

Arkansas English Language Arts Standards (2023)

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 Arkansas standards while benefiting from the coherent, research-based design of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Arkansas standards and *Reading Foundations* follows.

Foundational Reading**Phonics Decoding (Word Reading)**

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
3.FR.1.PD Decode one-syllable words with vowel teams (e.g., vein, eight, fruit, youth, prey).	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, 155
3.FR.2.PD Decode multisyllable base words with grade-level letter-sound correspondences (e.g., neighbor, suitcase, fascinate, suggest).	Grade 3, Lessons 1–5, 21–24, 31–43, 45, 47, 49, 56–68, 74–81, 84, 86, 88, 92–107, 114, 116, 118, 120, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 140, 142, 144, 146, 152, 154
3.FR.3.PD Decode words, using knowledge of most common Latin prefixes, bases, and suffixes including inflectional and derivational suffixes.	Grade 3, Lessons 1–5, 21–24, 31–48, 50, 56–68, 74–81, 83–89, 92, 93, 95–107, 114–121, 123–126, 128, 130, 132, 140, 142, 144, 146, 152, 154

Foundational Reading**Phonics Encoding (Word Writing)**

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
3.FR.4.PE Encode two-syllable words with double letter endings (e.g., virus vs. confess).	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, 126, 130, 140, 144
3.FR.5.PE Encode final /j/ and /ch/ (e.g., badge, cage, merge, gouge; clutch, couch, starch, pinch, screech).	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, 155
3.FR.6.PE Encode two-syllable words with medial long vowel teams (e.g., complain, canteen).	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, 155

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
3.FR.7.PE Encode two-syllable words with vowel-r patterns (e.g., forget, doctor, cartoon, mustard).	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, 155
3.FR.8.PE Encode words, using knowledge of most common Latin prefixes, bases, and suffixes including inflectional and derivational suffixes.	Grade 3, Lessons 1–5, 21–24, 31–48, 50, 56–68, 74–81, 83–89, 92, 93, 95–107, 114–121, 123–126, 128, 130, 132, 140, 142, 144, 146, 152, 154

Foundational Reading

Handwriting

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
3.FR.9.H Write legibly in cursive, using correctly formed letters with appropriate slant, spacing, and line awareness.	Grade 3, Lessons 6–20, 44, 46, 48, 50, 83, 85, 87, 89, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125
3.FR.10.H Produce cursive writing with accuracy and automaticity.	Grade 3, Lessons 6–20, 44, 46, 48, 50, 83, 85, 87, 89, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125

Foundational Reading

Fluency

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
3.FR.11.F Orally read texts with accuracy, automaticity, and expression at an appropriate rate to support comprehension, self-correcting as necessary.	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, 142, 146, 154