Montana English Language Arts and Literacy Content Standards (2027)

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

Reading - Foundational

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
MT.2.RF.1 Demonstrate Decoding Skills by:	Grade 2, Lessons 2, 3, 6–13, 16–18, 20–23, 26–34, 36–43, 46–49, 52, 53, 55–63, 66–73, 76–83, 86–93, 97–103, 106–113, 116–123, 126–133, 136–141, 143–146, 149–156
MT.2.RF.1.a demonstrating knowledge of phoneme-grapheme relationships between all complex vowel phonemes and graphemes;	Grade 2, Lessons 76–78, 79–81.
MT.2.RF.1.b decoding two-syllable words comprised of different syllable types that follow regular spelling patterns by breaking the words into syllables;	Grade 2, Lessons 56–72.
MT.2.RF.1.c decoding words with common prefixes and suffixes.	Grade 2, Lessons 2, 3, 6–13, 16–18, 20–23, 26–34, 36–43, 46–49, 52, 53, 55–63, 66–73, 76–83, 86–93, 97–103, 106–113, 116–123, 126–133, 136–141, 143–146, 149–156
MT.2.RF.2 Demonstrate Encoding Skills by:	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159
MT.2.RF.2.a encoding one-syllable words with all phoneme-grapheme patterns;	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159
MT.2.RF.2.b encoding two-syllable words comprised of different syllable types that follow regular spelling patterns;	Grade 2, Lessons 56–72.

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MT.2.RF.2.c encoding words with common prefixes and suffixes, including words that require a spelling change to the root when adding an inflectional ending.	Grade 2, Lessons 32, 36.
MT.2.RF.2.d printing upper and lowercase letters with automaticity and accuracy, including the introduction of 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 *Reading Foundations* introduces cursive in grade 3. Grade 3, Lessons 6–20.

Reading - Fluency

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
MT.2.RFL.1 Read grade-appropriate texts with sufficient accuracy, rate, and expression to support 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
MT.2.RFL.2 Read common high-frequency words with accuracy and automaticity.	Grade 2, Lessons 4–5, 7–8, 10–11, 13–14, 17–18, 20–21, 23–24, 27–28, 30–31, 33–34, 37–38, 40–41, 43–44, 47–48, 50–51, 57–58, 60–61, 67–68, 70–71, 77–78, 80–81, 87–88, 90–91, 97–98, 100–101, 107–108, 110–111, 117–118, 120–121, 130–131.

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