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.

Print Concepts: Learners will demonstrate knowledge of books, print, and written language and how they function.

North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
K.F.1 Recognize the front cover, back cover, author, and illustrator of books.	Kindergarten, Lessons 13, 21
K.F.2 Follow 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
K.F.3 Recognize that sentences have letters, words, spaces between words, capitalization, and ending punctuation.	Kindergarten, Lessons 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 140, 143, 147, 150, 153, 157

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

Phonological and Phonemic Awareness: Learners will accurately manipulate phonemes (sounds) in the spoken language.

North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
K.F.4 Recognize and produce rhyming words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 4, 5
K.F.5 Segment parts of spoken words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–3, 113, 130, 133

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K.F.5.a Segment multisyllabic spoken words by syllables.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–3, 113, 130, 133
K.F.5.b Segment one-syllable spoken words into two-phonemes and three-phonemes.	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
K.F.6 Blend parts of spoken words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–3, 113, 130, 133
K.F.6.a Blend two or more syllables into a spoken word.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–3, 113, 130, 133
K.F.6.b Blend two or three phonemes into a one-syllable spoken word.	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
K.F.7 Isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final phonemes in three-phoneme words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–12, 15–44, 47–52, 55–75, 80–113, 115–118, 120–128, 130–133, 135–137, 141, 142, 144–146, 151, 152, 154–156

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*
K.F.8 Decode words with phoneme-grapheme correspondences:	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–148, 150–158

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North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
K.F.8.a predictable consonants	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–148, 150–158
K.F.8.b Predictable short vowels spelled with a, i, o, u, e	Kindergarten, Lessons 9–12, 14–20, 22–87, 89–97, 99–107, 109–112, 114–117, 119–127, 129–137, 139–148, 150–158
K.F.8.c long vowels associated with single letters in open one-syllable words	Kindergarten, Lessons 9–12, 14–20, 22–87, 89–97, 99–107, 109–112, 114–117, 119–127, 129–137, 139–148, 150–158
K.F.8.d irregularly spelled high-frequency words	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, 74–148, 150–158
K.F.9 Encode words with phoneme-grapheme correspondences:	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, 143, 147, 150, 153, 157
K.F.9.a predictable consonants	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, 143, 147, 150, 153, 157
K.F.9.b predictable short vowels	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, 143, 147, 150, 153, 157

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K.F.9.c long vowels with single letters in open one-syllable words (e.g., he, me, go)	Kindergarten, Lessons 26, 32, 44, 58, 78
K.F.9.d irregularly spelled high-frequency words	Kindergarten, Lessons 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28, 32, 36, 40, 42, 44, 48, 52, 58, 60, 64, 66, 68, 72, 74, 78, 81, 84, 87, 91, 93, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 140, 143, 147, 150, 153, 157
K.F.10 Determine the meaning of multiple-meaning words with phonics patterns that have been taught (e.g., bat, can, pop).	This standard is addressed in *Language Arts*.
K.F.11 Orally use new academic, content-specific, grade-level vocabulary and relate new words to prior knowledge.	This standard is addressed in *Language Arts*.

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*
K.F.12 Demonstrate fluency through the application of phonemic and phonological skills.	Kindergarten, Lessons 9–79, 81, 83–84, 86–87, 89–91, 93–94, 96–97, 99–101, 103–104, 106–107, 109, 111, 113–114, 116–117, 119–121, 123–124, 126–127, 129–131, 133–134, 136–140, 142–143, 145–147, 150, 152–153, 155–158
K.F.12.a Accurately and automatically recognize and name all uppercase and lowercase letters of the alphabet in non-sequential order.	Kindergarten, Lessons 9, 11, 13–15, 17, 19, 21–23, 25, 27, 29–31, 33, 35, 37–39, 41, 43, 45–47, 49, 51, 53–55, 57, 59, 61–63, 65, 67, 69–71, 73, 75–79

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North Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
K.F.12.b Accurately and automatically produce the predictable consonant and short vowel sounds associated with uppercase and lowercase letters in non-sequential order.	Kindergarten, Lessons 9–79, 83–84, 86–87, 89–91, 93–94, 96–97, 99–101, 103–104, 106–107, 109, 111, 113–114, 116–117, 119–121, 123–124, 126–127, 129–131, 133–134, 136–137, 139–140, 142–143, 145–147, 150, 152–153, 155–157
K.F.12.c Accurately and automatically blend sounds at the word level.	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

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*
K.F.13 Write uppercase and lowercase letters accurately.	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, 143, 147, 150, 153, 157
K.F.14 Write a simple sentence using subject and predicate, capital letters, punctuation, and appropriate word spacing.	Kindergarten, Lessons 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 140, 143, 147, 150, 153, 157

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