reading poetry in grade 2.
LF.FL.14 Read high-frequency words commonly found in grade-appropriate text.	Grade 2, Lessons 4–5, 7–8, 10–11, 13, 17–18, 20–21, 23, 27–28, 30–31, 33, 37–38, 40–41, 43, 47–48, 50–51, 53, 57–58, 60–61, 63, 67–68, 70–71, 73, 77–78, 80–81, 83, 87–88, 90–91, 93, 97–98, 100–101, 103, 107–108, 110–111, 113, 117–118, 120–121, 123, 127–128, 130–131, 133, 137–138, 140–141, 143–144, 146, 150–151, 153–154, 156.

Literacy Foundations**Phonological Awareness/Phonemic Awareness**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.PA.8 Apply knowledge of voiced and unvoiced sounds and manner of articulation to distinguish between commonly-confused vowel sounds and commonly-confused cognate consonant sounds.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
LF.PA.9 Demonstrate advanced phonemic awareness skills in spoken words.	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159
LF.PA.9.a Add, delete, and substitute phonemes at the beginning, end, or middle of a spoken word made up of up to six phonemes and produce the resulting word.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address deleting phonemes. Grade 2 Lessons 3, 6, 9, 16, 22, 36, 42, 99, 102, 106, 109
LF.PA.9.b Delete the initial sound in an initial blend in a one-syllable base word.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
LF.PA.9.c With prompting and support, delete the medial and final sounds in blends in one syllable base words.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
LF.PA.9.d Apply phoneme chaining that changes only one sound at a time to show addition, deletion, substitution, and resequencing of sounds from one word to the next.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address deletion, and resequencing sounds from one word to the next. Grade 2 Lessons 3, 6, 9, 15, 16, 22, 36, 42, 99, 102, 106, 109
LF.PA.9.e With prompting and support, reverse sounds within a word by saying the last sound first and the first sound last.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.

Literacy Foundations

Phonics

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.PH.10 Apply knowledge of phoneme-grapheme correspondences, multisyllabic word construction, and syllable division principles to decode and encode (spell) words accurately in isolation and in context.	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159
LF.PH.10.a Decode multisyllabic words with common syllable patterns, including open/closed, vowel-r, vowel-consonant-e, vowel teams, consonant-le, and schwa syllables.	Grade 2, Lessons 3, 16, 31, 36, 38, 41–43, 45–47, 49–50, 52–53, 55–73, 76–83, 88, 90–93, 97–100, 102–103, 106–113, 115–123, 126–133, 136–138, 140–147, 149–156 <i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses decoding multisyllabic words with schwa syllables in grades 3, 4, and 5. Grade 3, Lesson 2 Grade 4, Lesson 1 Grade 5, Lesson 1
LF.PH.10.b Apply knowledge of multisyllabic word construction and syllable division principles to decode grade-appropriate multisyllabic words.	Grade 2, Lessons 56–74.
LF.PH.10.c Decode and encode words with three-consonant blends and blends containing digraphs.	Grade 2, Lessons 6–8 and 16–21.
LF.PH.10.d Decode and encode words with consonant digraphs, trigraphs, and combinations.	Grade 2, Lessons 6–8 and 16–21.

LF.PH.10.e Decode and encode words with variable vowel teams and vowel diphthongs.	Grade 2, Lessons 46–51 and 82–94.
LF.PH.10.f Decode and encode words with vowel-r combinations.	Grade 2, Lessons 76–81.
LF.PH.10.g Decode and encode words that follow the -ild, -ost, -old, -olt, and -ind patterns.	Grade 2, Lessons 106–111.
LF.PH.10.h Decode and encode words with a after w read /ä/ and a before l read /â/.	Grade 2 Lessons 12–14, 96–98
LF.PH.10.i Decode and encode words with or after w read /er/.	Grade 2, Lessons 116–118.
LF.PH.10.j Decode and encode words with the hard and soft sounds of c and g, in context and in isolation.	Grade 2, Lessons 142–144.
LF.PH.10.k Decode and encode words with vowel y in the final position of one and two syllable words, distinguishing the difference between the long /f'/ sound in one-syllable words and the long /ē/ sound in two-syllable words, and words with vowel y in medial position, producing the short /ī/ sound for these words.	Grade 2, Lessons 39–41.
LF.PH.10.l Decode words with silent letter combinations.	Grade 2, Lessons 112–114.

