

Iowa Academic Standards for English Language Arts (2024)

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

Reading and Writing: Foundational Skills

Phonics and Word Recognition

Iowa Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
RF.2.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills to support decoding and encoding words. (DOK 1,2)	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159

RF.2.3.a Decode and encode long and short vowels in regularly-spelled one-syllable words.	Grade 2, Lessons 1–4, 6, 7, 9–13, 16, 17, 19–24, 26–33, 36, 37, 39–53, 55–63, 65–73, 76–83, 86–93, 96–103, 106–113, 116–123, 126–133, 136–146, 149–156, 158, 159 <i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses decoding and encoding short vowels and long vowels in Kindergarten and Grade 1. Kindergarten, Lessons 9–10, 23–24, 39–40, 57–58, 63–64. Grade 1 Lessons 56–58, 60–62, 76–78, 80–82, 83–85, 86–88.
RF.2.3.b Decode and encode common vowel teams. With prompting and support, decode and encode additional vowel teams.	Grade 2, Lessons 2-4, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14, 16-17, 20-21, 23, 28, 30-33, 41-43, 46–55, 57-64, 66–75, 77-103, 105-141, 143-159 <i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses common vowel teams at grade 1. Grade 1, Lessons 9, 12, 15, 22, 24-27, 34-35, 44, 56, 76, 76–78, 80–82, 83–85, 86–88, 104, 142
RF.2.3.c Decode and encode regularly spelled two-syllable or multisyllabic words.	Grade 2, Lessons 26, 29, 39, 52, 56, 59, 62, 66, 69, 72, 116, 152
RF.2.3.d Decode and encode words with common prefixes and suffixes.	Grade 2, Lessons 99–101, 102–104, 149–151, 152–154, 155–157.
RF.2.3.e With prompting and support, decode and encode words with inconsistent but common spelling-sound correspondences.	Grade 2, Lessons 106–108, 109–111, 112–114, 116–118, 119–121, 122–124, 126–128, 129–131, 132–134, 136–138, 139–141, 142–144.
RF.2.3.f Read grade-appropriate high frequency words with accuracy and automaticity.	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159

Reading and Writing: Foundational Skills**Fluency**

Iowa Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
RF.2.4 Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension. (DOK 1,2)	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
RF.2.4.a Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.	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
RF.2.4.b Use decoding skills to self-correct word recognition, rereading as necessary.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> gives further opportunities for practice after this concept's introduction in Lesson 108.
RF.2.4.c Read grade-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression on successive readings.	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

Reading and Writing: Foundational Skills**Writing Foundations**

Iowa Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
WF.2.1 Print independently and legibly for a variety of tasks and purposes. (DOK 1)	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,

Iowa Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
	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
WF.2.1.a Produce manuscript writing with accuracy and automaticity.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address automaticity of manuscript writing. 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
WF.2.1.b Begin to produce cursive writing.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses this standard in grade 3. Grade 3, Lessons 6–20.