



On June 21, 2022, Louisiana lawmakers signed <u>Act 517</u> into law to ensure that all textbooks and instructional materials used to teach students to read are high-quality, fully aligned to state content standards, and based on literacy strategies that are scientifically researched with proven results in teaching phonological awareness, letter formation, phonics, decoding, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. As part of the Louisiana Department of Education's support for a seamless transition to textbooks and instructional materials that are based on scientifically-researched literacy strategies, the LDOE identified the criterion and indicators used to review instructional materials that were impacted as a result of this legislation.

Title: Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) Skills Strand Grade: K-2

Publisher: Core Knowledge Foundation

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Copyright: 2013

Overall Rating: Tier 1, Exemplifies quality

This English Language Arts review has been examined for the following changes in alignment resulting from Act 517:

- Instructional materials and embedded assessments do not require or encourage the three-cueing system model of reading (students gaining meaning from print through Semantic, Syntactic, or Grapho-phonic cues) in reading instruction;
- Instructional materials and embedded assessments do not require or encourage visual memory as the primary basis for word recognition; and/or
- Instructional materials and embedded assessments do not require or encourage MSV (Meaning, Structure, and Visual) cues in reading instruction.

This review **remains a Tier 1 rating.** • As a result of these changes, the following chart identifies the potential impact of Act 517 on specific elements of the current review. The LDOE recommends that district curriculum staff, principals, and teachers take these findings into consideration when selecting and using instructional materials.

## Non-negotiable

## **CRITERION 4. FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS:**

Materials provide instruction and diagnostic support in concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, development, syntax, and fluency in a logical and transparent progression. These foundational skills are necessary and central components of an effective, comprehensive reading program designed to develop proficient readers with the capacity to comprehend texts across a range of types and disciplines.

INDICATOR	What does the current review say?	Do the materials align with expectations of Act 517?	What is the impact on this review?
Required	Materials provide systematic and explicit		Materials meet the requirements of Act 517
*Indicator for grades K-5 only	phonics instruction. Materials follow a	V Does not use three-cueing 🔹	and remain a Tier 1 rating.
	logical order of phonics instruction by		

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\*Cover Page used for Act 517 Reviews determined by Review Cycle.



Instructional Materials Evaluation Tool - Act 517 Review

for Alignment in ELA Grades K-5 (IMET)



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4d) Materials provide beginning with one-to-one systematic and explicit V Does not use visual memory 🔹 correspondence of producing the basic **phonics** instruction. code for every consonant and Instruction progresses from progressing to double consonants and V Does not use MSV 🔹 simple to more complex digraphs. For example, in Unit 3, Lesson sound-spelling patterns and 1. the teacher introduces the short *a* word analysis skills that vowel sound /a/. The teacher models includes repeated modeling stretching the sound out and is directed to "say many words that begin with the and opportunities for students to hear, say, write, and read short a sound, and have students repeat sound and spelling patterns the words." Students work on mouth (e.g. sounds, words, formation when saying the sound. Then, sentences, reading within students listen for words that the text). teacher says aloud, raising their hand when they hear words that start with the short a vowel sound. In Unit 5, Lesson 1, the warm-up has two parts. The goal of the first part is to distinguish five short vowel sounds. These sounds are practiced in Lessons 1-5. In Lessons 6-9. the */e*/ sound is added between the */i*/ and the /a/. The students are introduced to the progression of the vowel sounds. In the second part, students use large cards to review the vowel and consonant sounds and spellings taught so far. In Unit 6, Lesson 1, students work on Pocket Chart Chaining for Spelling. The teacher says the word sip, and students find the sound cards for each sound in the word. The teacher continues this activity by asking students "if this is sip,





Required         *Indicator for grades K-5 only         4e) Materials provide multiple         opportunities and practice for         students to master grade         appropriate high-frequency	who can show me sap?" This process is repeated for many words. In Unit 8, students' foundational skills knowledge continues to progress in complexity as they decode and encode words with more complex spelling patterns. In Lesson 7, students chain one-syllable short vowel words with initial or final blends/clusters and initial or final consonant digraphs. Students also read and write one-syllable short vowel words with initial or final consonant digraphs. Materials provide opportunities and practice for students to master grade appropriate high-frequency irregular words using multisensory techniques. Materials refer to high-frequency words as Tricky Words. Guidance states, "The term 'Tricky Word' is used in this program	<ul> <li>Does not use three-cueing</li> <li>Does not use visual memory</li> <li>Does not use MSV</li> </ul>	Materials meet the requirements of Act 517 and remain a Tier 1 rating.
	and write one-syllable short vowel words with initial or final consonant digraphs.		
-			-
*Indicator for grades K-5 only		Does not use three-cueing	and remain a Tier 1 rating.
	- · · ·	🔽 Does not use visual memory 🔹	
C C		🔽 Does not use MSV 🔹	
words using multisensory	to refer to a word not pronounced quite		
techniques.	the way you would expect based on the		
	letters in its printed form, or is not		
	spelled quite the way you would expect		
	based on the sounds in the spoken		
	word." Further guidance explains that		
	"CKLA avoids Tricky Words and exception		
	words in the first part of Kindergarten,		
	preferring to have students learn to read		
	and write with regular words that can be		
	blended and spelled in accordance with		
	the letter-sound correspondences		
	taught." Beginning in Unit 8, students are		





introduced to "seven very common words	
that cannot be pronounced accurately	
using the letter-sound correspondences	
taught" called Tricky Words. Tricky Words	
for the unit include: the, a, of, all, one,	
from, and was. In Unit 8, Lesson 1, as an	
introduction to Tricky Words, the teacher	
explains, "most words in English 'play by	
the rules' and are pronounced exactly the	
way you would expect, but some do not.	
Words that do not 'play by the rules' are	
called Tricky Words. They can be difficult	
to read and write." The teacher further	
explains that, "even in a Tricky Word,	
there are usually some letters	
pronounced just as you would expect.	
Usually only one or two letters are not	
pronounced as you would expect." The	
teacher then introduces Tricky Words the	
and a. Then, students read a list of	
phrases using the words such as: the cat,	
a van, a ship, the spot, the pig, and a	
path. Finally, students read the story	
"Sam and the Fish" to support	
understanding. As lessons and units	
progress new Tricky Words are	
introduced. In Unit 9, the Tricky Words	
word, to, I, no, when, where, why, what,	
which, so, once, said, says, are, were,	
here, and there are introduced. In Lesson	
2, Tricky Words why and to are	
introduced. The teacher begins with the	
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	word why by writing the word on the		
	board and asking students how they		
	would pronounce the word by blending.		
	The teacher then pronounces the word		
	correctly, underlines the letters w and h,		
	and explains that the letters make up the		
	tricky part of the word. The teacher then		
	underlines the letter y and explains it is		
	the second part of the tricky word		
	because it is pronounced as the long i		
	vowel sound. The teacher then explains		
	"when reading why, students have to		
	remember to pronounce the letters 'w'		
	'h' as /w/ and the letter 'y' as /ie/."		
	Finally, the teacher provides guidance for		
	encoding the word by explaining, "when		
	writing why, they have to remember to		
	spell the /w/ sound with the letters 'w'		
	'h' and the /ie/ sound with the letter 'y'."		
	Students complete Tricky Word Practice		
	by writing previous words and words why		
	and to. This process is repeated as new		
	Tricky Words are introduced throughout		
	the unit. In Unit 10, the Tricky Words he,		
	she, we, be, me, they, their, my, by, you,		
	and your are introduced.		
Required	Resources and texts provide ample		Materials meet the requirements of Act 517
*Indicator for grades K-5 only	practice of foundational reading skills	🚺 Does not use three-cueing 🔹	and remain a Tier 1 rating.
	using texts and allow for systematic,		
4f) Resources and/or texts	explicit, and frequent practice of reading	V Does not use visual memory 🔹	
provide ample <b>practice</b> of	foundational skills, including phonics		
foundational reading skills	patterns and word analysis skills in	🔽 Does not use MSV 🔹	
	<u> </u>		

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using texts (e.g. decodable	decoding words. According to the Unit 1	
readers) and allow for	teacher's manual, the readers contain	
systematic, explicit, and	100% decodable texts for students to	
frequent practice of reading	read in Units 6–10. In Units 4 and 5, Big	
foundational skills, including	Books are used by the teacher only, but	
phonics patterns and word	starting in Unit 6, students begin to	
analysis skills in decoding	independently read in their own student	
words.	readers. There is a Reader for each of the	
	Units 6-10, and new spellings taught in	
Materials provide	the unit are printed in bold throughout	
opportunities for students to	the Reader to help students master new	
self-monitor to confirm or	material. The last few stories in each	
self-correct word errors	Reader include stories for the Pausing	
directing students to reread	Point, which can be either assigned or	
purposefully to acquire	omitted depending on the needs of	
accurate meaning.	students in the class. Ideally, each	
	student should have his or her own	
This should include	Reader. The Workbooks include	
monitoring that will allow	take-home copies of each story for	
students to receive regular	further practice. In Unit 7, Lesson 13,	
feedback.	students practice their skills reading the	
	Student Reader, "Sal's Fish Shop." Before	
	reading, the teacher will review words	
	such as shop, fish, and Seth. Students	
	work with their partner to read the story.	
	The story contains many words that	
	contain the /sh/ skill, including the /sh/	
	highlighted in all words. In Unit 9, Lesson	
	8, students read "On the Mat" with their	
	partners. While reading with a partner,	
	students listen as their partner reads to	
	help them correct mistakes or even to	





	confirm how they should read when it is		
	their turn.		
Required	Opportunities are frequently built into		Materials meet the requirements of Act 517
*Indicator for grades K-5 only	the materials that allow for students to	V Does not use three-cueing	and remain a Tier 1 rating.
	achieve reading fluency in oral and silent		
4g) Opportunities are	reading. Monitoring is included and	V Does not use visual memory	
frequently built into the	allows students to receive regular		
materials that allow for	feedback on their oral reading fluency in	V Does not use MSV -	
students to achieve reading	the specific areas of appropriate rate,		
fluency in oral and silent	expressiveness, and accuracy. Reading is		
reading, that is, to read a wide	practiced both silently, aloud with		
variety of grade-appropriate	partners, and aloud 1:1 with the teacher.		
prose, poetry, and/or	Reading aloud allows the teacher to		
informational texts with	determine if students are successfully		
accuracy, rate appropriate to	turning print into speech. Students		
the text, and expression.	observe the teacher model reading,		
	practice reading by themselves, and read		
Materials provide	the stories more than once. For example,		
opportunities for students to	in Unit 6, Lesson 7, students read "Kit's		
self-monitor to confirm or	Mom." The teacher reads the story once		
self-correct word errors	without interruption while students		
directing students to reread	track in their individual readers, and,		
purposefully to acquire	then, students read the text with their		
accurate meaning.	partners. The teacher uses the small		
	group time of the lesson to have the		
This should include	students read aloud. The teacher records		
monitoring that will allow	anecdotal notes regarding the students'		
students to receive regular	reading performance and provides		
feedback on their oral reading	students with confirming or corrective		
fluency in the specific areas of	feedback. In Unit 7, Lesson 8, Small		
appropriate <b>rate,</b>	Group Work, students read from the Kit		
expressiveness, and accuracy.	Reader to "develop accuracy and		







	fluency." Lesson 11, involves a two-part		
	reading assessment. In Part One, the		
	teacher says a word and students circle		
	the word on their paper. In Part Two,		
	students meet with the teacher		
	individually to read aloud. The teacher		
	analyzes each student's errors "to		
	determine whether there are one or		
	more individual letter-sound		
	correspondences that are particularly		
	problematic." This time also allows		
	teachers the opportunity to "examine		
	whether the student succeeded in		
	reading words correctly on the second		
	attempt. If so, the student may be		
	rushing and may benefit from explicit		
	instruction to slow down and look at		
	each letter in a word sequentially, left to		
	right." In Unit 9, Lesson 10, the teacher		
	sets the purpose for reading "Fix That		
	Ship." Students are divided into small		
	groups. In Group 1, students sit with		
	their partners and take turns reading. In		
	Group 2, students read the story aloud		
	using group strategies best suited for		
	that particular group.		
Required	Materials provide opportunities for		Materials meet the requirements of Act 517
*Indicator for grades K-2 only	teachers to assess students' mastery of	🔽 Does not use three-cueing 🔹	and remain a Tier 1 rating.
	foundational skills and respond to the		
4i) Materials provide	needs of individual students based on	V Does not use visual memory 🔹	
opportunities for teachers to	ongoing assessments offered at regular		
assess students' mastery of	intervals. Monitoring includes attention	🔽 Does not use MSV 🔹	

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foundational skills and	to invented spelling as appropriate for its	
respond to the needs of	diagnostic value. Units include an end of	
individual students based on	unit assessment as well as multiple	
ongoing assessments offered	opportunities for other observation and	
at regular intervals.	evaluation throughout the unit. Each	
Monitoring includes attention	unit within the materials is accompanied	
to invented spelling as	by an Assessment and Remediation	
appropriate for its diagnostic	Guide that provides additional	
value.	opportunities to assess students. The	
	first unit guide, Introduction and Unit 1:	
	Assessment and Remediation Guide,	
	offers a summary of progress monitoring	
	assessments available and explains that	
	"Resources for progress monitoring are	
	included at the end of each section.	
	These tools are intended to facilitate	
	data collection to inform instruction and	
	build a record of students' progress."	
	Progress monitoring in the first two units	
	focuses on student observation while	
	applying introduced skills. "In Unit 3, the	
	Progress Monitoring changes to utilizing	
	specific measures with criteria. Whereas	
	students will have the opportunity to	
	continue to develop Unit 1 and Unit 2	
	skills as they move forward, beginning	
	with Unit 3, high levels of proficiency	
	with the skills within the unit is required	
	for success in subsequent units." In Unit	
	3, Lesson 14, students complete a	
	performance task assessment. Students	
	are assessed individually by reading	





printed words alo	ud. Teachers use an	
individual record	sheet to record	
answers. There is	also an analysis and	
interpretation she	et to guide	
performance rang	ing from excellent to	
poor. Further ana	ysis can be done to	
assess what speci	fic letter-sound	
correspondence is	problematic. In Unit	
8, Lesson 15, stud	ents complete a Word	
Recognition Asses	sment. Students listen	
to the teacher cal	out words, and they	
circle the words o	n their paper. The	
teacher scores stu	dents, and, those who	
score a 90% or ab	ove, progress to the	
Story Reading Ass	essment. In Unit 8,	
Lesson 18, studen	ts complete the Story	
Reading Assessme	ent. Students read the	
story "The Chick"	as the teacher scores	
the students. If th	e student scores 51-54,	
	very good." If the score	
	they are "doing well"	
and are on their v	vay to conquering the	
	wer than a 47 requires	
guidance from the		
Remediation Guid	e.	