LF.PH.10.m Decode and encode words with prefixes and suffixes, including words with dropped e and y-to-i changes for suffix addition.	Grade 2, Lessons 36–38, 42–44, 99–101, and 149–151.
LF.PH.10.n Decode and encode grade-appropriate high frequency words that are spelled using predictable, decodable phoneme-grapheme correspondences, including those that contain only one irregularity.	Grade 2, Lessons 4–5, 7–8, 10–11, 13, 17–18, 20–21, 23, 27–28, 30–31, 33, 37–38, 40–41, 43, 47–48, 50–51, 53, 57–58, 60–61, 63, 67–68, 70–71, 73, 77–78, 80–81, 83, 87–88, 90–91, 93, 97–98, 100–101, 103, 107–108, 110–111, 113, 117–118, 120–121, 123, 127–128, 130–131, 133, 137–138, 140–141, 143–144, 146, 150–151, 153–154, 156.
LF.PH.10.o Decode and encode contractions with am, is, has, not, have, would, and will.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses encoding contractions with have, is, not, and will in Grade 3; the program does not explicitly address encoding contractions with am and has. Grade 3, Lessons 53–56

Literacy Foundations

Writing

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.WR.37 Write legibly.	Grade 2, Lessons 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 66, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, 76, 77, 79, 80, 82, 83, 86, 87, 89, 90, 92, 93, 96, 97, 99, 100, 102, 103, 106, 107, 109, 110, 112, 113, 116, 117, 119, 120, 122, 123, 126, 127, 129, 130, 132, 133, 136, 137, 139, 140, 142, 143, 145, 146, 149, 150, 152, 153, 155, 156

LF.WR.37.a Write words and sentences fluently using correctly-formed manuscript letters with appropriate size and spacing.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address writing fluently with appropriate size and spacing. Grade 2, Lessons 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 66, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, 76, 77, 79, 80, 82, 83, 86, 87, 89, 90, 92, 93, 96, 97, 99, 100, 102, 103, 106, 107, 109, 110, 112, 113, 116, 117, 119, 120, 122, 123, 126, 127, 129, 130, 132, 133, 136, 137, 139, 140, 142, 143, 145, 146, 149, 150, 152, 153, 155, 156
LF.WR.37.b Demonstrate cursive writing strokes, including undercurve, overcurve, downcurve, and slant.	Grade 2, Lessons 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 66, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, 76, 77, 79, 80, 82, 83, 86, 87, 89, 90, 92, 93, 96, 97, 99, 100, 102, 103, 106, 107, 109, 110, 112, 113, 116, 117, 119, 120, 122, 123, 126, 127, 129, 130, 132, 133, 136, 137, 139, 140, 142, 143, 145, 146, 149, 150, 152, 153, 155, 156 <i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses cursive writing in grade 3; the program does not explicitly name the specific stroke types (undercurve, overcurve, downcurve, slant). Grade 3, Lessons 6–20.
LF.WR.37.c Form uppercase and lowercase letters in cursive.	Grade 2, Lessons 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 33, 36, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 46, 47, 49, 50, 52, 53, 56, 57, 59, 60, 62, 63, 66, 67, 69, 70, 72, 73, 76, 77, 79, 80, 82, 83, 86, 87, 89, 90, 92, 93, 96, 97, 99, 100, 102, 103, 106, 107, 109, 110, 112, 113, 116, 117, 119, 120, 122, 123, 126, 127, 129, 130, 132, 133, 136, 137, 139, 140, 142, 143, 145, 146, 149, 150, 152, 153, 155, 156
LF.WR.38 Apply knowledge of grade-appropriate phoneme-grapheme correspondences, multisyllabic word construction, syllable division principles, and spelling rules (or generalizations) to encode words accurately.	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159

