

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.9 Apply previously-taught phoneme-grapheme correspondences to multisyllabic words with accuracy and automaticity, in and out of context.	Grade 3, Lessons 21–22, 31, 34–36, 39, 42, 57–58, 61–62, 65, 68, 74–75, 78, 81–82, 92, 95–97, 100, 103–105, 126–127, 130–131, 133, 140–141, 144, 147, 149, 152, and 155.
LF.FL.10 Read and reread grade-appropriate text accurately, automatically, and with meaningful expression at a rate which supports comprehension.	Grade 3, Lessons 23, 33, 37, 41, 45, 49, 55, 59, 63, 67, 76, 80, 84, 88, 94, 98, 102, 106, 116, 120, 124, 128, 132, 138, 142, 146, 150, 154
LF.FL.11 Read and reread grade-appropriate poetry, practicing phrasing, rhythm, rhyme, and meaningful expression.	Grade 3, Lessons 24, 33, 37, 41, 45, 49, 56, 59, 63, 67, 76, 80, 84, 88, 94, 98, 102, 106, 116, 120, 124, 128, 132, 139, 142, 146, 150, 154 <i>Language Arts</i> addresses reading poetry in grade 3.
LF.FL.12 Read high-frequency words commonly found in grade-appropriate text accurately and automatically.	Grade 3, Lessons 24, 33, 37, 41, 45, 49, 56, 59, 63, 67, 76, 80, 84, 88, 98, 102, 106, 116, 120, 124, 128, 132, 136–139, 142, 146, 150, 154

Literacy Foundations

Phonological Awareness/Phonemic Awareness

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.PA.7 Demonstrate advanced phonemic awareness skills in spoken words.	Grade 3, Lessons 1–9, 11–17, 19–29, 31–107, 109–137, 139–159

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.PA.7.a Delete phonemes in initial and final blends of a spoken word.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses phoneme deletion in grade 1; the program does not explicitly confirm deletion specifically within initial/final blends. Grade 1, Lessons 69 and 89.
LF.PA.7.b Substitute phonemes in initial and final blends in a spoken word.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address substituting phonemes in initial and final blends. Kindergarten, Lessons 5, 80, 83, 86, 90, 93, 96, 100, 103, 106, 111, 119, 120, 126, 129, 130, 136, 139, 140, 143, 146, 149, 150, 153, 156, 159
LF.PA.7.c Reverse phonemes in a spoken word.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
LF.PA.7.d In a series of words, 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 resequencing sounds within a word. Grade 1, Lessons 26, 29, 30, 40, 46, 49, 56, 66, 69, 76, 89, 96, 106, 109, 126, 129, 146, and 149.
LF.PA.7.e Use knowledge of syllable and affix substitution and deletion to demonstrate morphological changes.	Grade 3, Lessons 42, 68, 95, 133, 147

Literacy Foundations**Phonics**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.PH.8 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 3, Lessons 1–5, 21–24, 31–50, 56–68, 74–81, 83–89, 92, 93, 95–107, 114–133, 136–148, 150–155
LF.PH.8.a Decode multisyllabic words with common syllable patterns, including open/closed, vowel-r, vowel-consonant-e, vowel teams, consonant-le, and odd or schwa syllables.	Grade 3, Lessons 1–5
LF.PH.8.b Apply knowledge of multisyllabic word construction and syllable division principles to decode grade-appropriate multisyllabic words.	Grade 3, Lessons 1–5, 21–22, 31, 34–36, 39, 42, 57–58, 61–62, 65, 68, 74–75, 78, 81–82, 92, 95–97, 100, 103–105, 126–127, 130–131, 133, 140–141, 144, 147, 149, 152, 155
LF.PH.8.c Decode and encode words with three-consonant blends, digraphs, trigraphs, quadrigraph eigh, combinations, diphthongs, and silent letter combinations.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses this standard in Grades 1 and 2. Grade 1, Lessons 26–55, 76–88, 123–142 Grade 2, Lessons 112–114, 129–131
LF.PH.8.d Decode and encode words with graphemes that represent multiple sound-symbol correspondences by applying knowledge of most common to least common frequency.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address graphemes that represent multiple sound-symbol correspondences by applying knowledge of most common to least common frequency. Grade 3, Lessons 21, 22, 31, 34–36, 39, 42, 57, 58, 61, 62, 65, 68, 74, 75, 78, 81, 92, 95–97, 100, 103–105, 126, 127, 130, 131, 133, 140, 141, 144, 147, 152, 155