The goal of English language arts is for students to read, understand, and express understanding of complex texts independently. To accomplish this goal, programs must build students' knowledge and skill in language, comprehension, conversations, and writing integrated around a volume of complex texts and tasks.<sup>1</sup> In grades K-5, programs must also build students' foundational skills to be able to read and write about a range of texts<sup>2</sup> independently. Thus, a strong ELA classroom is structured with the below components.



Title: Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) ELA Skills Strand

Grade: <u>K-2</u>

Copyright: 2013

Publisher: Core Knowledge Foundation

Overall Rating: Tier 1, Exemplifies quality

Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 Elements of this review:

STRONG	WEAK
4. Foundational Skills (Non-negotiable)	

Each set of submitted materials was evaluated for alignment with the standards beginning with a review of the indicators for the non-negotiable criteria. If those criteria were met, a review of the other criteria ensued.

Tier 1 ratings received a "Yes" for all Criteria 1-8.

*Tier 2 ratings* received a "Yes" for all non-negotiable criteria, but at least one "No" for the remaining criteria. *Tier 3 ratings* received a "No" for at least one of the non-negotiable criteria.

Click below for complete grade-level reviews:

Grade K (Tier 1) Grade 1 (Tier 1) Grade 2 (Tier 1)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A volume of texts is a collection of texts written about similar topics, themes, or ideas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A range of texts are texts written at different reading levels.





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To evaluate instructional materials for alignment with the <u>standards</u> and determine tiered rating, begin with **Section I: Non-negotiable Criteria**.

- Review the **required**<sup>3</sup> Indicators of Superior Quality for each **Non-negotiable** criterion.
- If there is a "Yes" for all **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, materials receive a "Yes" for that **Non-negotiable** Criterion.
- If there is a "No" for any of the **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, materials receive a "No" for that **Non-negotiable** Criterion.
- Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2 and 3. For grades K-5, materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II<sup>4</sup> and all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-4 to continue to Section III. For grades 6-12, materials must meet Non-Negotiable Criteria 1-3 for the review to continue to Section III.
- If materials receive a "No" for any **Non-negotiable** Criterion, a rating of Tier 3 is assigned, and the review does not continue.

If all Non-negotiable Criteria are met, then continue to Section III: Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

- Review the **required** Indicators of Superior Quality for each criterion.
- If there is a "Yes" for all **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, then the materials receive a "Yes" for the additional criteria.
- If there is a "No" for any **required** Indicator of Superior Quality, then the materials receive a "No" for the additional criteria.

*Tier 1 ratings* receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria and a "Yes" for each of the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

*Tier 2 ratings* receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria, but at least one "No" for the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

*Tier 3 ratings* receive a "No" for at least one of the Non-negotiable Criteria.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Required Indicators of Superior Quality are labeled "Required" and shaded yellow. Remaining indicators that are shaded white are included to provide additional information to aid in material selection and do not affect tiered rating.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For grades K-5: Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2-3. Materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES		
SECTION I. K-12 NON-NEGOTIABLE CRITERIA OF SUPERIOR QUALITY Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2 and 3. For grades K-5, materials must meet all of the					
_	er for the review to continue to Section II and all of the Non-neg		-		
-	als must meet all of the Non-Negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for	•			
Non-negotiable	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.		
1. QUALITY OF TEXTS:	1a) Materials provide texts that are appropriately complex				
Texts are of sufficient scope and	for the identified grade level according to the requirements				
quality to provide text-centered	outlined in the standards.				
and integrated learning that is	• A text analysis that includes complexity information				
sequenced and scaffolded to (1)	is provided. Measures for determining complexity				
advance students toward	include quantitative and qualitative analysis, as well				
independent reading of grade-	as reader and task considerations. Poetry and drama				
level texts and (2) build content	are analyzed only using qualitative measures.				
knowledge (e.g., ELA, social	• In grades K-2, extensive read-aloud texts allow				
studies, science, and the arts).	sufficient opportunity for engagement with text more				
The quality of texts is high—they	complex than students could read themselves.				
support multiple readings for	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.		
various purposes and exhibit	Indicator 1b) At least 90% of provided texts, including read-				
exceptional craft and thought	alouds in K-2, are of publishable quality and offer rich				
and/or provide useful	opportunities for students to meet the grade-level ELA				
information. Materials present a	standards; the texts are well-crafted, representing the quality				
progression of complex texts as	of content, language, and writing that is produced by experts				
stated by Reading Standard 10.	in various disciplines.				
	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.		
( <b>Note:</b> In K and 1, Reading	1c) Materials provide a coherent sequence or collection of				
Standard 10 refers to read-aloud	connected texts that build vocabulary knowledge and				
material. Complexity standards	knowledge about themes with connected topics and ideas				
for student-read texts are	through tasks in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and				
applicable for grades 2+.)	language.				
	<ul> <li>In grades K-2, the inclusion of read-aloud texts in</li> </ul>				
Yes No	addition to what students can read themselves				
	ensures that all students can build knowledge about				
	the world through engagement with rich, complex				
	texts. These texts as well must form a coherent				

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	sequence or collection of connected texts that build		
	vocabulary knowledge and knowledge about themes		
	with connected topics and ideas through tasks in		
	reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language.		
	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	1d) Within a sequence or collection, quality texts of grade		
	level complexity are selected for multiple, careful readings		
	throughout the unit of study. These texts are revisited as		
	needed to support knowledge building.		
Non-negotiable (only reviewed if	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Criterion 1 is met)	2a) A majority of questions in the materials are text		
2. TEXT-DEPENDENT	dependent and text specific; student ideas are expressed		
QUESTIONS:	through both written and spoken responses.		
Text-dependent and text-specific	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
questions and tasks reflect the	2b) Questions and tasks include the language of the		
requirements of Reading	standards and require students to engage in thinking at the		
Standard 1 by requiring use of	depth and complexity required by the grade-level standards		
textual evidence in support of	to advance and deepen student learning over time. (Note:		
meeting other grade-specific	not every standard must be addressed with every text.)		
standards.			
Yes No			
Non-negotiable (only reviewed if	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Criterion 1 is met)	3a) Coherent sequences of questions and tasks focus		
3. COHERENCE OF TASKS:	students on understanding the text and its illustrations (as		
Materials contain meaningful,	applicable), making connections among the texts in the		
connected tasks that build	collection, and expressing their understanding of the topics,		
student knowledge and provide	themes, and ideas presented in the texts.		
opportunities for students to	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
read, understand, and express	<b>3b</b> ) Questions and tasks are designed so that students <b>build</b> ,		
understanding of complex texts	apply, and integrate knowledge and skills in reading, writing,		
through speaking and listening,	speaking, listening, and language through quality, grade-level		
and writing. Tasks integrate	complex texts.		

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
reading, writing, speaking and listening, and include components of vocabulary, syntax, and fluency, as needed, so that students can gain meaning from text.	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>3c) Questions and tasks support students in examining the language (vocabulary, sentences, and structure) critical to the meaning of texts measured by Criteria 1 and 2.</li> <li>Questions and tasks also focus on advancing depth of word knowledge through emphasizing word meaning and relationships among words (e.g., concept- and thematically related words, word families, etc.) rather than isolated vocabulary practice, and engaging students with multiple repetitions of words in varied contexts (e.g., reading different texts, completing tasks, engaging in speaking/listening).</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Section II. K-5 Non-negotiable Fou	ndational Skills Indicators (Grades K-5 only)		
Non-negotiable* 4. FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS: Materials provide instruction and diagnostic support in concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, development, syntax, and fluency in a logical and transparent progression. These foundational skills are necessary and central components of an effective, comprehensive reading program designed to develop proficient readers with the capacity to comprehend texts across a range of types and disciplines.	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only <b>4a)</b> Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standards (based on the <u>Vertical Progression of Foundational</u> <u>Skills</u> ) while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills.	Yes	Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standard while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills. Foundational skills instruction begins with "sounds, or phonemes, as the primary organizing principle of the program, rather than letters." Lessons begin with sounds as they strengthen students' phonological awareness and progress to more complex phonics rules ensuring students are proficient in each skill as they progress toward reading fluency and comprehension. For example, in Unit 1, Lesson 1, students segment spoken sentences into words by counting fingers, counting the number of environmental sounds heard as the teacher varies the number of knocks on a desk, and

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
*As applicable (e.g., when the scope of the materials is comprehensive and considered a full program)			are the same or different using a variety of common classroom objects. This lesson prepares students for later lessons because it "requires students to distinguish discrete noises." Unit 3 begins with letter sounds being introduced to students, such as /m/, /a/, and /t/. Students progress to more difficult phonics skills such as blends and digraphs. Unit 3 also begins student exposure to fluency. Students begin with concepts of print and progress toward answering multiple types of questions. By Unit 6, Lesson 1, students are able to orally blend sounds to form words and demonstrate an understanding that a systematic, predictable relationship exists between written letters and sounds. Students also read decodable texts that incorporate the letter-sound correspondences that have been taught. In Lesson 8, students recognize and produce rhyming words, as well as read, spell, and write and chains of one-syllable short vowel words with consonant blends/clusters and/or consonant digraphs.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-1 only Indicator 4b) Materials provide grade-appropriate instruction and practice for the concepts of print (e.g., following words left to right, top to bottom, page by page; words are followed by spaces; and features of a sentence).	Yes	Materials provide grade-appropriate instruction and practice for the basic features of print. Materials include guidance for demonstrating directionality from left to right and identifying the parts of a book and function of each part. For example, in Unit 1, Lesson 5, students demonstrate understanding of directionality by manipulating cubes from left to right, tracking pictures from left to right, and

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			manipulating playdough by making vertical lines, horizontal lines, and circles. On Worksheet 5.1, students express their understanding of directionality as they track pictures on the sheet in response to the teacher's prompt, "What is the next picture?" This process is repeated as students move their fingers from picture to picture, left to right across the page. In Unit 6, Lesson 1, students demonstrate understanding of basic print conventions by tracking and following print, word for word when listening to the text <i>Kit</i> being read aloud. In Unit 7, the teacher displays the Big Book, <i>Seth</i> , by pointing out the title of the book and reminding students what a title is. The teacher then reviews the parts of the book: cover page, title page, back cover, and page numbers. Students track in their own books as the text is read aloud. The story is then read a second time and the teacher pauses to point out that the first letter in a word is capitalized if it is at the beginning of the sentence.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-1 only 4c) Materials provide systematic and explicit phonological awareness instruction (e.g., recognizing rhyming words; clapping syllables; blending onset-rime; and blending, segmenting, deleting, and substituting phonemes).	Yes	Materials provide systematic and explicit phonological awareness instruction. According to the Teachers Manual for Unit 1, the first two units focus primarily on phonological awareness with the introduction and practice of hearing spoken words and identifying phonemes in spoken words, without decoding. In Unit 1, students practice hearing environmental sounds and hearing words spoken in phrases and sentences. In Lesson 5, students

