North Dakota English Language Arts (ELA) Content Standards K-12 (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 North Dakota standards while benefiting from the coherent, research-based design of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between North Dakota standards and *Reading Foundations* follows.

FOUNDATIONS OF LITERACY: Learners will apply foundational reading and writing skills by working with sounds, letters, words, sentences, and texts.

Phonics and Word Study: Learners will decode, encode, and connect meaning to word parts and words.

North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
2.F.8 Decode words with phoneme-grapheme correspondences:	Grade 2, Lessons 1–159
2.F.8.a vowel teams	Grade 2, Lessons 2–4, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 28, 30–33, 41–43, 46–55, 57–64, 66–75, 77–103, 105–141, 143–159
2.F.8.b diphthongs	Grade 2, Lessons 92–94
2.F.8.c three consonant blends	*Reading Foundations* addresses this standard in grade 1. Grade 1, Lessons 33–35
2.F.8.d other r-controlled	Grade 2, Lessons 76–81
2.F.8.e silent e in multisyllabic words	Grade 2, Lessons 56–74
2.F.8.f r-controlled in multisyllabic words	Grade 2, Lessons 56–74
2.F.8.g vowel team in multisyllabic words	Grade 2, Lessons 69–71

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North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
2.F.8.h consonant le	Grade 2, Lessons 66–68.
2.F.8.i homophones	*Reading Foundations* addresses homophones in grades 3, 4, and 5. Grade 3, Lessons 136–139 Grade 4, Lesson 14 Grade 5, Lessons 13
2.F.8.j irregularly spelled high-frequency words	Grade 2, Lessons 2–159
2.F.8.k silent letter combinations	Grade 2, Lessons 112–114
2.F.8.l schwa	Grade 2, Lessons 145–147
2.F.8.m common derivational suffixes (e.g., -ly, -ful, -able)	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
2.F.9 Encode words with phoneme-grapheme correspondences:	Grade 2, Lessons 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37, 40, 43, 47, 50, 52, 53, 57, 60, 63, 67, 70, 73, 77, 80, 83, 87, 90, 93, 96, 97, 100, 103, 107, 110, 113, 117, 120, 123, 127, 130, 133, 137, 140, 143, 146, 150, 153, 156
2.F.9.a closed and open syllables	Grade 2, Lessons 59–61

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2.F.9.b vowel teams	Grade 2, Lessons 46–51, 82–91
2.F.9.c soft and hard c and g; s as /z/	Grade 2, Lessons 142–144
2.F.9.d r-controlled	Grade 2, Lessons 76–81
2.F.9.e prefixes and suffixes	Grade 2, Lessons 99–104
2.F.9.f functions of y	Grade 2, Lessons 39–41
2.F.9.g contractions	Grade 2, Lesson 100
2.F.9.h irregularly spelled high-frequency words	Grade 2, Lessons 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, 17, 20, 23, 27, 30, 33, 37, 40, 43, 47, 50, 52, 53, 57, 60, 63, 67, 70, 73, 77, 80, 83, 87, 90, 93, 96, 97, 100, 103, 107, 110, 113, 117, 120, 123, 127, 130, 133, 137, 140, 143, 146, 150, 153, 156
2.F.10 Determine the meaning of multiple-meaning words with phonics patterns that have been taught (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homophones, and homographs).	This standard is addressed in *Language Arts*.
2.F.11 Use new academic, content-specific, grade-level vocabulary, connecting previously learned words and relating new words to background knowledge.	Grade 3, Lesson 21

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2.F.11.a Make connections to a word's structure using knowledge of phonology, morphology, and word orthography to aid learning.	*Reading Foundations* gives further opportunities for practice after this concept's introduction in Grade 3, lesson 21.

FOUNDATIONS OF LITERACY: Learners will apply foundational reading and writing skills by working with sounds, letters, words, sentences, and texts.

Fluency: Learners will read with sufficient accuracy, rate, and expression to support comprehension.

North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
2.F.12 Read accurately and automatically a variety of second-grade texts with expression, phrasing, purpose, and understanding.	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

FOUNDATIONS OF LITERACY: Learners will apply foundational reading and writing skills by working with sounds, letters, words, sentences, and texts.

Foundations of Writing: Learners will write complete sentences and paragraphs.

North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
2.F.13 Write uppercase and lowercase letters accurately and automatically for all writing purposes.	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
2.F.14 Write a paragraph including multiple complete sentences on a topic. (Example structures for organization may include but are not limited to the summary, disciplinary literacy response, opinion, or informative.)	This standard is addressed *in Language Arts*.

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