Rhode Island Core Standards for English Language Arts (ELA)/Literacy (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 Rhode Island standards while benefiting from the coherent, research-based design of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between Rhode Island standards and *Reading Foundations* follows.

Language

Conventions of Standard English: Word Usage

Rhode Island Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
L.K.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	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, 141, 143, 144, 146, 147, 150, 151, 153, 154, 156, 157
L.K.2.a Print upper- and lowercase letters.	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, 141, 143, 144, 146, 147, 150, 151, 153, 154, 156, 157

Reading Foundational Skills

Print Concepts

Rhode Island Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
RF.K.1 Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1, 2, 8–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–157
RF.K.1.a 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
RF.K.1.b Recognize that spoken words are represented in written language by specific sequences of letters.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1, 2, 9–12, 15–20, 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

© 2027 Great Minds PBC | greatminds.org

Rhode Island Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
RF.K.1.c Understand that words are separated by spaces in print.	Kindergarten, Lessons 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28, 29, 32, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 44, 45, 48, 50, 52, 53, 56, 58, 60, 61, 64, 66, 68, 69, 72, 74, 76–78, 81, 82, 84, 85, 87, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 101, 102, 104, 105, 107, 111, 112, 114, 115, 117, 121, 122, 124, 125, 127, 131, 132, 134, 135, 137, 141, 142, 144, 145, 147, 151, 152, 154, 155, 157
RF.K.1.d Recognize and name all upper- and lowercase letters of the alphabet.	Kindergarten, Lessons 8, 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, 110

Reading Foundational Skills

Phonological Awareness

Rhode Island Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
RF.K.2 Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–44, 47–52, 55–75, 80–113, 115–118, 120–128, 130–133, 135–137, 140–148, 150–157
RF.K.2.a Recognize and produce rhyming words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 4, 5
RF.K.2.b Count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 1–3, 113, 130, 133
RF.K.2.c Blend and segment onsets and rimes of single-syllable spoken words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–14

© 2027 Great Minds PBC | greatminds.org

RF.K.2.d Isolate and pronounce the initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in three-phoneme (consonant-vowel-consonant, or CVC) words. (This does not include CVCs ending with /l/, /r/, or /x/.)	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–12, 15–44, 47–52, 55–75, 80–113, 115–118, 120–128, 130–133, 135–137, 140–148, 150–157

Reading Foundational Skills

Phonics and Word Recognition

Rhode Island Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
RF.K.3 Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–159
RF.K.3.a Demonstrate basic knowledge of one-to-one letter-sound correspondences by producing the primary sound or many of the most frequent sounds for each consonant.	Kindergarten, Lessons 6–87, 90–97, 100–107, 110–117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–147, 150–157
RF.K.3.b Associate the long and short sounds with common spellings (graphemes) for the five major vowels.	Kindergarten, Lessons 9–12, 14–20, 22–87, 89–97, 99–107, 109–112, 114–117, 119–127, 129–137, 139, 140, 142–147, 149–157, 159
RF.K.3.c Read common high-frequency words by sight (e.g., the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do, does).	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, 74–159
RF.K.3.d Distinguish between similarly spelled words by identifying the sounds of the letters that differ.	Kindergarten, Lessons 83, 111, 120, 126, 136, 140, 143

© 2027 Great Minds PBC | greatminds.org

Reading Foundational Skills

Fluency

Rhode Island Standards	Aligned Components of *Reading Foundations*
RF.K.4 Read early-emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding.	Kindergarten, Lessons 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 24, 26, 28, 29, 32, 34, 36, 37, 40, 42, 44, 45, 48, 50, 52, 53, 56, 58, 60, 61, 64, 66, 68, 69, 72, 74, 76–78, 81, 82, 84, 85, 87, 91, 92, 94, 95, 97, 101, 102, 104, 105, 107, 111, 112, 114, 115, 117, 121, 122, 124, 125, 127, 131, 132, 134, 135, 137, 141, 142, 144, 145, 147, 151, 152, 154, 155, 157

© 2027 Great Minds PBC | greatminds.org