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	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only 4d) Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Instruction progresses from simple to more complex sound–spelling patterns and word analysis skills that includes repeated modeling and opportunities for students to hear, say, write, and read sound and spelling patterns (e.g. sounds, words, sentences, reading within text).	Yes	participate in an activity called How Many Noises? For each noise they hear, students place one cube on the mat. In Unit 2, students blend syllables to form words. Teacher directions explain that students should, "Listen to one-syllable words and tell the beginning or ending sounds, e.g., given dog, identify initial /d/ or final /g/ in Lessons 4-8." In Lessons 9 and 10, students substitute phonemes for spoken one- syllable words. In Unit 3, Lesson 1, students practice oral blending with the teacher. The teacher orally segments a word (/m/ /ou/ /s/) and students blend the sounds into the word mouse. In Lesson 5, students blend sounds to form words and recognize and isolate the initial sounds in their classmates' names. Teachers remind students that the word mat has three sounds. The teacher says the sounds in a segmented fashion and students touch their arms in different areas for each sound. Students then blend those sounds into a word. Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Materials follow a logical order of phonics instruction by beginning with one-to-one correspondence of producing the basic code for every consonant and progressing to double consonants and digraphs. For example, in Unit 3, Lesson 1, the teacher introduces the short <i>a</i> vowel sound / <i>a</i> /. The teacher models stretching the sound out and is directed to "say many words that begin with the short a sound, and have students repeat

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		(110)110)	the words." Students work on mouth
			formation when saying the sound. Then,
			students listen for words that the teacher
			says aloud, raising their hand when they
			hear words that start with the short <i>a</i> vowel
			sound. In Unit 5, Lesson 1, the warm-up has
			two parts. The goal of the first part is to
			distinguish five short vowel sounds. These
			sounds are practiced in Lessons 1-5. In
			Lessons 6-9, the /e/ sound is added between
			the /i/ and the /a/. The students are
			introduced to the progression of the vowel
			sounds. In the second part, students use
			large cards to review the vowel and
			consonant sounds and spellings taught so
			far. In Unit 6, Lesson 1, students work on
			Pocket Chart Chaining for Spelling. The
			teacher says the word sip, and students find
			the sound cards for each sound in the word.
			The teacher continues this activity by asking
			students "if this is sip, who can show me
			sap?" This process is repeated for many
			words. In Unit 8, students' foundational
			skills knowledge continues to progress in
			complexity as they decode and encode
			words with more complex spelling patterns.
			In Lesson 7, students chain one-syllable
			short vowel words with initial or final
			blends/clusters and initial or final consonant
			digraphs. Students also read and write one-
			syllable short vowel words with initial or
			final consonant digraphs.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only	Yes	Materials provide opportunities and practice
			for students to master grade appropriate
			high-frequency irregular words using

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	Indicator 4e) Materials provide multiple opportunities and		multisensory techniques. Materials refer to
	practice for students to master grade appropriate high-		high-frequency words as Tricky Words.
	frequency words using multisensory techniques.		Guidance states, "The term 'Tricky Word' is
			used in this program to refer to a word not
			pronounced quite the way you would expect
			based on the letters in its printed form, or is
			not spelled quite the way you would expect
			based on the sounds in the spoken word."
			Further guidance explains that "CKLA avoids
			Tricky Words and exception words in the
			first part of Kindergarten, preferring to have
			students learn to read and write with
			regular words that can be blended and
			spelled in accordance with the letter-sound
			correspondences taught." Beginning in Unit
			8, students are introduced to "seven very
			common words that cannot be pronounced
			accurately using the letter-sound
			correspondences taught" called Tricky
			Words. Tricky Words for the unit include:
			the, a, of, all, one, from, and was. In Unit 8,
			Lesson 1, as an introduction to Tricky Words,
			the teacher explains, "most words in English
			'play by the rules' and are pronounced
			exactly the way you would expect, but some
			do not. Words that do not 'play by the rules'
			are called Tricky Words. They can be difficult
			to read and write." The teacher further
			explains that, "even in a Tricky Word, there
			are usually some letters pronounced just as
			you would expect. Usually only one or two
			letters are not pronounced as you would
			expect." The teacher then introduces Tricky
			Words the and a. Then, students read a list
			of phrases using the words such as: the cat,

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			a van, a ship, the spot, the pig, and a path.
			Finally, students read the story "Sam and
			the Fish" to support understanding. As
			lessons and units progress new Tricky Words
			are introduced. In Unit 9, the Tricky Words
			word, to, I, no, when, where, why, what,
			which, so, once, said, says, are, were, here,
			and there are introduced. In Lesson 2, Tricky
			Words why and to are introduced. The
			teacher begins with the word why by writing
			the word on the board and asking students
			how they would pronounce the word by
			blending. The teacher then pronounces the
			word correctly, underlines the letters w and
			h, and explains that the letters make up the
			tricky part of the word. The teacher then
			underlines the letter y and explains it is the
			second part of the tricky word because it is
			pronounced as the long i vowel sound. The
			teacher then explains "when reading why,
			students have to remember to pronounce
			the letters 'w' 'h' as $/w/$ and the letter 'y' as
			/ie/." Finally, the teacher provides guidance
			for encoding the word by explaining, "when
			writing why, they have to remember to spell
			the /w/ sound with the letters 'w' 'h' and
			the /ie/ sound with the letter 'y'." Students
			complete Tricky Word Practice by writing
			previous words and words why and to. This
			process is repeated as new Tricky Words are
			introduced throughout the unit. In Unit 10,
			the Tricky Words he, she, we, be, me, they,
			their, my, by, you, and your are introduced.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only	Yes	Resources and texts provide ample practice
			of foundational reading skills using texts and

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	4f) Resources and/or texts provide ample practice of		allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent
	foundational reading skills using texts (e.g. decodable		practice of reading foundational skills,
	readers) and allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent		including phonics patterns and word analysis
	practice of reading foundational skills, including phonics		skills in decoding words. According to the
	patterns and word analysis skills in decoding words.		Unit 1 teacher's manual, the readers contain
			100% decodable texts for students to read in
	Materials provide opportunities for students to self-monitor		Units 6–10. In Units 4 and 5, Big Books are
	to confirm or <b>self-correct</b> word errors directing students to		used by the teacher only, but starting in Unit
	reread purposefully to acquire accurate meaning.		6, students begin to independently read in
			their own student readers. There is a Reader
	This should include monitoring that will allow students to		for each of the Units 6-10, and new spellings
	receive regular feedback.		taught in the unit are printed in bold
			throughout the Reader to help students
			master new material. The last few stories in
			each Reader include stories for the Pausing
			Point, which can be either assigned or
			omitted depending on the needs of students
			in the class. Ideally, each student should
			have his or her own Reader. The Workbooks
			include take-home copies of each story for
			further practice. In Unit 7, Lesson 13,
			students practice their skills reading the
			Student Reader, "Sal's Fish Shop." Before
			reading, the teacher will review words such
			as shop, fish, and Seth. Students work with
			their partner to read the story. The story
			contains many words that contain the /sh/
			skill, including the /sh/ highlighted in all
			words. In Unit 9, Lesson 8, students read
			"On the Mat" with their partners. While
			reading with a partner, students listen as
			their partner reads to help them correct
			mistakes or even to confirm how they
			should read when it is their turn.

Required *Indicator for grades K-5 onlyYesOpportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading, that is, to read a wide variety of grade- appropriate prose, poetry, and/or informational texts with accuracy, rate appropriate to the text, and expression.YesOpportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading. Monitoring is included and allows students to receive regular feedback on the confirm or self-correct word errors directing students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy.YesOpportunities are frequently built into the materials fluency in oral and silent reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy.This should include monitoring that will allow students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy.YesOpportunities are frequently built into the materials fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy.With Stone Students Stone Students Stone Students Stone Students Stone Students Stone Students Students Stone Stud	CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
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CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<ul> <li>Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only</li> <li>4h) Materials provide instruction and practice in word study.</li> <li>In grades K-2, materials provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication and regular practice in encoding (spelling) the sound symbol relationships of English. (Note: Instruction and practice with roots, prefixes, and suffixes is applicable for grade 1 and higher.)</li> <li>In grades 3-5, materials provide instruction and practice in word study including systematic</li> </ul>		EXAMPLES individual letter-sound correspondences that are particularly problematic." This time also allows teachers the opportunity to "examine whether the student succeeded in reading words correctly on the second attempt. If so, the student may be rushing and may benefit from explicit instruction to slow down and look at each letter in a word sequentially, left to right." In Unit 9, Lesson 10, the teacher sets the purpose for reading "Fix That Ship." Students are divided into small groups. In Group 1, students sit with their partners and take turns reading. In Group 2, students read the story aloud using group strategies best suited for that particular group. Materials provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication and regular practice in encoding the sound symbol relationships of English. In Unit 2, students engage in lessons and activities that support their understanding of spelling/sound patterns as they begin to make connections between sounds and symbols. The materials explain, "Vowel and consonant spellings can
	examination of grade-level morphology, decoding of multisyllabic words by using syllabication, and automaticity with grade-level regular and irregular spelling patterns.		be combined to make simple Consonant Vowel Consonant (CVC) and Vowel Consonant (VC) words. Students will use the letter-sound correspondences they learn in this unit and the oral blending skills they learned in Unit 2 to blend and read printed

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			words." The materials also include Chaining Exercises that include a series of words that are built by changing only one letter or spelling at a time. Unit 6, Lesson 6, includes a word chaining activity where students use letter cards to show the letter chain <i>net</i> > <i>bet</i> > <i>yet</i> > <i>jet</i> > <i>jets</i> > <i>jots</i> > <i>jobs</i> > <i>bobs</i> > <i>bibs</i> > <i>bin</i> . This exercise allows students the opportunity to better understand the process of adding, deleting, or substituting letters/sounds to form new words. In Unit 8, Lesson 15, students read and write one- syllable short vowel words with initial or final consonant digraphs. Students use their workbooks to practice identifying the first sound in the words and then determining how many sounds are in each word. For example, students read the word <i>shock</i> , identify /sh/ as the first sound, and determine the three sounds or phonemes the word <i>shock</i> has by sounding out the word / <i>sh</i> / /o/ / <i>k</i> /.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-2 only 4i) Materials provide opportunities for teachers to assess students' mastery of foundational skills and respond to the needs of individual students based on ongoing assessments offered at regular intervals. Monitoring includes attention to invented spelling as appropriate for its diagnostic value.	Yes	Materials provide opportunities for teachers to assess students' mastery of foundational skills and respond to the needs of individual students based on ongoing assessments offered at regular intervals. Monitoring includes attention to invented spelling as appropriate for its diagnostic value. Units include an end of unit assessment as well as multiple opportunities for other observation and evaluation throughout the unit. Each unit within the materials is accompanied by an Assessment and Remediation Guide that provides additional opportunities to assess

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			students. The first unit guide, Introduction
			and Unit 1: Assessment and Remediation
			Guide, offers a summary of progress
			monitoring assessments available and
			explains that "Resources for progress
			monitoring are included at the end of each
			section. These tools are intended to
			facilitate data collection to inform
			instruction and build a record of students'
			progress." Progress monitoring in the first
			two units focuses on student observation
			while applying introduced skills. "In Unit 3,
			the Progress Monitoring changes to utilizing
			specific measures with criteria. Whereas
			students will have the opportunity to
			continue to develop Unit 1 and Unit 2 skills
			as they move forward, beginning with Unit
			3, high levels of proficiency with the skills
			within the unit is required for success in
			subsequent units." In Unit 3, Lesson 14,
			students complete a performance task
			assessment. Students are assessed
			individually by reading printed words aloud.
			Teachers use an individual record sheet to
			record answers. There is also an analysis and
			interpretation sheet to guide performance
			ranging from excellent to poor. Further
			analysis can be done to assess what specific
			letter-sound correspondence is problematic.
			In Unit 8, Lesson 15, students complete a
			Word Recognition Assessment. Students
			listen to the teacher call out words, and they
			circle the words on their paper. The teacher
			scores students, and, those who score a 90%
			or above, progress to the Story Reading

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			Assessment. In Unit 8, Lesson 18, students complete the Story Reading Assessment. Students read the story "The Chick" as the teacher scores the students. If the student scores 51-54, they are reading "very good." If the score is between 48-50, they are "doing well" and are on their way to conquering the code. Anything lower than a 47 requires guidance from the Assessment and Remediation Guide.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only 4j) Foundational Skills materials are abundant and easily implemented so that teachers can spend time, attention and practice with students who need foundational skills supports.	Yes	Foundational Skill materials are abundant and easily implemented so that teachers can spend time, attention and practice with students who need foundational skill supports. The materials are grouped into ten instructional units, outlined by the ten unit Assessment and Remediation Guides and Teacher Guides. The Navigating K-3 Skills Lessons document includes an outline of the Week-by-Week Pacing Guides that provide teachers with an overview of the lessons and the estimated time allotted for each lesson component. Each lesson component is accompanied by the number of instructional minutes it requires and each daily lesson requires 60 total instructional minutes. For example, in Unit 6, Lesson 2, the lesson includes the following: Warm-Up, Oral Blending and Sound/Spelling Review (10 minutes); Reviewing Letter Names (5 minutes); Chaining Dictation (15 minutes); Teacher Demonstration Story, "Kit and Stan" (10 minutes); and Differentiated Instruction, Small Group Work (20 minutes). The lessons are organized logically, allowing students to

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
Section III. Additional Criteria of St	uperior Quality		receive instruction from the teacher and then work in small groups based on the student's individual needs. The Assessment and Remediation Guide (ARG) allows remediation to be administered based on student need as identified by outcomes in routine progress monitoring. According to Instructional Planning, in Unit 3, ARG, teachers use a cross reference chart and a student-need flowchart to determine where to begin. Once the teacher establishes the level of instructional need, the chart directs the teacher to the corresponding lesson structure at the beginning of each unit. Materials are easy for students to access. After Unit 6, each student is given an individual decodable reader and in all units students are provided a workbook that corresponds with daily lessons and activities. Teachers are provided with sound cards, big book versions of the decodable readers, and teacher guides with explicit directions for teaching.
5. RANGE AND VOLUME OF	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
TEXTS:	5a) Materials seek a balance in instructional time between		
Materials reflect the distribution	literature and informational texts. (Reviewers will consider		
of text types and genres	the balance within units of study as well as across the entire		
suggested by the standards (e.g.	grade level using the ratio between literature/informational		
RL.K.9, RL.1.5, RI.1.9, RL.2.4,	texts to help determine the appropriate balance.)		
RI.2.3, RL.3.2, RL.3.5, RI.4.3,	<ul> <li>The majority of informational texts have an</li> </ul>		
RL.5.7, RI.7.7, RL.8.9, RI.9-10.9,	informational text structure.		

