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 - Fluency

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
MT.K.RFL.1 Read common high-frequency words with accuracy and automaticity.	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, 74–159

Reading - Foundational

Montana Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
MT.K.RFO.1 Understand Print Concepts by:	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
MT.K.RFO.1.a following 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
MT.K.RFO.1.b recognizing the distinguishing features of a sentence;	Kindergarten, Lessons 28, 32, 34, 36.
MT.K.RFO.1.c locating essential text features of a book.	Kindergarten, Lessons 13, 21.
MT.K.RFO.2 Understand Phonemic Awareness by:	Kindergarten, Lessons 15–75, 80–118, 120–128, 130–135, 137–138, 141–142, 144–145, 147–148, 151–152, 154–155, 157–158
MT.K.RFO.2.a identifying initial, final, and medial phoneme in consonant-vowel-consonant CVC words with automaticity;	Kindergarten, Lessons 15–38, 80, 83, 86, 90, 93, 96, 100, 103, 106, 110, 113, 116, 120, 123, 126, 130, 133, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 154, 157.

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Montana Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
MT.K.RFO.2.b orally blending phonemes in CVC words with automaticity;	Kindergarten, Lessons 39–54, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 138, 145, 152, 158.
MT.K.RFO.2.c orally segmenting phonemes in CVC words with automaticity.	Kindergarten, Lessons 55–75, 82, 85, 88–89, 92, 95, 98–99, 102, 105, 108–109, 112, 115, 118, 122, 125, 128, 132, 135, 142, 148, 155.
MT.K.RFO.3 Demonstrate Decoding Skills by:	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–87, 89–97, 99–107, 109–117, 119–127, 129–137, 139–147, 149–157, 159
MT.K.RFO.3.a naming and producing the most common sounds for all consonants;	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–157
MT.K.RFO.3.b demonstrating knowledge of phoneme-grapheme relationships between consonant graphemes and their most commonly occurring phonemes;	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–157
MT.K.RFO.3.c demonstrating knowledge of phoneme-grapheme relationships between vowel graphemes and short vowel phonemes;	Kindergarten, Lessons 9–12, 14–20, 22–87, 89–97, 99–107, 109–112, 114–117, 119–127, 129–137, 139, 140, 142–147, 149–157, 159
MT.K.RFO.3.d decoding words using one-to-one phoneme-grapheme correspondences in vowel-consonant VC and CVC words with accuracy;	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–87, 89–97, 99–107, 109–117, 119–127, 129–137, 139–147, 149–157, 159
MT.K.RFO.3.e reading decodable texts accurately.	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, 141, 142, 144, 145, 147, 151, 152, 154, 155, 157

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Montana Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
MT.K.RFO.4 Demonstrate Encoding Skills by:	Kindergarten, Lessons 3–12, 15–20, 23–28, 32–36, 39–44, 47–52, 55–60, 63–68, 71–74, 76–81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 90, 91, 93, 94, 96, 97, 100, 101, 103, 104, 106, 107, 110, 111, 113, 114, 116, 117, 120, 121, 123, 124, 126, 127, 130, 131, 133, 134, 136, 137, 140, 141, 143, 144, 146, 147, 150, 151, 153, 154, 156, 157
MT.K.RFO.4.a encoding words using one-to-one phoneme-grapheme correspondences in VC and CVC words with accuracy;	Kindergarten, Lessons 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28, 32, 34, 36, 40, 42, 44, 48, 50, 52, 56, 58, 60, 64, 66, 68, 72, 74, 76–81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 90, 91, 93, 94, 96, 97, 100, 101, 103, 104, 106, 107, 110, 111, 113, 114, 116, 117, 120, 121, 123, 124, 126, 127, 130, 131, 133, 134, 136, 137, 140, 141, 143, 144, 146, 147, 150, 151, 153, 154, 156, 157
MT.K.RFO.4.b printing upper and lowercase letters.	Kindergarten, Lessons 3–12, 15–20, 23–28, 32–36, 39–44, 47–52, 55–60, 63–68, 71–74, 76–81, 83, 84, 86, 87, 90, 91, 93, 94, 96, 97, 100, 101, 103, 104, 106, 107, 110, 111, 113, 114, 116, 117, 120, 121, 123, 124, 126, 127, 130, 131, 133, 134, 136, 137, 140, 141, 143, 144, 146, 147, 150, 151, 153, 154, 156, 157

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