

Kansas Standards for English Language Arts (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 Kansas standards while benefiting from the coherent, research-based design of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Kansas standards and *Reading Foundations* follows.

Reading: Foundational

Print Concepts

Kansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
RF.K.1 Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1, 2, 8–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–157
RF.K.1.a Follow words from left to right, top to bottom and page by page.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1, 2, 9–13, 15–21, 23–29, 31–37, 39–45, 47–53, 55–61, 63–69, 71–74, 76–78, 80–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–157
RF.K.1.b Recognize that spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1, 2, 9–12, 15–20, 23–29, 31–37, 39–45, 47–53, 55–61, 63–69, 71–74, 76–78, 80–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–157
RF.K.1.c Understand that words are separated by spaces in print and can point with one-to-one correspondence.	Kindergarten, Lessons 40, 42, 44, 45
RF.K.1.d Recognize and name all upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet.	Kindergarten, Lessons 8, 9, 11, 13–15, 17, 19, 21–23, 25, 27, 29–31, 33, 35, 37–39, 41, 43, 45–47, 49, 51, 53–55, 57, 59, 61–63, 65, 67, 69–71, 73, 75–79, 110

Reading: Foundational

Phonological Awareness

Kansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
RF.K.2	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–3, 6–44, 47–52, 55–75, 80–113, 115–118, 120–128, 130–133, 135–137, 141, 142, 144–146, 151, 152, 154–156

Kansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
Demonstrate understanding of phonemes (sounds).	
RF.K.2.a Manipulate (segment, blend or substitute) sounds in the initial, final and medial positions. (Phonemic awareness)	Kindergarten, Lessons 80, 83, 86, 90, 93, 96, 100, 103, 106, 111, 113, 120, 126, 130, 133, 136, 142, 145–146, 152, 155–156
RF.K.2.b Isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final phonemes (sounds)) in three-phoneme (consonant-vowel-consonant or CVC) words. (This does not include CVC ending with /l/, /r/ or /x/.). (Phonemic awareness)	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–12, 15–44, 47–52, 55–75, 80–113, 115–118, 120–128, 130–133, 135–137, 141, 142, 144–146, 151, 152, 154–156
RF.K.2.c Count, produce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–3, 113, 130, 133
RF.K.2.d Blend and segment onsets and rimes (word families) of single-syllable spoken words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–14

Reading: Foundational

Phonics and Word Recognition

Kansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
RF.K.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–148, 150–158
RF.K.3.a	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–148, 150–158

Kansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
Demonstrate basic knowledge of phoneme-grapheme correspondences of predictable consonants.	
RF.K.3.b Associate the long and short sounds with common spellings (graphemes) for the five major vowels.	Kindergarten, Lessons 9–12, 14–20, 22–87, 89–97, 99–107, 109–112, 114–117, 119–127, 129–137, 139–148, 150–158
RF.K.3.c Read common high-frequency words (e.g., the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do, does).	Kindergarten, Lessons 10, 12–14, 16, 18, 20–22, 24, 26, 28–30, 32, 34, 36–38, 40, 42, 44–46, 48, 50, 52–54, 56, 58, 60–62, 64, 66, 68–70, 72, 74–148, 150–158
RF.K.3.d Distinguish between similarly spelled words by identifying the sounds of the letters that differ (e.g., bat/cat, bat/bit/, bat/bad).	Kindergarten, Lessons 83, 111, 120, 126, 136

Reading: Foundational

Fluency

Kansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
RF.K.4 Read decodable texts that support instruction.	Kindergarten, Lessons 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28, 29, 32, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 44, 45, 48, 50, 52, 53, 56, 58, 60, 61, 64, 66, 68, 69, 72, 74, 76–78, 81, 82, 84, 85, 87, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 101, 102, 104, 105, 107, 111, 112, 114, 115, 117, 121, 122, 124, 125, 127, 131, 132, 134, 135, 137, 140, 141, 143, 144, 147, 150, 151, 153, 154, 157

Writing

Language in Writing

Kansas Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
W.K.10.a Correctly form upper- and lower-case letters with line awareness.	Kindergarten, Lessons 3–5