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
and RL.10/RI.10 across grade levels.)	<ul> <li>In grades 3-12, narrative structure (e.g. speeches, biographies, essays) of informational text are also included.</li> </ul>		
Yes No	<b>Required</b> <b>5b)</b> Materials include print and/or non-print texts in a <b>variety</b> of formats (e.g. a range of film, art, music, charts, etc.) and lengths (e.g. short stories, poetry, and novels).	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>5c)</b> Additional materials provide direction and practice for regular, <b>accountable independent reading</b> of texts that appeal to students' interests to build reading stamina, confidence, motivation, and enjoyment and develop knowledge of classroom concepts or topics.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
6. WRITING TO SOURCES, SPEAKING AND LISTENING, AND LANGUAGE: The majority of tasks are text- dependent or text-specific, reflect the writing genres named in the standards, require communication skills for college and career readiness, and help students	<b>Required</b> <b>6a)</b> Materials include a <b>variety of opportunities</b> for students to listen, speak, and write about their understanding of texts measured by Criteria 1 and 2; those opportunities are prominent, varied in length and time demands (e.g., informal peer conversations, note taking, summary writing, discussing and writing short-answer responses, whole-class formal discussions, shared writing, formal essays in different genres, on-demand and process writing, etc.), and require students to engage effectively, as determined by the grade-level standards. <sup>5</sup>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
meet the language standards for the grade. Yes No	Required *Indicator for grades 3-12 only 6b) The majority of oral and written tasks require students to demonstrate the knowledge they built through the analysis and synthesis of texts, and present well defended claims and clear information, using grade-level language and conventions and drawing on textual evidence to support valid inferences from text.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Technology and digital media may be used, when appropriate, to support the standards addressed in this indicator.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>6c) Materials include multiple writing tasks aligned to the three modes of writing (opinion/argumentative, informative, narrative) as outlined by the standards at each grade level.</li> <li>As students progress through the grades, narrative prompts decrease in number and increase in being based on text(s).</li> <li>In grades 3-12, tasks may include blended modes (e.g., analytical writing).</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>6d) Materials address the grammar and language conventions specified by the language standards at each grade level and build on those standards from previous grade levels through application and practice of those skills in the context of reading and writing about unit texts.</li> <li>For example, materials create opportunities for students to analyze the syntax of a quality text to determine the text's meaning and model their own sentence construction as a way to develop more complex sentence structure and usage.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
7. ASSESSMENTS: Materials offer assessment opportunities that genuinely measure progress and elicit	<b>Required</b> <b>7a)</b> Materials use varied modes of assessment, including a range of pre-, formative, summative and self-assessment measures.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
direct, observable evidence of the degree to which students can independently demonstrate the assessed grade-specific standards with appropriately complex	Required 7b) Materials assess student understanding of the topics, themes, and/or ideas presented in the unit texts. Questions and tasks are developed so that students demonstrate the knowledge and skill built over the course of the unit.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
text(s).	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>7c) Aligned rubrics or assessment guidelines (such as scoring guides or student work exemplars) are included and provide sufficient guidance for interpreting student performance.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>7d) Measurement of progress via assessments include</li> <li>gradual release of supporting scaffolds for students to</li> <li>measure their independent abilities.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>7e)</b> Materials assess student proficiency using methods that are <b>unbiased and accessible</b> to all students.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
8. SCAFFOLDING AND SUPPORT: Materials provide all students, including those who read below grade level, with extensive opportunities and support to encounter and comprehend grade-level complex text as	<b>Required</b> <b>8a)</b> As needed, pre-reading activities and suggested approaches to teacher scaffolding are focused and engage students with <b>understanding the text</b> itself (i.e. providing background knowledge, supporting vocabulary acquisition). Pre-reading activities should be no more than 10% of time devoted to any reading instruction.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
required by the standards.	Required 8b) Materials do not confuse or substitute mastery of skills or strategies for full comprehension of text; reading strategies support comprehension of specific texts and focus on building knowledge and insight. Texts do not serve as platforms to practice discrete strategies.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>Required</b> <b>8c)</b> Materials include <b>guidance and support</b> that regularly directs teachers to return to focused parts of the text to guide students through rereading and discussion about the ideas, events, and information found there.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	Required 8d) Materials provide additional supports for expressing understanding through formal discussion and writing development (i.e. sentence frames, paragraph frames, modeled writing, student exemplars).	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>8e) Materials are easy to use and well organized for students and teachers. Teacher editions are concise and easy to manage with clear connections between teacher resources.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	The reading selections are centrally located within the materials and the center of focus.		
	<b>Required</b> <b>8f)</b> Support for English Learners and diverse learners is provided. Appropriate suggestions and materials are provided for <b>supporting varying student needs</b> at the unit and lesson level. The language in which questions and problems are posed is not an obstacle to understanding the content, and if it is, additional supports are included (e.g., alternative teacher approaches, pacing and instructional delivery options, strategies or suggestions for supporting access to text and/or content, suggestions for modifications, suggestions for vocabulary acquisition, etc.).	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>8g)</b> The content can be <b>reasonably</b> completed within a regular school year and the pacing of content allows for maximum student understanding. Materials provide guidance about the amount of time a task might reasonably take.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
<i>Tier 2 ratings</i> receive a "Yes" for al <i>Tier 3 ratings</i> receive a "No" for at	I Non-negotiable Criteria and a "Yes" for each of the Additional C I Non-negotiable Criteria, but at least one "No" for the Additiona least one of the Non-negotiable Criteria. II to make a final decision for the material under review.		
Section	Criteria	Yes/No	Final Justification/Comments
I. K-12 Non-negotiable Criteria of Superior Quality <sup>6</sup>	1. Quality of Texts	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	2. Text-Dependent Questions	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	3. Coherence of Tasks	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria to receive a Tier 1 or Tier 2 rating.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
II. K-5 Non-negotiable Foundational Skills Criteria (grades K-5 only) <sup>7</sup>	4. Foundational Skills	Yes	Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standard while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills. Materials provide grade- appropriate instruction and practice for the basic features of print. Materials provide systematic and explicit phonological awareness instruction. Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Materials provide opportunities and practice for students to master grade-appropriate high-frequency irregular words using multisensory techniques. Resources and texts provide ample practice of foundational reading skills using texts and allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of reading foundational skills, including phonics patterns and word analysis skills in decoding words. Opportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading. Monitoring is included and allows students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy. Materials provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria to receive a Tier 1 or Tier 2 rating.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			and regular practice in encoding the sound symbol relationships of English. Materials provide opportunities for teachers to assess students' mastery of foundational skills and respond to the needs of individual students based on ongoing assessments offered at regular intervals. Monitoring includes attention to invented spelling as appropriate for its diagnostic value. Foundational Skill materials are abundant and easily implemented so that teachers can spend time, attention and practice with students who need foundational skill supports.
III. Additional Criteria of Superior Quality <sup>8</sup>	5. Range and Volume of Texts	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	6. Writing to Sources, Speaking and Listening, and Language	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	7. Assessments	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	8. Scaffolding and Support	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
FINAL DECISION FOR THIS MATE	RIAL: Tier 1, Exemplifies quality		1

\*As applicable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Additional Criteria of Superior Quality to receive a Tier 1 rating.





The goal of English language arts is for students to read, understand, and express understanding of complex texts independently. To accomplish this goal, programs must build students' knowledge and skill in language, comprehension, conversations, and writing integrated around a volume of complex texts and tasks.<sup>1</sup> In grades K-5, programs must also build students' foundational skills to be able to read and write about a range of texts<sup>2</sup> independently. Thus, a strong ELA classroom is structured with the below components.



Title: Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) ELA Skills Strand

Grade: <u>1</u> Copyright: <u>2013</u>

Publisher: Core Knowledge Foundation

Overall Rating: Tier 1, Exemplifies quality

Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 Elements of this review:

STRONG	WEAK
4. Foundational Skills (Non-negotiable)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A volume of texts is a collection of texts written about similar topics, themes, or ideas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A range of texts are texts written at different reading levels.





To evaluate instructional materials for alignment with the <u>standards</u> and determine tiered rating, begin with **Section I: Non-negotiable Criteria**.

- Review the **required**<sup>3</sup> Indicators of Superior Quality for each **Non-negotiable** criterion.
- If there is a "Yes" for all **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, materials receive a "Yes" for that **Non-negotiable** Criterion.
- If there is a "No" for any of the **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, materials receive a "No" for that **Non-negotiable** Criterion.
- Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2 and 3. For grades K-5, materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II<sup>4</sup> and all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-4 to continue to Section III. For grades 6-12, materials must meet Non-Negotiable Criteria 1-3 for the review to continue to Section III.
- If materials receive a "No" for any **Non-negotiable** Criterion, a rating of Tier 3 is assigned, and the review does not continue.

If all Non-negotiable Criteria are met, then continue to Section III: Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

- Review the **required** Indicators of Superior Quality for each criterion.
- If there is a "Yes" for all **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, then the materials receive a "Yes" for the additional criteria.
- If there is a "No" for any **required** Indicator of Superior Quality, then the materials receive a "No" for the additional criteria.

*Tier 1 ratings* receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria and a "Yes" for each of the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

*Tier 2 ratings* receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria, but at least one "No" for the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

*Tier 3 ratings* receive a "No" for at least one of the Non-negotiable Criteria.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Required Indicators of Superior Quality are labeled "Required" and shaded yellow. Remaining indicators that are shaded white are included to provide additional information to aid in material selection and do not affect tiered rating.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For grades K-5: Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2-3. Materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES	
SECTION I. K-12 NON-NEGOTIABLE CRITERIA OF SUPERIOR QUALITY Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2 and 3. For grades K-5, materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II and all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-4 in order for the review to continue to Section III. For grades 6-12, materials must meet all of the Non-Negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to				
Non-negotiable	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
1. QUALITY OF TEXTS:	1a) Materials provide texts that are appropriately complex			
Texts are of sufficient scope and	for the identified grade level according to the requirements			
quality to provide text-centered	outlined in the standards.			
and integrated learning that is	• A text analysis that includes complexity information			
sequenced and scaffolded to (1)	is provided. Measures for determining complexity			
advance students toward	include quantitative and qualitative analysis, as well			
independent reading of grade-	as reader and task considerations. Poetry and drama			
level texts and (2) build content	are analyzed only using qualitative measures.			
knowledge (e.g., ELA, social	• In grades K-2, extensive read-aloud texts allow			
studies, science, and the arts).	sufficient opportunity for engagement with text more			
The quality of texts is high—they	complex than students could read themselves.			
support multiple readings for	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
various purposes and exhibit	Indicator 1b) At least 90% of provided texts, including read-			
exceptional craft and thought	alouds in K-2, are of publishable quality and offer rich			
and/or provide useful	opportunities for students to meet the grade-level ELA			
information. Materials present a	standards; the texts are well-crafted, representing the quality			
progression of complex texts as	of content, language, and writing that is produced by experts			
stated by Reading Standard 10.	in various disciplines.			
	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
(Note: In K and 1, Reading	1c) Materials provide a coherent sequence or collection of			
Standard 10 refers to read-aloud	connected texts that build vocabulary knowledge and			
material. Complexity standards	knowledge about themes with connected topics and ideas			
for student-read texts are	through tasks in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and			
applicable for grades 2+.)	language.			
	• In grades K-2, the inclusion of read-aloud texts in			
Yes No	addition to what students can read themselves			
	ensures that all students can build knowledge about			
	the world through engagement with rich, complex			
	texts. These texts as well must form a coherent			

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	sequence or collection of connected texts that build		
	vocabulary knowledge and knowledge about themes		
	with connected topics and ideas through tasks in		
	reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language.		
	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	1d) Within a sequence or collection, quality texts of grade		
	level complexity are selected for multiple, careful readings		
	throughout the unit of study. These texts are revisited as		
	needed to support knowledge building.		
Non-negotiable (only reviewed if	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Criterion 1 is met)	2a) A majority of questions in the materials are text		
2. TEXT-DEPENDENT	dependent and text specific; student ideas are expressed		
QUESTIONS:	through both written and spoken responses.		
Text-dependent and text-specific	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
questions and tasks reflect the	2b) Questions and tasks include the language of the		
requirements of Reading	standards and require students to engage in thinking at the		
Standard 1 by requiring use of	depth and complexity required by the grade-level standards		
textual evidence in support of	to advance and deepen student learning over time. (Note:		
meeting other grade-specific	not every standard must be addressed with every text.)		
standards.			
Yes No			
Non-negotiable (only reviewed if	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Criterion 1 is met)	3a) Coherent sequences of questions and tasks focus		
3. COHERENCE OF TASKS:	students on understanding the text and its illustrations (as		
Materials contain meaningful,	applicable), making connections among the texts in the		
connected tasks that build	collection, and expressing their understanding of the topics,		
student knowledge and provide	themes, and ideas presented in the texts.		
opportunities for students to	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
read, understand, and express	<b>3b</b> ) Questions and tasks are designed so that students <b>build</b> ,		
understanding of complex texts	apply, and integrate knowledge and skills in reading, writing,		
through speaking and listening,	speaking, listening, and language through quality, grade-level		
and writing. Tasks integrate	complex texts.		

