

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

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.4.F.3 Know and apply phonics and word analysis skills in decoding and encoding (spelling) words.	Grade 4, Lessons 1–14, 16, 23–33, 35–38, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49–56, 59–74, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89–96, 99–114, 122, 123, 125–136, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153
LA.4.F.3a Decode words with common Latin derived words including Latin plurals.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address Latin plural forms. Grade 4, Lessons 1–14, 16, 23–33, 35–38, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49–56, 59–74, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89–96, 99–114, 122, 123, 125–136, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153
LA.4.F.3b Use combined knowledge of letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words in and out of context.	Grade 4, Lessons 1–14, 16, 23–33, 35–38, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49–56, 59–74, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89–96, 99–114, 122, 123, 125–136, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153

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.4.F.4 Develop accuracy, phrasing, and expression/prosody while reading a variety of grade-level text to support comprehension.	Grade 4, Lessons 8, 11, 16, 26, 29, 33, 37, 43, 47, 51, 55, 61, 65, 69, 73, 83, 87, 91, 95, 101, 105, 110, 113, 123, 127, 131, 135, 141, 145, 149, 153

Nebraska Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
LA.4.F.4a Read a variety of text accurately using appropriate rate, expression/prosody and intonation to reflect the meaning of text.	Grade 4, Lessons 8, 11, 16, 26, 29, 33, 37, 43, 47, 51, 55, 61, 65, 69, 73, 83, 87, 91, 95, 101, 105, 110, 113, 123, 127, 131, 135, 141, 145, 149, 153 <i>Language Arts</i> addresses reading a variety of text accurately in grade 4.
LA.4.F.4b Adjust pace and prosody based on the purpose, complexity, form, and/or style of a text.	Grade 4, Lessons 8, 11, 16, 26, 29, 33, 37, 43, 47, 51, 55, 61, 65, 69, 73, 83, 87, 91, 95, 101, 105, 110, 113, 123, 127, 131, 135, 141, 145, 149, 153 <i>Language Arts</i> addresses adjusting pace and prosody in grade 4.