

South Dakota English Language Arts Standards (2025)

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 South Dakota standards while benefiting from the coherent, research-based design of *Arts & Letters*. A detailed alignment analysis between South Dakota standards and *Reading Foundations* follows.

Language

South Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
1.L.2 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	Grade 1, Lessons 3–5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76, 77, 80, 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
1.L.2.b Print all uppercase and lowercase letters correctly and fluently. Space letters, words, and sentences appropriately.	<i>Reading Foundations</i> partially addresses this standard; the program does not explicitly address spacing sentences appropriately. Grade 1, Lessons 3–5, 7–8, 10–11, 13–14, 16–17, 20–21, 23–24, 26–27, 30–31, 33–34, 36–37, 40–41, 43–44, 46–47, 50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 60–61, 63–64, 66–67, 70–71, 73–74, 76–77, 80–81, 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
1.L.2.e Use conventional spelling for words with common grade-appropriate spelling patterns.	Grade 1, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 67, 70, 71, 73, 74, 76, 77, 80, 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
1.L.2.f Spell grade-appropriate high-frequency words.	Grade 1, Lessons 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 14, 17, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 51, 54, 56, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 90, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 154, 157
1.L.2.g Spell untaught words phonetically, drawing on phonemic awareness and spelling conventions.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 154, 157

Reading Foundational Skills

South Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
1.RF.1 Demonstrate foundational understanding of print concepts and features of print.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 154, 157
1.RF.1.a Understand that sentences are constructed in a logical sequence.	Grade 1 Lessons, 5, 8, 11, 14, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 154, 157 <i>Language Arts</i> addresses the logical sequence of sentences in grade 1.
1.RF.1.b Recognize key elements of a sentence, including the first word, capitalization, and ending punctuation.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 24, 27, 31, 34, 37, 41, 44, 47, 51, 54, 57, 61, 64, 67, 71, 74, 77, 81, 84, 87, 91, 94, 97, 101, 104, 107, 111, 114, 117, 121, 124, 127, 131, 134, 137, 141, 144, 147, 151, 154, 157
1.RF.2.A Demonstrate proficiency of identifying, blending, and segmenting phonemes (sounds) in spoken words.	Grade 1, Lessons 2–4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 28–30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 40, 42, 43, 45, 46, 48–50, 52, 53, 55, 56, 58, 60, 62, 63, 65, 66, 68–70, 72, 73, 75, 76, 78, 80, 82, 83, 85, 86, 88–90, 92, 93, 95, 96, 98, 100, 102–106, 108–110, 112, 115, 116, 118, 120, 122, 123, 125, 126, 128–130, 132, 133, 135, 136, 138, 140, 142, 143, 145, 146, 148–150, 152, 153, 155, 156, 158
1.RF.2.A.a Isolate and identify individual phonemes in spoken words.	Grade 1, Lessons 3–4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 20, 23, 26, 29–30, 33, 36, 40, 43, 46, 49–50, 53, 56, 60, 63, 66, 69–70, 73, 76, 80, 83, 86, 89–90, 93, 96, 100, 103, 106, 109–110, 113, 116, 120, 123, 126, 129–130, 133, 136, 140, 143, 146, 149–150, 153, 156
1.RF.2.A.b Recognize initial, final and medial phonemes in spoken words.	Grade 1, Lessons 3–18, 20, 23–28, 30–38, 40–48, 50–58, 60–68, 70–78, 80–88, 90–98, 100–103, 106–108, 110–118, 120–128, 130–138, 140–148

South Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
1.RF.2.A.c Identify common phonemes in different words (e.g., identifying the /s/ sound in sun and sand).	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
1.RF.2.A.d Distinguish between similar phonemes (e.g., /p/ and /b/).	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
1.RF.2.A.e Categorize words based on shared phonemes (e.g., sorting words with the same initial sound).	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
1.RF.2.A.f Categorize words with different phonemes in specified positions (e.g., initial, medial, final).	<i>Reading Foundations</i> does not address this standard.
1.RF.2.A.g Blend phonemes together to form words.	Grade 1, Lessons 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 20–21, 23–24, 26–27, 30–31, 33–34, 36–37, 40–41, 43–44, 46–47, 50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 60–61, 63–64, 66–67, 70–71, 73–74, 76–77, 80–81, 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, 136–137, 140–141, 143–144, 146–147, 150–151, 153–154, 156–157
1.RF.2.A.h Segment spoken words into individual phonemes.	Grade 1, Lessons 2, 4, 6–7, 9–10, 12–13, 15–16, 18, 20, 22–23, 25–26, 28, 30, 32–33, 35–36, 38, 40, 42–43, 45–46, 48, 50, 52–53, 55–56, 58, 60, 62–63, 65–66, 68, 70, 72, 75–76, 78, 80, 82–83, 85–86, 88, 90, 92–93, 95–96, 98, 100, 102–105, 108, 112, 115, 118, 122–123, 125–126, 128, 130, 132–133, 135–136, 138, 140, 142–143, 145, 148, 150, 152–153, 155–156, 158
1.RF.2.B Demonstrate awareness of:	Grade 1, Lessons 29, 49, 63, 66, 69–70, 73, 89, 103, 106, 109–110, 113, 116, 120, 146

South Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
1.RF.2.B.i Segment multisyllabic words into syllables and phonemes.	Grade 1, Lessons 63, 66, 70, 73, 103, 106, 110, 113, 116, 120, 146
1.RF.2.B.j Delete specified phonemes from words to create new words.	Grade 1, Lessons 69, 89.
1.RF.2.B.k Add phonemes to words to create new words.	Grade 1, Lessons 29
1.RF.2.B.l Substitute one phoneme in a word to create a new word.	Grade 1, Lessons 49, 69, 89, 109
1.RF.3 Decode and encode using grade-level phonics and word analysis skills.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 4–117, 119–159
1.RF.3.a Differentiate between long and short vowel sounds in regularly spelled one-syllable words.	Grade 1, Lessons 19, 39, 59, 79, 99, 113, 119, 139
1.RF.3.b Recognize and apply the sound-letter correspondences for consonants, vowels, consonant digraphs and consonant blends in isolation.	Grade 1, Lessons 4–19, 26–35
1.RF.3.c Decode and encode one-syllable words with regular spelling patterns, including CVC, CCVC, CVCC, CVVC, CVCe in context.	Grade 1, Lessons 1–2, 4–18, 20–77, 79–117, 119–137, 140–147, 150–157

South Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
1.RF.3.d Decode common vowel teams to represent long vowel sounds in words.	Grade 1, Lessons 9, 12, 15, 17, 21–27, 31, 32, 34, 35, 42–44, 51, 52, 54–58, 60–69, 71, 74–97, 99–111, 113–117, 119–124, 126, 127, 130–135, 137, 139–148, 150–152, 154–157
1.RF.3.e Read and understand words with inflectional endings in context and recognize how these endings change the meaning or tense of words.	Grade 1, Lessons 4–17, 20–27, 31–32, 34–35, 37, 42, 44–47, 50–55, 57, 60–68, 70–77, 80–87, 90–97, 100–105, 107, 110–112, 114–115, 117, 120–127, 130–137, 140–142, 144–147, 150–157 <i>Reading Foundations</i> addresses reading and understanding words with –er and –est inflectional endings in grade 2. Grade 2, Lessons 42–44, 155–157
1.RF.3.f Recognize that every syllable in a word must contain a vowel sound and use this knowledge to determine syllable count in printed words.	Grade 1, Lessons 103, 104, 106, 110–117, 120–122, 143
1.RF.3.g Decode two-syllable words by breaking them into syllables and applying phonics patterns in open and closed syllables.	Grade 1, Lessons 90–92, 106–122.
1.RF.3.h Read and spell grade-appropriate high-frequency words.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 4–117, 119–159
1.RF.4 Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 41, 42, 44, 45, 47, 51, 52, 54, 55, 57, 61, 62, 64, 65, 67, 71, 72, 74, 75, 77, 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
1.RF.4.a Read grade-appropriate text with purpose and understanding.	Grade 1, Lessons 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 41, 42, 44, 45, 47, 51, 52, 54, 55, 57, 61, 62, 64, 65, 67, 71, 72, 74, 75, 77, 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

South Dakota Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Reading Foundations</i>
1.RF.4.b Read grade-appropriate text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and prosody (stress, phrasing, intonation, and expression) on consecutive readings.	Grade 1, Lessons 9, 12, 15, 22, 25, 32, 35, 42, 45, 52, 55, 62, 65, 72, 75, 82, 85, 92, 95, 102, 105, 112, 115, 122, 125, 132, 135, 142, 145, 152, 155
1.RF.4.c Self-monitor reading for correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.	Grade 1, Lessons 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 31, 32, 34, 35, 37, 41, 42, 44, 45, 47, 51, 52, 54, 55, 57, 61, 62, 64, 65, 67, 71, 72, 74, 75, 77, 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