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
reading, writing, speaking and listening, and include components of vocabulary, syntax, and fluency, as needed, so that students can gain meaning from text. Yes No	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>3c) Questions and tasks support students in examining the language (vocabulary, sentences, and structure) critical to the meaning of texts measured by Criteria 1 and 2.</li> <li>Questions and tasks also focus on advancing depth of word knowledge through emphasizing word meaning and relationships among words (e.g., concept- and thematically related words, word families, etc.) rather than isolated vocabulary practice, and engaging students with multiple repetitions of words in varied contexts (e.g., reading different texts, completing tasks, engaging in speaking/listening).</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Section II. K-5 Non-negotiable Fou	ndational Skills Indicators (Grades K-5 only)		
Non-negotiable* 4. FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS: Materials provide instruction and diagnostic support in concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, development, syntax, and fluency in a logical and transparent progression. These foundational skills are necessary and central components of an effective, comprehensive reading program designed to develop proficient readers with the capacity to comprehend texts across a range of types and disciplines.	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only 4a) Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standards (based on the <u>Vertical Progression of Foundational</u> <u>Skills</u> ) while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills.	Yes	Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standard while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills. The Alignment guide in the teacher's manual clearly lays out the progression for each of the seven units. Foundational skills instruction begins with students reviewing skills previously addressed in Grade K such as sounds and spellings. In Unit 1, Lessons 1-5 prepare students for the placement assessments for the following week. Students practice and review reading skills and code knowledge. In Lessons 6-10, students complete assessment and placement activities. In Lessons 11-32, students review sound/spelling correspondences. In Unit 3, five additional vowel sounds and the most common spelling for each are introduced. Sounds

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
*As applicable (e.g., when the scope of the materials is comprehensive and considered a full program)			include: /oo/ spelled 'oo' as in soon, /oo/ spelled 'oo' as in look, /ou/ spelled 'ou' as in shout, /oi/ spelled oi as in oil, and /aw/ spelled 'aw' as in paw. In Unit 6, students review /s/ spelled 's', 'ss'; /z/ spelled 'z', 's', 'zz'; /m/ spelled' 'm' and 'mm'; /n/ spelled 'n', 'nn', 'ng' spelled 'ng'; and /w/ spelled 'w' from Unit 5. New sounds and spellings for the unit are introduced and include: /s/ spelled 'c', 'ce', 'se'; /n/ spelled 'kn', ng' spelled 'n'; and /w/ spelled 'wh.' In Unit 7, lessons transition from spelling alternatives for consonant sounds to spelling alternatives for vowel sounds. Guidance states, "In this unit we focus on two of the so-called 'long' vowel sounds, /ae/ and /oe/." Students review the basic code spelling for each sound and are then introduced to common spelling alternatives: /ae/ spelled 'ai', 'ay', and /oe/ spelled 'oa'. As sound/spelling progresses, so do skills in syllabication, grammar, reading and reading fluency, and
	Required *Indicator for grades K-1 only Indicator 4b) Materials provide grade-appropriate instruction and practice for the concepts of print (e.g., following words left to right, top to bottom, page by page; words are followed by spaces; and features of a sentence).	Yes	writing. Materials provide grade-appropriate instruction and practice for the basic features of print. Students begin Unit 1 by reviewing concepts of print introduced in Grade K. For example, in Unit 1, teacher guidance explains, "The first three stories are to be presented to the class as demonstration stories, using the Big Book or Media Disk. Demonstration stories allow you to model fluent reading and concepts of print." In Unit 1, Lesson 4, Writing the Spellings, the teacher reminds the class that

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			every letter can be written as an uppercase letter and a lowercase letter. The teacher is also directed to ask students, "When do we use an uppercase letter?" In Unit 1, Lesson 29, students identify and use end punctuation as well as review quotation marks. The teacher explains that "there are special punctuation marks that we use when we want to indicate a person's exact words." The teacher writes a decodable sentence with the punctuation on the board and explains that quotation marks mean that these are a person's exact words. Students then practice identifying and reading words inside of quotation marks in additional decodable sentences. In Unit 2, Lesson 15, students continue to distinguish features of print by identifying the title page of "King and Queen." As they read, the teacher reminds students that they may wish to use their "finger or a pointer to follow the print when reading." In Unit 4, Lesson 1, students begin writing the name of the day of the week and date on their worksheets to practice capitalizing the day and month and using correct comma placement.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-1 only 4c) Materials provide systematic and explicit phonological awareness instruction (e.g., recognizing rhyming words; clapping syllables; blending onset-rime; and blending, segmenting, deleting, and substituting phonemes).	Yes	Materials provide systematic and explicit phonological awareness instruction. In Unit 1, the materials focus on the phoneme, or single sound, and not on larger units of sound. Students learn to read words that contain onsets, rimes, and consonant clusters; however, they learn to view and process these larger units as combinations of smaller phoneme-level units. Rimes like –

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			<i>ick</i> and initial clusters like <i>st</i> – are not taught as units but as combinations. In Unit 1, Lesson 1, students blend and segment words with hand gestures for words like <i>big</i> and <i>at</i> . In Unit 1, Lesson 3, students complete a blending warm-up. The teacher gives the students sounds, and the students tap the sounds they hear and say the word. Materials provide systematic and explicit phonological awareness instruction in the Unit 1 Remediation guide, as well. For example, students complete the Push and Say activity. In the activity, the teacher says a word, or the sounds in a word, and students use the provided manipulatives to represent the sounds in the words. In Unit 2, Lesson 8, students segment and blend phonemes during Pop-Out Chaining and Digraph Dictation to form one-syllable words. In Unit 5, Lesson 16, students isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds in spoken single-syllable words.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only 4d) Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Instruction progresses from simple to more complex sound–spelling patterns and word analysis skills that includes repeated modeling and opportunities for students to hear, say, write, and read sound and spelling patterns (e.g. sounds, words, sentences, reading within text).	Yes	Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Students are introduced to the Basic Code for each of the 44 phonemes. The Advanced Code consists of all other spelling alternatives that may be used to spell the 44 phonemes in English. Code is introduced by frequency of use. Materials include letter cards that use a power bar that shows how frequently a phoneme is used. Students explicitly learn many phonics skills throughout the program through daily lessons. For example, in Unit 1, Lesson 24, students review sounds /k/,

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			/n/, /p/, /r/, /t/, and /z/. Then, students are
			introduced to the double-letter spellings for
			the sounds spelled: 'cc', 'nn', 'pp', 'rr', 'tt',
			and 'zz' and the sound /k/ spelled 'c', 'ck',
			'k', and 'cc'. The teacher explains that the
			sound "/k/ can be spelled four different
			ways, with 'c' as in <i>cat</i> , 'k' as in <i>kit</i> , 'ck' as in
			<i>rock</i> , and 'cc' as in <i>hiccup</i> " and that "the
			spellings 'ck' and 'cc' never occur at the
			beginning of a word." In Unit 3, Lesson 1,
			the teacher introduces /oo/ as in the word
			<i>soon</i> . The teacher introduces the sound and
			has students repeat words that have that
			sound, including spoon, loop, root, hoop,
			and <i>hoot</i> . The teacher continues modeling
			and then introduces how to write the /oo/
			sound 'oo' by displaying the Vowel Code Flip
			Book for the sound. The teacher writes 'oo'
			on handwriting guidelines and describes the
			correct way to write. Then, students practice
			writing words with the /oo/ sound in their
			student workbooks. In Unit 5, Lesson 1, the
			teacher reviews the spelling pattern for the
			<pre>/p/ sound spelled 'p' and 'pp'. Using the</pre>
			Consonant Code Flip Book, the teacher asks
			students what letter makes the /p/ sound.
			The teacher points to the power bar under
			the 'p' to ensure students understand that
			'p' is the common spelling for /p/. This
			introduces the Root Words section of the
			lesson where students begin to double the
			'p' when adding suffixes - <i>ed</i> and - <i>ing</i> .

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only	Yes	Materials provide opportunities and practice
	Indicator 4e) Materials provide multiple opportunities and		for students to master grade appropriate
	practice for students to master grade appropriate high-		high-frequency irregular words using
	frequency words using multisensory techniques.		multisensory techniques. Materials refer to
			high-frequency words as Tricky Words.
			Guidance states, "The term 'Tricky Word' is
			used in this program to refer to a word not
			pronounced quite the way you would expect
			based on the letters in its printed form, or is
			not spelled quite the way you would expect
			based on the sounds in the spoken word."
			For example, in Unit 1, Lesson 19, Tricky
			Words: the and who, students are shown
			the Tricky Word card for the and asked how
			they would pronounce the word by
			blending; /th/ /e/. The teacher explains the
			correct way to pronounce the word. This
			process is repeated with the word who. The
			teacher explains that the word is actually
			pronounced /h/ /oo/ as in "Who has my
			doll?" The teacher writes <i>who</i> on the board
			and underlines 'w' and 'h' explaining that
			this is the tricky part of the word because
			the two letters are pronounced /h/. The
			tricky words are pointed out in the
			demonstration story <i>Beth.</i> In Unit 2, Lesson
			2, students focus on the Tricky Word, <i>he</i> .
			Students help the teacher sound out the
			word but notice that typically the letter 'e'
			says the short /e/ sound. The teacher points
			out that in this word the 'e' will make the
			/ee/ sound. The teacher continues with
			words: like, she, we, be, and me. In Unit 6,
			Lesson 23, students are introduced to the
			Tricky Word, cow. The teacher writes the

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
CRITERIA	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only 4f) Resources and/or texts provide ample practice of foundational reading skills using texts (e.g. decodable readers) and allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of reading foundational skills, including phonics patterns and word analysis skills in decoding words. Materials provide opportunities for students to self-monitor		EXAMPLES word on the board and circles 'ow'. The teacher explains that "like the Tricky Word how they learned earlier, the 'ow' is tricky and pronounced /ou/." Students use the Tricky Word lesson as they read "Whisper," a story about the livestock at the park. Resources and texts provide ample practice of foundational reading skills using texts and allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of reading foundational skills, including phonics patterns and word analysis skills in decoding words. Each unit has a corresponding decodable reader. Each reader addresses the same phonics/spelling
	to confirm or <b>self-correct</b> word errors directing students to reread purposefully to acquire accurate meaning. This should include monitoring that will allow students to receive regular feedback.		patterns that are taught in isolation. For example, in Unit 1 students read "The Cat Bandit." In Unit 2, Lesson 1, students read "Gran's Trip." Before reading, students preview spelling words and vocabulary
			words in the story. Students read words with the <i>/ee/</i> sound and the <i>/ng/</i> ending. These skills have been previously taught and students use these taught skills to help them read the story fluently. In Unit 4, Lesson 2, students start a new Reader and read "Meet Vern." The teacher writes Vern on the board
			and points out that it contains the 'er' spelling for the /er/ sound they have just learned. The teacher reviews additional spellings such as 'er' /er/ as in Vern and fern; 'oo' /oo/ as in <i>zoo</i> ; and 'ee' /ee/ as in <i>green</i> and <i>creep</i> . In Unit 7, Lesson 5,
			students "Read and understand decodable text in the story 'The Red Dish' that incorporates the letter-sound

