

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

Language

Sentence Composition (Grammar, Syntax, and Punctuation)

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.KL.4.1 Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.KL.4.1.A Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.KL.4.1.B Choose words and phrases to convey ideas precisely.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.KL.4.1.C Choose punctuation for effect.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.KL.4.1.D Differentiate between contexts that call for formal English (e.g., presenting ideas) and situations where informal discourse is appropriate (e.g., small-group discussion).	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .

Language**Phonics and Word Recognition**

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.RF.4.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding and encoding words; use combined knowledge of all letter-sound correspondences, syllabication patterns, and morphology (e.g., roots and affixes) to read accurately unfamiliar multisyllabic words in context and out of context.	Grade 4, Lessons 1–16, 23–38, 41–56, 59–74, 81–96, 99–114, 121–136, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153

Language**Fluency**

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.RF.4.4 Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency 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
L.RF.4.4.A Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.	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
L.RF.4.4.B Read grade-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.	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
L.RF.4.4.C Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.	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

Language

Sentence Composition (Grammar, Syntax, and Punctuation)

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.VI.4.3 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.VI.4.3.A Explain the meaning of simple similes and metaphors (e.g., as pretty as a picture) in context.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.VI.4.3.B Determine the meaning of words and phrases that allude to significant characters found in literature.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.VI.4.3.C Recognize and explain the meaning of common idioms, adages, and proverbs.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.VI.4.3.D Demonstrate understanding of words by relating them to their opposites (antonyms) and to words with similar but not identical meanings (synonyms).	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.VL.4.2 Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning academic and domain-specific words and phrases based on grade 4 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.	Grade 4, Lessons 5–7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 23–25, 27, 28, 30–32, 34–36, 38, 41, 42, 44–46, 48–50, 52–54, 56, 59, 60, 62–64, 66–68, 70–72, 74, 81, 82, 84–86, 88–90, 92–94, 96, 99, 100, 102–104, 106–109, 111, 112, 114, 121, 122, 124–126, 128–130, 132–134, 136, 139, 143, 147, 151

L.VL.4.2.A Use context (e.g., definitions, examples, or restatements in text) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.	Grade 4, Lessons 6, 9, 24, 25, 28, 35, 49, 52, 54, 60, 63, 67, 71, 89, 90, 93, 99, 100, 103, 107, 108, 111, 125, 129, 130, 133, 139, 143, 147, 151
L.VL.4.2.B Use common, grade-appropriate Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of a word (e.g., telegraph, photograph, autograph).	Grade 4, Lessons 5–7, 9, 10, 12, 23–25, 27, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36, 38, 45, 49, 50, 52–54, 56, 59, 60, 62–64, 66–68, 70–72, 74, 81, 85, 89, 90, 92–94, 96, 99, 100, 102–104, 106–109, 111, 112, 114, 122, 125, 126, 128–130, 132–134, 136, 139, 143, 147, 151
L.VL.4.2.C Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation and determine or clarify the precise meaning of key words and phrases.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .

Language

Spelling

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.WF.4.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of encoding and spelling.	Grade 4, Lessons 5–7, 12, 15, 23–25, 27, 28, 30–32, 34, 36, 38, 41, 42, 44–46, 48, 50, 52–54, 56, 59, 60, 62–64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 81, 82, 84–86, 88–90, 92–94, 96, 99, 100, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 112, 114, 121, 122, 124–126, 128–130, 132–134, 136, 139
L.WF.4.2.A Analyze and spell multi-syllable words with the most common Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes.	Grade 4, Lessons 5–7, 12, 15, 23–25, 27, 28, 30–32, 34, 36, 38, 41, 42, 44–46, 48, 50, 52–54, 56, 59, 60, 62–64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 81, 82, 84–86, 88–90, 92–94, 96, 99, 100, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 112, 114, 121, 122, 124–126, 128–130, 132–134, 136, 139
L.WF.4.2.B Write affixed words that involve a sound or spelling change in the base word.	Grade 4, Lessons 31, 32, 34, 45, 85

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.WF.4.2.C Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed.	Grade 4, Lessons 5–7, 12, 15, 23–25, 27, 28, 30–32, 34, 36, 38, 41, 42, 44–46, 48, 50, 52–54, 56, 59, 60, 62–64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 81, 82, 84–86, 88–90, 92–94, 96, 99, 100, 102, 104, 106, 107, 109, 112, 114, 121, 122, 124–126, 128–130, 132–134, 136, 139
L.WF.4.2.D Consult reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation and determine or clarify the precise meaning of key words and phrases.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .

Language

Sentence Composition (Grammar, Syntax, and Punctuation)

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.WF.4.3 Demonstrate command of the conventions of writing, including those listed under grade three foundational skills:	Grade 4, Lessons 34, 44, 48, 84, 88, 121
L.WF.4.3.A Use basic paragraphing, including using paragraph indentations and using paragraphs in dialogue.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.WF.4.3.B Place adjectives and adverbs and form comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.WF.4.3.C Use independent clauses and coordinating conjunctions.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .

New Jersey Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
L.WF.4.3.D Form irregular verbs; form and use progressive tenses.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.WF.4.3.E Form and use possessive nouns and pronouns.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.WF.4.3.F Capitalize the first word in quotations as appropriate, capitalize other important words (e.g., section headings).	Grade 4, Lessons 34, 44, 48, 84, 88, 121
L.WF.4.3.G Use underlining, quotation marks, or italics for titles; use quotation marks for direct speech; use comma before a coordinating conjunction in a compound sentence.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .
L.WF.4.3.H Use apostrophes for possession.	This standard is addressed in <i>Language Arts</i> .