LF.WR.38.a Encode grade-appropriate multisyllabic words using knowledge of syllable types, including open, closed, vowel-consonant-e, vowel teams, vowel-r, and consonant-le.	Grade 2, Lessons 56–81 and 145–147.
LF.WR.38.b Apply knowledge of multisyllabic word construction and syllable division principles to encode grade-appropriate words correctly.	Grade 2, Lessons 56–71.
LF.WR.38.c Encode words with final /v/ and /j/ sounds using knowledge that no English word ends with a v or j.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address encoding words with final /v/ sounds. Grade 2, Lessons 1, 3–4, 6–7, 9–10, 12–13, 16–17, 19–20, 22–23, 26–27, 29–30, 32–33, 36–37, 39–40, 42–43, 46–47, 49–50, 52–53, 56–57, 59–60, 62–63, 66–67, 69–70, 72–73, 76–77, 79–80, 82–83, 86–87, 89–90, 92–93, 96–97, 99–100, 102–103, 106–107, 109–110, 112–113, 116–117, 119–123, 126–127, 129–130, 132–133, 136–137, 139–140, 142–143, 145–146, 149–150, 152–153, 155–156
LF.WR.38.d Encode one- and two-syllable words with long and short vowel patterns.	Grade 2, Lessons 3–5, 6, 9, 12, 16, 19, 22–24, 26, 29, 32, 36, 39, 42, 46–51, 52, 56, 59, 62, 66, 69, 72, 76, 79, 82, 86, 89, 92, 96, 99, 102, 106, 109, 112, 116, 119, 122, 126, 129, 132, 136, 139, 142, 149, 152, 155
LF.WR.38.e Encode words with two- and three-consonant blends, including those containing digraphs.	Grade 2, Lessons 6–8 and 16–21.
LF.WR.38.f Encode words with consonant digraphs, trigraphs, and combinations.	Grade 2, Lessons 6–8 and 16–21.
LF.WR.38.g Encode words with the common vowel teams, including diphthongs.	Grade 2, Lessons 46–51 and 82–94.

LF.WR.38.h Encode words with vowel-r combinations.	Grade 2, Lessons 76–81.
LF.WR.38.i Encode words that follow the -ild, -ost, -old, -olt, and -ind patterns.	Grade 2, Lessons 106–111.
LF.WR.38.j Encode words with a after w read /ä/ and a before l read /â/.	Grade 2 Lessons 12–14, 96–98
LF.WR.38.k Encode words with or after w read /er/.	Grade 2, Lessons 116–118.
LF.WR.38.l Encode words with hard and soft c and g.	Grade 2, Lessons 142–144.
LF.WR.38.m Encode words with vowel y in the final position of one and two syllable words, distinguishing the difference between the long /f’/ sound in one-syllable words and the long /ē/ sound in two-syllable words, and words with vowel y in medial position, producing the short /i/ sound for these words.	Grade 2, Lessons 39–41.
LF.WR.38.n Encode words with prefixes and suffixes, including words with dropped e and y-to-i changes for suffix addition.	Grade 2, Lessons 36–38, 42–44, 99–101, and 149–151.
LF.WR.38.o Encode grade-appropriate high frequency words that are spelled using predictable, decodable phoneme-grapheme correspondences, including those that contain only one irregularity.	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159

LF.WR.38.p Encode contractions with am, is, has, not, have, would, and will, using apostrophes appropriately.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses encoding contractions with have, is, not, and will in Grade 3; the program does not explicitly address encoding contractions with am and has. Grade 3, Lessons 53–56
LF.WR.38.q Encode frequently confused homophones accurately, using knowledge of English orthography and meaning to facilitate learning.	Grade 3, Lessons 136–139 Grade 2, Lessons 1–159