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			correspondences taught in one- and two- syllable words, with purpose and understanding." In the lesson, the teacher explains that the story "contains three- syllable words, Mexican and Mexico." Students use the chunking strategy learned for two-syllable words. The teacher also previews spellings, 'ai' /ae/ as in pain, 'ay' /ae/ as in today and saying, for multisyllabic words, including Mexican, foolish, and
	<ul> <li>Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only</li> <li>4g) Opportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading, that is, to read a wide variety of grade-appropriate prose, poetry, and/or informational texts with accuracy, rate appropriate to the text, and expression.</li> <li>Materials provide opportunities for students to self-monitor to confirm or self-correct word errors directing students to reread purposefully to acquire accurate meaning.</li> <li>This should include monitoring that will allow students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy.</li> </ul>	Yes	redder, and the Tricky Word, Mexico. Opportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading. Monitoring is included and allows students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy. Unit 1 outlines the importance of partner reading and provides teacher guidance for establishing a partner reading routine. Guidance explains that "Partner reading may be conducted as an oral activity in which students take turns reading a paragraph or a page aloud to one another. Partner reading may also be used as a silent reading activity in which each student is instructed to read the page to himself and then, when his partner has also completed reading that page, to discuss what was read and ask questions of one another. Silent reading can also be combined with oral reading whereby both students read a single page silently and then one rereads it aloud." In Unit 1, Lesson 19, the teacher provides

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			the students with Guided Reading Supports
			prior to students engaging in a partner
			reading of the decodable text "Beth." The
			teacher addresses Tricky Words, nouns, and
			asks inference-based questions as a reading
			warm-up. Students then partner read the
			text. After the reading, the class completes
			the "Beth" worksheet together using the
			text to respond to text-based questions. In
			Unit 3, Lesson 8, students read "The Two
			Mules." Students partner read the text as
			"Group 2 students read aloud" with the
			teacher in a small group. Students take turns
			reading the story aloud as the teacher
			makes notes on the Anecdotal Reading
			Records. In Unit 4, Lesson 5, students read
			"Things That Swim." Prior to reading the
			teacher and students review medial sounds:
			/er/ and /ar/. During Small Group: Reread
			"Things That Swim," the teacher meets with
			students needing additional support.
			Students reread the text. As the teacher
			works with the group, other students either
			read with a partner or by themselves.
			Students complete the accompanying
			worksheet and the teacher reviews
			responses to observe levels of
			understanding. In Unit 5, Lesson 9, students
			are introduced to the Tricky Spelling 'g.'
			Using the Consonant Code Flip Book, the
			teacher points to the Spelling Card that
			shows 'g' as a spelling for /g/ and reminds
			students that they have already learned that
			'g' can be pronounced /g/ as in gum, glad,
			and dog or /j/ as in gem and germ. After

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<ul> <li>Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only</li> <li>4h) Materials provide instruction and practice in word study.</li> <li>In grades K-2, materials provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication and regular practice in encoding (spelling) the sound symbol relationships of English. (<i>Note: Instruction and practice with roots, prefixes, and suffixes is applicable for grade 1 and higher.</i>)</li> <li>In grades 3-5, materials provide instruction and practice in word study including systematic examination of grade-level morphology, decoding of multisyllabic words by using syllabication, and automaticity with grade-level regular and irregular spelling patterns.</li> </ul>	Yes	<b>EXAMPLES</b> Tricky Spelling, review, and practice, students read "The Offer." The text supports students' understanding of the /g/ and /j/ sounds for 'g' with the following words: large, gee, bug, and grandad. In Unit 7 Lesson 7, students read "In the Mail." Students engage with the text in multiple lessons. While reading the story, the teacher is given time to listen to students and take anecdotal notes on individual students. Materials provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication and regular practice in encoding the sound symbol relationships of English. In Unit 1, Lesson 16, students segment words into phonemes, blend phonemes, say words with various vowel and consonant sounds by blending, isolate and pronounce initial, medial, and final sounds, and print upper- and lowercase letters <i>Kk</i> and <i>Xx</i> . During Pocket Chart Chaining for Reading, the teacher arranges the pocket chart by displaying vowels, 'i', 'a', and 'o', and consonants, 'm', 'n', 't', 'd', 'k', 's', 'p', and 'x'. The teacher then moves the letters around to form words: kid > kit > kin > kim > tim > tom > top > map > max, and asks students to read the chain. In Tricky Words, <i>one</i> and <i>ask</i> are introduced. The teacher explains that <i>one</i> is actually
			pronounced /w/ /u/ /n/ as in, "I have one fish." Teacher guidance explains, "Tell

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			students that when reading one, they have
			to remember to pronounce it as /w/ /u/
			/n/." The teacher then introduces the Tricky
			Word once and asks students how they
			would pronounce it by blending. The teacher
			explains "this word is pronounced /w/ /u/
			/n/ /s/ as in, "I once had a fish." and writes
			the word once on the board underlining the
			entire word and explaining that the only
			spelling pronounced as they would expect is
			the 'n'. The teacher explains that when
			reading once, they have to remember to
			pronounce it as /w/ /u/ /n/ /s/ and when
			writing once, they have to remember to
			spell it 'o' 'n' 'c' 'e'. In Unit 3, Lesson 2,
			students participate in Dictation. Students
			practice spelling words with the /oo/
			spelling pattern. The teacher says a set of
			words and students write a line for each
			sound they hear. Then, the students write
			the words they hear on the lines. In Unit 5,
			Lesson 21, students segment two-syllable
			words into individual sounds and/or syllable,
			identify the number of syllables, and read
			and/or write two-syllable words composed of two closed syllables, magic 'e', and/or r-
			controlled syllables. Words include: garden,
			answer, goldfish, moonshine, darkness, and
			sweeter.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-2 only	Yes	Materials provide opportunities for teachers
	<b>4i)</b> Materials provide opportunities for teachers to <b>assess</b>	163	to assess students' mastery of foundational
	students' mastery of foundational skills and respond to the		skills and respond to the needs of individual
	needs of individual students based on ongoing assessments		students based on ongoing assessments
	offered at regular intervals. Monitoring includes attention to		offered at regular intervals. Monitoring
	invented spelling as appropriate for its diagnostic value.		includes attention to invented spelling as

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			appropriate for its diagnostic
			value. Resources for progress monitoring
			are included at the end of each section.
			These tools are intended to facilitate data
			collection to inform instruction and build a
			record of students' progress. In Unit 1, the
			teacher progress monitor students'
			phonological awareness. Teacher guidance
			within the Assessment and Remediation
			Guide (ARG) explains, "Blending and
			segmenting are necessary foundational skills
			for reading and spelling in Grade 1.
			However, phonological awareness skills will
			continue to develop as students progress
			with the Grade 1 scope and sequence of
			code knowledge." Teachers also progress
			monitor sound-spellings. Teachers ask
			individual students to "read a collection of
			words in isolation. The worksheets are
			grouped according to the type of sound-
			spelling knowledge they measure: single
			letter, consonant cluster, digraph, or double
			letter." The ARG provides guidance for
			scoring students. Unit 3, Lesson 18 includes
			a Note to Teacher section that provides
			small-group guidance for progress
			monitoring. The guidance explains that small
			group time will need additional time
			allowing the teacher to work with students
			in small groups. In the lesson, the teacher is
			provided a worksheet with comprehension
			questions about "The Fox and the Grapes,"
			should they "want to ask some or all
			students to reread the story and then
			answer the questions." If so, teachers "may

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			listen to particular students read, taking
			notes on their progress using the Anecdotal
			Reading Record." The guidance also
			encourages teachers to consider students'
			performance on the various review activities
			in Lessons 16 and 17 and choose additional
			activities from the Pausing Point if some
			students still need practice on particular
			skills. In Unit 6, Lessons 24 and 25, students
			complete two unit assessments. The first
			assessment assesses students' ability to read
			individual words that contain all the
			spellings taught in the unit. The Word
			Recognition Assessment allows the teacher
			the opportunity to assess all students at
			once. Guidance is provided for scoring and
			additional practice which states, "We
			encourage you to analyze students'
			responses, noting which spellings still seem
			to be difficult for particular students or
			groups of students. Based on this
			information, group students and plan
			exercises that you will use to remediate." In
			Lesson 25, students complete the Story
			Comprehension Assessment which assesses
			students' ability to read a story that closely
			resembles the stories read in the unit
			Reader. Guidance states, "If students take
			an inordinately long time to read the story
			or have difficulty answering the questions in
			the time allotted, we suggest that you meet
			individually with students and listen to them
			read the story a second time."

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only	Yes	Foundational Skill materials are abundant
	4j) Foundational Skills materials are abundant and easily		and easily implemented so that teachers can
	implemented so that teachers can spend time, attention and		spend time, attention and practice with
	practice with students who need foundational skills supports.		students who need foundational skill
			supports. The materials are grouped into
			seven instructional units, outlined by the
			seven unit Assessment and Remediation
			Guides and Teacher Guides. The Navigating
			K-3 Skills Lessons document includes an
			outline of the Week-by-Week Pacing Guides
			that provide teachers with an overview of
			the lessons and the estimated time allotted
			for each lesson component. Each lesson
			component is accompanied by the number
			of instructional minutes it requires and each
			daily lesson requires 60 total instructional
			minutes. For example, Unit 3, Lesson 2
			includes the following: Warm-Up, Spelling
			Review which includes spellings: 'i', 'e', 'a',
			'u', 'o', and 'oo' (10 minutes); Dictation With
			Words, words with /oo/ (10 minutes); Tricky
			Word Card, introduction of Tricky Word
			because, (5 minutes); and Writing Fictional
			Narrative, Planning (35 minutes). In Unit 7,
			Lesson 12, students engage in the following:
			Warm-Up, Building Sentences with
			Conjunctions using and, but, and or to
			combine sentences (15 minutes); Practice:
			Word Box (20 minutes); and Reading Time,
			"The Vote" (25 minutes). Lessons are
			organized logically, allowing students to be
			taught in whole-group and then work in
			small-groups based on the student's
			individual needs. The Assessment and
			Remediation Guide (ARG) allows

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			remediation to be administered based on student need as identified by outcomes in routine progress monitoring. Additionally, materials are easy for students to access. Each student is given an individual decodable reader and workbook for each unit. Teachers are provided an Assessment and Remediation Guide for students who need additional support. In the ARG, teachers use a cross reference chart and a student-need flowchart to determine where to begin instruction for each child. Once the teacher establishes the level of instructional need the ARG directs the teacher to the corresponding lesson structure at the beginning of each unit. Teachers are provided sound cards, big book versions of the decodable readers, and teacher manuals with explicit directions for teaching.
Section III. Additional Criteria of Section III.		T	
5. RANGE AND VOLUME OF TEXTS: Materials reflect the distribution of text types and genres suggested by the <u>standards (e.g.</u> RL.K.9, RL.1.5, RI.1.9, RL.2.4, RI.2.3, RL.3.2, RL.3.5, RI.4.3, RL.5.7, RI.7.7, RL.8.9, RI.9-10.9, and RL.10/RI.10 across grade levels.)	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>5a) Materials seek a balance in instructional time between literature and informational texts. (Reviewers will consider the balance within units of study as well as across the entire grade level using the ratio between literature/informational texts to help determine the appropriate balance.)</li> <li>The majority of informational texts have an informational text structure.</li> <li>In grades 3-12, narrative structure (e.g. speeches, biographies, essays) of informational text are also included.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Yes No	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<b>5b)</b> Materials include print and/or non-print texts in a <b>variety</b> of formats (e.g. a range of film, art, music, charts, etc.) and lengths (e.g. short stories, poetry, and novels).		
	<b>5c)</b> Additional materials provide direction and practice for regular, <b>accountable independent reading</b> of texts that appeal to students' interests to build reading stamina, confidence, motivation, and enjoyment and develop knowledge of classroom concepts or topics.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
6. WRITING TO SOURCES, SPEAKING AND LISTENING, AND LANGUAGE: The majority of tasks are text- dependent or text-specific, reflect the writing genres named in the standards, require communication skills for college and career readiness, and help students	<b>Required</b> <b>6a)</b> Materials include a <b>variety of opportunities</b> for students to listen, speak, and write about their understanding of texts measured by Criteria 1 and 2; those opportunities are prominent, varied in length and time demands (e.g., informal peer conversations, note taking, summary writing, discussing and writing short-answer responses, whole-class formal discussions, shared writing, formal essays in different genres, on-demand and process writing, etc.), and require students to engage effectively, as determined by the grade-level standards. <sup>5</sup>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
meet the language standards for the grade.	Required *Indicator for grades 3-12 only 6b) The majority of oral and written tasks require students to demonstrate the knowledge they built through the analysis and synthesis of texts, and present well defended claims and clear information, using grade-level language and conventions and drawing on textual evidence to support valid inferences from text.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>6c) Materials include multiple writing tasks aligned to the three modes of writing (opinion/argumentative, informative, narrative) as outlined by the standards at each grade level.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Technology and digital media may be used, when appropriate, to support the standards addressed in this indicator.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<ul> <li>As students progress through the grades, narrative prompts decrease in number and increase in being</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>based on text(s).</li> <li>In grades 3-12, tasks may include blended modes (e.g., analytical writing).</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>6d) Materials address the grammar and language conventions specified by the language standards at each grade level and build on those standards from previous grade levels through application and practice of those skills in the context of reading and writing about unit texts.</li> <li>For example, materials create opportunities for students to analyze the syntax of a quality text to determine the text's meaning and model their own</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	sentence construction as a way to develop more complex sentence structure and usage.		
7. ASSESSMENTS:	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Materials offer assessment	7a) Materials use varied modes of assessment, including a		
opportunities that genuinely measure progress and elicit	range of pre-, formative, summative and self-assessment measures.		
direct, observable evidence of	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
the degree to which students can	7b) Materials assess student understanding of the topics,		
independently demonstrate the	themes, and/or ideas presented in the unit texts. Questions		
assessed grade-specific standards with appropriately complex	and tasks are developed so that students demonstrate the knowledge and skill built over the course of the unit.		
text(s).	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>7c)</b> Aligned <b>rubrics or assessment guidelines</b> (such as scoring	,	
Yes No	guides or student work exemplars) are included and provide		
	sufficient guidance for interpreting student performance.		
	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	7d) Measurement of progress via assessments include		
	gradual release of supporting scaffolds for students to measure their independent abilities.		
	measure then macpenaent asintles.		1