LF.PH.8.e Decode and encode multisyllabic words using knowledge of stress or accent to pronounce a word correctly, including the schwa sound when appropriate.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address using knowledge of stress or accent.
LF.PH.8.f Decode and encode words using knowledge of the morphological structure of a word, including prefixes, suffixes, and roots.	Grade 3, Lessons 1–5, 21–24, 31–48, 50, 56–68, 74–81, 83–89, 92, 93, 95–107, 114–133, 139–148, 150–155
LF.PH.8.g Decode and encode contractions with am, is, has, not, have, would, and will.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address encoding contractions with am and has. Grade 3, Lessons 53–56
LF.PH.8.h Decode and encode frequently confused homophones accurately using knowledge of English and meaning to facilitate learning.	Grade 3, Lessons 136–139
LF.PH.8.i Decode and encode words with hard and soft c and g.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses this standard in Grades 1 and 2. Grade 1, Lessons 60–62 Grade 2, Lessons 22–24, 142–144
LF.PH.8.j Decode and encode grade-appropriate high frequency words that follow regular and irregular phoneme-grapheme correspondences, using knowledge of the specific sound-symbol correspondences that are irregular.	Grade 3, Lessons 21–24, 31, 33–37, 39, 41–50, 56–59, 61–63, 65, 67, 68, 74–76, 78, 80, 81, 84–86, 88, 89, 92, 95–98, 100, 102–106, 116, 117, 120, 121, 124–128, 130–133, 136–142, 144, 146–148, 150, 152, 154, 155

Literacy Foundations**Writing**

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.WR.31 Write legibly in cursive with connected, correctly-formed letters and appropriate spacing between words.	Grade 3, Lessons 6–20.
LF.WR.32 Apply knowledge of grade-appropriate phoneme-grapheme correspondences, multisyllabic word construction, syllable division rules, and spelling rules (or generalizations) to encode words accurately.	Grade 3, Lessons 21–23, 31, 32, 34–36, 38–40, 42–44, 46–48, 50, 53–55, 57, 58, 60–62, 64–66, 68, 74, 75, 77–79, 81–83, 85–87, 89, 92, 93, 95–97, 99–101, 103–105, 107, 114, 115, 117–119, 121–123, 125–127, 129–131, 133, 136–138, 140, 141, 143–145, 147–149, 151–153, 155
LF.WR.32.a Apply knowledge of multisyllabic word construction and syllable division principles to encode multisyllabic words.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses syllable division rules in grades 1 and 2. Grade 1, Lessons 106–122 Grade 2, Lessons 56–74.
LF.WR.32.b Encode multisyllabic words, using common syllable patterns: open/closed, vowel-r, vowel-consonant-e, vowel teams, consonant-le, and odd or schwa syllables.	Grade 3, Lessons 1–5, 21–23, 31–32, 34–36, 38, 40, 42–44, 46–48, 50, 53–55, 57–58, 60–62, 64–66, 68, 74–75, 77, 79, 81–83, 85–87, 89, 92–93, 95–97, 99–101, 103–105, 107, 114–115, 117–119, 121–123, 125–127, 129–131, 133, 136–138, 140–141, 143–145, 147–149, 151, 153, 155
LF.WR.32.c Encode words with two and three letter blends and previously taught digraphs, trigraphs, combinations, diphthongs, quadrigraph eigh, vowel y, hard and soft c and g, silent letter combinations, and contractions.	Grade 3, Lessons 21–22, 31, 34–36, 39, 42, 53–58, 61–62, 65, 68, 74–75, 78, 81, 92, 95–97, 100, 103–105, 126–127, 130–131, 133, 140–141, 144, 147, 152, 155 <i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses two and three letter blends and previously taught digraphs, trigraphs, combinations, diphthongs, vowel y, silent letter combinations, and quadrigraph eigh in Grades 1 and 2. Grade 1, Lessons 26–55, 76–88, 123–142 Grade 2, Lessons 39–41, 112–114

Alabama Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LF.WR.32.d Encode words with less common prefixes, suffixes, and common Latin roots.	Grade 3, Lessons 21–24, 31–38, 39–42, 57–60, 61–68, 74–81, 92–99, 100–107, 130–133, 140–147, and 152–155.
LF.WR.32.e Encode frequently confused homophones accurately, using context to determine correct spelling.	Grade 3, Lessons 136–139