

Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts (2021)

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

Foundations of Reading

Concepts of Print | Demonstrate knowledge of the organization and basic concepts of print.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.F.1 Demonstrate knowledge of the organization and basic concepts of print.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 152, 154, 155, 157
LA.1.F.1a Recognize the distinguishing features of a sentence.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 152, 154, 155, 157

Foundations of Reading

Phonological Awareness | Demonstrate phonological awareness through oral activities. understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.F.2 Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).	Grade 1, Lessons 2–18, 20–38, 40–58, 60–78, 80–98, 100–118, 120–138, 140–157
LA.1.F.2a Identify, segment and blend phonemes in single syllable spoken three and four phoneme words including words with blends.	Grade 1, Lessons 2–18, 20–38, 40–58, 60–78, 80–98, 100–118, 120–138, 140–157

Foundations of Reading

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.F.2b Delete initial and final phonemes in words.	Grade 1, Lessons 69, 89.

Foundations of Reading

Phonological Awareness | Demonstrate phonological awareness through oral activities. understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.F.2c Substitute phonemes in spoken words to build new words in single-syllable words with no blends.	Grade 1, Lessons 26, 29, 30, 40, 46, 49, 56, 66, 69, 76, 89, 96, 106, 109, 126, 129, 146, 149.
LA.1.F.2d Add or substitute individual sounds (phonemes in simple, one-syllable words to make new words (e.g., "Say 'Map.' Say it again and instead of /p/ say /t/. What is the new word? 'Mat'").	Grade 1, Lessons 26, 29, 30, 40, 46, 49, 56, 66, 69, 76, 89, 96, 106, 109, 126, 129, 146, 149.

Foundations of Reading

Phonics and Word Analysis | Demonstrate phonetic and word analysis knowledge and apply decoding skills to isolated words and in connected text.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.F.3 Know and apply phonics and word analysis skills in decoding and encoding (spelling) words.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 4–117, 119–158

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.F.3a Decode and encode words using knowledge of sound-spelling correspondence for common consonant digraphs, tri-graphs, and blends.	Grade 1, Lessons 26–35, 36–52, 53–55.
LA.1.F.3b Decode and encode simple words with r-controlled vowels.	Grade 1, Lessons 93–95, 96–98, 100–102.
LA.1.F.3c Decode and encode regularly spelled one-syllable words.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 4–18, 20–77, 79–117, 119–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–158
LA.1.F.3d Decode and encode final -e and common vowel team conventions for representing long vowel sounds.	Grade 1, Lessons 9, 12, 15, 17, 21–27, 31, 32, 34, 35, 42–44, 51, 52, 54–58, 60–69, 71, 74–97, 99–111, 113–117, 119–124, 126, 127, 130–135, 137, 139–148, 150–158
LA.1.F.3e Decode and encode two-syllable words with regular patterns by breaking the words into syllables.	Grade 1, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20–27, 30–34, 36, 37, 40–44, 46, 47, 50–57, 60–67, 70–77, 80–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–158
LA.1.F.3f Decode and encode words with inflectional endings.	Grade 1, Lessons 4–17, 20–27, 30–37, 40–47, 50–57, 60–67, 70–77, 80–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–158
LA.1.F.3g Use knowledge that every syllable must have a vowel sound to determine the number of syllables in a printed word.	Grade 1, Lessons 103, 104, 106, 110–117, 120–122, 143
LA.1.F.3h Recognize and read grade-appropriate, irregularly spelled words.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 4–117, 119–158

Foundations of Reading

Fluency | Read grade-level texts with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.F.4 Develop accuracy, phrasing, and expression/prosody while reading a variety of grade-level texts to support comprehension.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 4–117, 119–158
LA.1.F.4.a Read decodable text accurately with appropriate rate, intonation, and expression/prosody to reflect meaning.	Grade 1, Lessons 85, 95, 105, 135
LA.1.F.4.b Read grade level high-frequency words with automaticity and accuracy (e.g., Fry or Dolch words or those included in instructional materials).	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 4–117, 119–158

Writing

Foundations of Writing | Apply handwriting skills to legibly communicate ideas and information.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.FW.1 Demonstrate and apply handwriting skills.	Grade 1, Lessons 3–5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76, 77, 80, 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, 151, 154, 157
LA.1.FW.1a Print all upper and lowercase manuscript letters using correct formation.	Grade 1, Lessons 3–5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76, 77, 80, 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, 151, 154, 157

Writing

Foundations of Writing | Apply handwriting skills to communicate ideas and information.

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.1.FW.1b Write the common grapheme (letter or letter group) for each phoneme.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147
LA.1.FW.1c Use appropriate spacing between letters and words.	Grade 1, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76, 77, 80, 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, 151, 154, 157
LA.1.FW.2 Demonstrate sound-letter concepts when writing.	Grade 1, Lessons 2, 4–18, 20–28, 30–38, 40–48, 50–58, 60–68, 70–78, 80–88, 90–98, 100–108, 110–118, 120–128, 130–138, 140–148
LA.1.FW.2a Segment phonemes in two- and three-phoneme syllables.	Grade 1, Lessons 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48, 50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 58, 60, 62, 63, 65, 66, 68, 70, 72, 75, 76, 78, 80, 82, 83, 85, 86, 88, 90, 92, 93, 95, 96, 98, 100, 102–105, 108, 112, 115, 118, 122, 123, 125, 126, 128, 130, 132, 133, 135, 136, 138, 140, 142, 143, 145, 148
LA.1.FW.2b Write letters used to represent vowel phonemes and those used to represent consonants; demonstrate understanding that every syllable has a vowel.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 71, 73, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 103, 104, 106, 107, 110, 111, 113, 114, 116, 117, 120, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 143, 144, 146, 147