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<b>7e)</b> Materials assess student proficiency using methods that are <b>unbiased and accessible</b> to all students.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
8. SCAFFOLDING AND SUPPORT: Materials provide all students, including those who read below grade level, with extensive opportunities and support to encounter and comprehend grade-level complex text as	Required 8a) As needed, pre-reading activities and suggested approaches to teacher scaffolding are focused and engage students with understanding the text itself (i.e. providing background knowledge, supporting vocabulary acquisition). Pre-reading activities should be no more than 10% of time devoted to any reading instruction.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
required by the standards.	Required 8b) Materials do not confuse or substitute mastery of skills or strategies for full comprehension of text; reading strategies support comprehension of specific texts and focus on building knowledge and insight. Texts do not serve as platforms to practice discrete strategies.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>Required</b> <b>8c)</b> Materials include guidance and support that regularly directs teachers to return to focused parts of the text to guide students through rereading and discussion about the ideas, events, and information found there.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	Required 8d) Materials provide additional supports for expressing understanding through formal discussion and writing development (i.e. sentence frames, paragraph frames, modeled writing, student exemplars).	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	Required 8e) Materials are easy to use and well organized for students and teachers. Teacher editions are concise and easy to manage with clear connections between teacher resources. The reading selections are centrally located within the materials and the center of focus.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<b>Required</b> <b>8f)</b> Support for English Learners and diverse learners is provided. Appropriate suggestions and materials are provided for <b>supporting varying student needs</b> at the unit and lesson level. The language in which questions and problems are posed is not an obstacle to understanding the content, and if it is, additional supports are included (e.g., alternative teacher approaches, pacing and instructional delivery options, strategies or suggestions for supporting access to text and/or content, suggestions for modifications, suggestions for vocabulary acquisition, etc.).	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Tier 2 ratings receive a "Yes" for al	<ul> <li>8g) The content can be reasonably completed within a regular school year and the pacing of content allows for maximum student understanding. Materials provide guidance about the amount of time a task might reasonably take.</li> <li>I Non-negotiable Criteria and a "Yes" for each of the Additional C I Non-negotiable Criteria, but at least one "No" for the Additional least one of the Non-negotiable Criteria.</li> </ul>		
Compile the results for Sections I-I	II to make a final decision for the material under review.		
Section	Criteria	Yes/No	Final Justification/Comments
I. K-12 Non-negotiable Criteria of Superior Quality <sup>6</sup>	1. Quality of Texts	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	2. Text-Dependent Questions	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	3. Coherence of Tasks	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
II. K-5 Non-negotiable Foundational Skills Criteria (grades K-5 only) <sup>7</sup>	4. Foundational Skills	Yes	Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standard while providing abundant opportunities for every

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria to receive a Tier 1 or Tier 2 rating.
 <sup>7</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria to receive a Tier 1 or Tier 2 rating.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			student to become proficient in each of the
			foundational skills. Materials provide grade-
			appropriate instruction and practice for the
			basic features of print. Materials provide
			systematic and explicit phonological
			awareness instruction. Materials provide
			systematic and explicit phonics instruction.
			Materials provide opportunities and practice
			for students to master grade-appropriate
			high-frequency irregular words using
			multisensory techniques. Resources and
			texts provide ample practice of foundational
			reading skills using texts and allow for
			systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of
			reading foundational skills, including phonics
			patterns and word analysis skills in decoding
			words. Opportunities are frequently built
			into the materials that allow for students to
			achieve reading fluency in oral and silent
			reading. Monitoring is included and allows
			students to receive regular feedback on
			their oral reading fluency in the specific
			areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness,
			and accuracy. Materials provide instruction
			and practice in word study including
			pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and
			spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding
			of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol
			knowledge and knowledge of syllabication
			and regular practice in encoding the sound
			symbol relationships of English. Materials
			provide opportunities for teachers to assess
			students' mastery of foundational skills and
			respond to the needs of individual students
			based on ongoing assessments offered at

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			regular intervals. Monitoring includes
			attention to invented spelling as appropriate
			for its diagnostic value. Foundational Skill
			materials are abundant and easily
			implemented so that teachers can spend
			time, attention and practice with students
			who need foundational skill supports.
III. Additional Criteria of Superior Quality <sup>8</sup>	5. Range and Volume of Texts	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	6. Writing to Sources, Speaking and Listening, and Language	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	7. Assessments	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	8. Scaffolding and Support	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
FINAL DECISION FOR THIS MATERI	AL: Tier 1, Exemplifies quality		
			*As applicable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Additional Criteria of Superior Quality to receive a Tier 1 rating.





The goal of English language arts is for students to read, understand, and express understanding of complex texts independently. To accomplish this goal, programs must build students' knowledge and skill in language, comprehension, conversations, and writing integrated around a volume of complex texts and tasks.<sup>1</sup> In grades K-5, programs must also build students' foundational skills to be able to read and write about a range of texts<sup>2</sup> independently. Thus, a strong ELA classroom is structured with the below components.



Title: Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) ELA Skills Strand

Publisher: Core Knowledge Foundation

Overall Rating: Tier 1, Exemplifies quality

Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 3 Elements of this review:

Grade: <u>2</u> Copyright: <u>2013</u>

STRONG	WEAK
4. Foundational Skills (Non-negotiable)	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A volume of texts is a collection of texts written about similar topics, themes, or ideas.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A range of texts are texts written at different reading levels.





To evaluate instructional materials for alignment with the <u>standards</u> and determine tiered rating, begin with **Section I: Non-negotiable Criteria**.

- Review the **required**<sup>3</sup> Indicators of Superior Quality for each **Non-negotiable** criterion.
- If there is a "Yes" for all **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, materials receive a "Yes" for that **Non-negotiable** Criterion.
- If there is a "No" for any of the **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, materials receive a "No" for that **Non-negotiable** Criterion.
- Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2 and 3. For grades K-5, materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II<sup>4</sup> and all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-4 to continue to Section III. For grades 6-12, materials must meet Non-Negotiable Criteria 1-3 for the review to continue to Section III.
- If materials receive a "No" for any **Non-negotiable** Criterion, a rating of Tier 3 is assigned, and the review does not continue.

If all Non-negotiable Criteria are met, then continue to Section III: Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

- Review the **required** Indicators of Superior Quality for each criterion.
- If there is a "Yes" for all **required** Indicators of Superior Quality, then the materials receive a "Yes" for the additional criteria.
- If there is a "No" for any **required** Indicator of Superior Quality, then the materials receive a "No" for the additional criteria.

*Tier 1 ratings* receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria and a "Yes" for each of the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

*Tier 2 ratings* receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria, but at least one "No" for the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality.

*Tier 3 ratings* receive a "No" for at least one of the Non-negotiable Criteria.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Required Indicators of Superior Quality are labeled "Required" and shaded yellow. Remaining indicators that are shaded white are included to provide additional information to aid in material selection and do not affect tiered rating.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For grades K-5: Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2-3. Materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES	
SECTION I. K-12 NON-NEGOTIABLE CRITERIA OF SUPERIOR QUALITY Materials must meet Non-negotiable Criterion 1 for the review to continue to Non-negotiable Criteria 2 and 3. For grades K-5, materials must meet all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to Section II and all of the Non-negotiable Criteria 1-4 in order for the review to continue to Section III. For grades 6-12, materials must meet all of the Non-Negotiable Criteria 1-3 in order for the review to continue to				
Non-negotiable	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
1. QUALITY OF TEXTS:	1a) Materials provide texts that are appropriately complex			
Texts are of sufficient scope and	for the identified grade level according to the requirements			
quality to provide text-centered	outlined in the standards.			
and integrated learning that is	• A text analysis that includes complexity information			
sequenced and scaffolded to (1)	is provided. Measures for determining complexity			
advance students toward	include quantitative and qualitative analysis, as well			
independent reading of grade-	as reader and task considerations. Poetry and drama			
level texts and (2) build content	are analyzed only using qualitative measures.			
knowledge (e.g., ELA, social	• In grades K-2, extensive read-aloud texts allow			
studies, science, and the arts).	sufficient opportunity for engagement with text more			
The quality of texts is high—they	complex than students could read themselves.			
support multiple readings for	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
various purposes and exhibit	Indicator 1b) At least 90% of provided texts, including read-			
exceptional craft and thought	alouds in K-2, are of publishable quality and offer rich			
and/or provide useful	opportunities for students to meet the grade-level ELA			
information. Materials present a	standards; the texts are well-crafted, representing the quality			
progression of complex texts as	of content, language, and writing that is produced by experts			
stated by Reading Standard 10.	in various disciplines.			
	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
(Note: In K and 1, Reading	1c) Materials provide a coherent sequence or collection of			
Standard 10 refers to read-aloud	connected texts that build vocabulary knowledge and			
material. Complexity standards	knowledge about themes with connected topics and ideas			
for student-read texts are	through tasks in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and			
applicable for grades 2+.)	language.			
	• In grades K-2, the inclusion of read-aloud texts in			
Yes No	addition to what students can read themselves			
	ensures that all students can build knowledge about			
	the world through engagement with rich, complex			
	texts. These texts as well must form a coherent			

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	sequence or collection of connected texts that build		
	vocabulary knowledge and knowledge about themes		
	with connected topics and ideas through tasks in		
	reading, writing, listening, speaking, and language.		
	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	1d) Within a sequence or collection, quality texts of grade		
	level complexity are selected for multiple, careful readings		
	throughout the unit of study. These texts are revisited as		
	needed to support knowledge building.		
Non-negotiable (only reviewed if	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Criterion 1 is met)	2a) A majority of questions in the materials are text		
2. TEXT-DEPENDENT	dependent and text specific; student ideas are expressed		
QUESTIONS:	through both written and spoken responses.		
Text-dependent and text-specific	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
questions and tasks reflect the	2b) Questions and tasks include the language of the		
requirements of Reading	standards and require students to engage in thinking at the		
Standard 1 by requiring use of	depth and complexity required by the grade-level standards		
textual evidence in support of	to advance and deepen student learning over time. (Note:		
meeting other grade-specific	not every standard must be addressed with every text.)		
standards.			
Yes No			
Non-negotiable (only reviewed if	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Criterion 1 is met)	3a) Coherent sequences of questions and tasks focus		
3. COHERENCE OF TASKS:	students on understanding the text and its illustrations (as		
Materials contain meaningful,	applicable), making connections among the texts in the		
connected tasks that build	collection, and expressing their understanding of the topics,		
student knowledge and provide	themes, and ideas presented in the texts.		
opportunities for students to	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
read, understand, and express	<b>3b</b> ) Questions and tasks are designed so that students <b>build</b> ,		
understanding of complex texts	apply, and integrate knowledge and skills in reading, writing,		
through speaking and listening,	speaking, listening, and language through quality, grade-level		
and writing. Tasks integrate	complex texts.		

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
reading, writing, speaking and listening, and include components of vocabulary, syntax, and fluency, as needed, so that students can gain meaning from text.	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>3c) Questions and tasks support students in examining the language (vocabulary, sentences, and structure) critical to the meaning of texts measured by Criteria 1 and 2.</li> <li>Questions and tasks also focus on advancing depth of word knowledge through emphasizing word meaning and relationships among words (e.g., concept- and thematically related words, word families, etc.) rather than isolated vocabulary practice, and engaging students with multiple repetitions of words in varied contexts (e.g., reading different texts, completing tasks, engaging in speaking/listening).</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
Section II. K-5 Non-negotiable Fou	ndational Skills Indicators (Grades K-5 only)		
Non-negotiable* 4. FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS: Materials provide instruction and diagnostic support in concepts of print, phonological awareness, phonics, vocabulary, development, syntax, and fluency in a logical and transparent progression. These foundational skills are necessary and central components of an effective, comprehensive reading program designed to develop proficient readers with the capacity to comprehend texts across a range of types and disciplines.	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only 4a) Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standards (based on the <u>Vertical Progression of Foundational</u> <u>Skills</u> ) while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills.	Yes	Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standard while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills. Foundational skills instruction begins with students reviewing skills previously addressed in Grade 1 such as: spellings, consonant sounds, one and two-syllable words, and high-frequency words as they progress to more complex phonics rules ensuring students are proficient in each skill as they progress towards reading fluency and comprehension. To begin, students review daily routines and exercises and prepare themselves for placement assessments which are completed in Unit 1, Lessons 6-10. Lessons throughout the unit require students to read words that follow the "basic code spellings for five 'short' vowel

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
*As applicable (e.g., when the scope of the materials is comprehensive and considered a full program)			sounds." In Unit 2, students continue to review previously taught skills such as: spellings for vowel sounds, reading one- and two-syllable words, reading Tricky Words, and reading decodable texts. Students also begin reviewing grammar and are introduced to the writing process focusing on narrative and opinion writings. Unit 5 introduces students to spelling alternatives for vowel sounds. For example, the alternative spellings for the short <i>u</i> sound or / <u>u</u> / spelled with letter <i>o</i> in the word son, <i>ou</i> in the word touch, and <i>o_e</i> in the word come. Unit 6 introduces students to additional new spelling alternatives for vowel and consonant sounds such as <i>r</i> - controlled vowels, digraphs, and long <i>e</i> spelled with the letter <i>i</i> in ski or the vowel team <i>ea</i> that spells the short <i>e</i> vowel sound
	Required *Indicator for grades K-1 only Indicator 4b) Materials provide grade-appropriate instruction and practice for the concepts of print (e.g., following words left to right, top to bottom, page by page; words are followed by spaces; and features of a sentence).	N/A	in the word head. Not applicable to this grade level.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-1 only 4c) Materials provide systematic and explicit phonological awareness instruction (e.g., recognizing rhyming words; clapping syllables; blending onset-rime; and blending, segmenting, deleting, and substituting phonemes).	N/A	Not applicable to this grade level.
	<ul> <li>Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only</li> <li>4d) Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Instruction progresses from simple to more complex sound–spelling patterns and word analysis skills that</li> </ul>	Yes	Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Materials follow a logical order of phonics instruction with repeated modeling and opportunities for 6

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	includes repeated modeling and opportunities for students to		students to hear, speak, write, and read
	hear, say, write, and read sound and spelling patterns (e.g.		sound and spelling patterns. Phonics
	sounds, words, sentences, reading within text).		instruction progresses from basic to more
			complicated word analysis skills. For
			example, in Unit 1, Lesson 1, the teacher
			tells students that they are going to write
			the word <i>at</i> . The teacher then models
			writing the word while also using the think-
			aloud strategy to describe the steps involved
			in writing the word. The teacher states,
			"Let's see, I want to write the word at. First I
			have to say and listen to the sounds:
			/a//t/. There are two sounds in the word
			at. I'll need to write a spelling for each of the
			sounds." The teacher then models sounding
			out and encoding each letter of the word. In
			Unit 1, the Basic Code spellings are
			established in Lessons 1 through 5. For
			example, Lesson 1 addresses: /a/, /i/, /p/,
			/b/, /t/, and /d/; Lesson 2 addresses /o/, /e/,
			/u/, /k/, and /g/; Lesson 3 addresses /k/, /j/,
			/v/, /f/, /h/, and /l/; Lesson 4 addresses /th/,
			/th/, /n/, /ng/, /sh/, and/ch/, and Lesson 5,
			/s/, /z/, /m/, /w/, /r/, /y/, /x/, and /qu/.
			Following the spelling review, students take
			part in a student performance assessment.
			Students are then grouped based on
			assessment outcomes and receive
			instruction that is appropriate for their level
			of reading proficiency and code knowledge.
			Spellings-to-sounds are reviewed in Lessons
			11–22. Unit 3, Lesson 6, focuses on alternate
			spellings for long <i>o</i> , spelled <i>oe</i> and
			oa. Students have previously learned that o
			and o_e are common spellings for the sound

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			so they are now ready to learn alternate spellings. Lessons begin with reviewing the short <i>o</i> sound as in hop, and students generate several more words with the same sound. The teacher then tells students that they will be learning a new spelling for long <i>o</i> which is spelled 'oe' and 'oa.'
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only Indicator 4e) Materials provide multiple opportunities and practice for students to master grade appropriate high- frequency words using multisensory techniques.	Yes	Materials provide opportunities and practice for students to master grade appropriate high-frequency irregular words using multisensory techniques. Materials refer to high-frequency words as Tricky Words. Guidance states, "The term 'Tricky Word' is used in this program to refer to a word not pronounced quite the way you would expect based on the letters in its printed form, or is not spelled quite the way you would expect based on the sounds in the spoken word." For example, in Unit 1, Lesson 21, the teacher introduces new Tricky Words should and would with students. The teacher, modeling with the word could, explains that, "the letter 'c' is pronounced /k/ and the letter 'd' is pronounced /d/. Tricky: the letters 'o' 'u' 'l' are pronounced /oo/." This process is repeated with words should and would. After introducing the new Tricky Words, students do a quick review of the Tricky Words reviewed in previous lessons: a, the, he, she, we, be, me, was, of, from, to, do, down, how, what, where, why, once, one, and two. For students who need additional practice, Tricky Word practice is located in the Unit 1 section of the Assessment and Remediation Guide-Pausing

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			Points. In Unit 2, Tricky Words include: I, you, your, street, my, by, have, all, who, no, so, go, are, were, they, their, and some. The teacher highlights the portions of each word that are regular and can be blended, as well as the parts that are irregular and need to be remembered when introducing these words. In Unit 4, Tricky Words are introduced in Lessons 3 and 16 and reinforced in stories read in the Reader. Lesson 3 words include: people, walk, and grownup. Lesson 16 includes the word building. In this unit, teacher guidance explains, "As you introduce new spelling patterns, you will notice some words previously introduced as Tricky Words can be seen as part of spelling patterns. For example, once you have taught 'e' as a spelling alternative for /ee/, the words he, she, we, be, and me no longer need to be treated as Tricky Words."
	<ul> <li>Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only</li> <li>4f) Resources and/or texts provide ample practice of foundational reading skills using texts (e.g. decodable readers) and allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of reading foundational skills, including phonics patterns and word analysis skills in decoding words.</li> <li>Materials provide opportunities for students to self-monitor to confirm or self-correct word errors directing students to reread purposefully to acquire accurate meaning.</li> <li>This should include monitoring that will allow students to receive regular feedback.</li> </ul>	Yes	Resources and texts provide ample practice of foundational reading skills using texts and allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of reading foundational skills, including phonics patterns and word analysis skills in decoding words. According to the introduction provided in the Teacher Guide for Unit 1, unit readers for Units 1-4 are 100% decodable. Each unit has a companion unit reader that addresses the same phonics/spelling patterns that have been taught. Unit 1, Lesson 19, serves as a review for spelling alternatives. One objective in the lesson states, "Read decodable text that

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			incorporates the letter-sound
			correspondences taught with increased
			accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression
			on successive readings." Students
			strengthen accuracy, appropriate rate, and
			expression through phonics skills/patterns
			and tricky words taught that are included in
			the decodable reader as they are taught and
			repeat as the stories continue. This lesson
			focuses on reviewing the suffix -ed with its
			multiple pronunciations and the tricky
			words learned to this point in the materials.
			In this lesson, students read "The Milk" from
			the decodable unit reader which supports
			learned and newly introduced skills. Unit 3,
			Lesson 2, focuses on words with long a
			spelled: <i>ay, ai,</i> and <i>a_e</i> . Teachers begin by
			addressing the long <i>a</i> words that are found
			in the story. Then, students partner read
			"The Spelling Bee" from their unit reader. All
			stories also have spelling/phonics patterns
			that have been learned previously so that
			students have an opportunity to continue
			practicing their skills. Unit 5 introduces
			spelling alternatives for vowel sounds and
			the schwa sound. Students practice
			chunking phonemes as a means of reading
			multisyllabic words. Students review
			grammar skills and learn about adjectives, as
			well as identify the subject and predicate in
			a complete sentence. For example, in Unit 5,
			Lesson 5, students read "The Hungry Troll"
			with a partner. Students are directed to read
			the first page silently, then one partner
			reads that page aloud. Next, they both read

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only         4g) Opportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading, that is, to read a wide variety of grade-appropriate prose, poetry, and/or informational texts with accuracy, rate appropriate to the text, and expression.         Materials provide opportunities for students to self-monitor to confirm or self-correct word errors directing students to reread purposefully to acquire accurate meaning.         This should include monitoring that will allow students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy.	Yes	the second page silently, then the other partner reads that page aloud. Students use an Individual Code Chart to help sound out words and ask their partners questions when they encounter confusing parts in the story, allowing for students to self-correct and self-monitor during reading. Opportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading. Monitoring is included and allows students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy. All units include a Pausing Point for struggling readers. Unit 4 activities are located at the end of Unit 4 but are used throughout the unit. Guidance recommends that teachers select specific Pausing Point activities for individuals and/or groups of students based on student outcomes on the three assessments administered at the end of this unit, the Reading Comprehension Assessment, Oral Reading Fluency Assessment, and the Word Identification and Decoding Skills Assessment. In addition to Pausing Points, an Anecdotal Reading Record is provided. The teacher manual suggests that teachers observe students reading at least twice a week, and this record is helpful in tracking students' progress. Materials also include the Assessment and Remediation Guide, which provides further guidance in assessing,

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			This guide includes mini-lessons and
			activities used to work with individual
			students who need remediation with any
			skill in the units. The units and lessons are
			structured in a sequential fashion, offering
			opportunities and encouraging fluency in
			reading through whole group, small group,
			or independent reading. Unit 3 involves
			students practicing reading during the
			sessions. For example, students read in
			whole groups, small groups, or pairs, at least
			twice a week, for 15 to 20 minutes per day.
			Using the Individual Code Chart to assist in
			word sounding and the Spelling Trees for
			further support, the teacher walks around
			the classroom listening to students read and
			taking notes on their progress. Unit 4 offers
			three fluency passages for students to read:
			a reader's theater, a poem, and a nonfiction
			text. In the unit, students learn various ways
			to spell long <i>i</i> (ie, y, i as in kind). Both the
			decodable reader and the fluency pages
			focus on these same spellings/phonics skills.
			These same skills are practiced in phrases,
			spelling, wiggle cards, and chaining which
			are all done with the teacher. This provides
			an opportunity for the teacher to hear the
			students read and provide feedback as
			needed. Students are given multiple
			opportunities for repeated readings which
			improves rate, expression, and accuracy.
			Unit 4 addresses the tricky spelling of
			several sounds: 'e' pronounced /e/ (pet) or
			/ee/ (me); 'i' pronounced /i/ (it) or /ie/
			(biting); and 'y' pronounced /ee/ (funny), /i/

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
	<ul> <li>Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only</li> <li>4h) Materials provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication and regular practice in encoding (spelling) the sound symbol relationships of English. (Note: Instruction and practice with roots, prefixes, and suffixes is applicable for grade 1 and higher.)</li> <li>In grades 3-5, materials provide instruction and practice in word study including systematic examination of grade-level morphology, decoding of multisyllabic words by using syllabication, and automaticity with grade-level regular and irregular spelling patterns.</li> </ul>	Yes	(myth), /ie/ (try), or /y/ (yes). The decodable reader for this unit focuses on these sounds along with the few Tricky Words that are introduced. These skills are repeated throughout the reader in each story. Following Unit 4, Lesson 5, students read the story "Dwight's Lights" which focuses on the skill of long <i>i</i> . Long <i>i</i> words in the story are addressed prior to the story giving the teacher the opportunity to reteach and correct any mistakes to ensure a successful reading of the story. Materials do provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes, and spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication and regular practice in encoding the sound symbol relationships of English. Students practice spelling the word with the suffix - ing in Unit 2, Lesson 6. When a word has the -ing suffix added to it, the teacher introduces it by using both the root word and the ending, modeling for the students how to drop the last <i>e</i> . Additionally, the teacher models how the word <i>hop</i> needs to have its consonant doubled before the -ing is added. In Unit 3, Lesson 11, students read and write words with inflectional endings and suffixes: <i>-ed</i> , <i>-ing</i> , <i>-s</i> , <i>-es</i> . Students read and understand decodable text that incorporates the letter-sound correspondences taught, with purpose and understanding. Students also focus on words

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			with the spellings 'kn' for /n/, 'wr' for /r/, 'wh' for /w/, 'qu' for /qu/, and some have the suffixes –ing or –ed. Students listen to the word, add the suffix onto the end of the word, and then read it aloud. Unit 4, Lesson 1 discusses the different ways to spell the /er/ sound. Students refer to their Vowel Flip Book showing "ur" and "ir." Then review the sound /er/ spelled er. The teacher writes a list of given /er/ words on the board, dividing two-syllable words accordingly. The teacher creates a chart on the board with four columns with different spellings for the /er/ sound: er, ir, ur, and "odd duck" (words that have the sound but are spelled another way). Students generate words that have the /er/ sound and the teacher places it in the correct column. A spelling tree is also created for this lesson. The branch spelled "er" is longer than the others because /er/ is spelled "er" more frequently than any other spelling. Students then turn to Workbook 1.2 and complete the reading words with /er/ spelled various ways activity. This same spelling pattern is then used in the companion reader for this unit.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-2 only 4i) Materials provide opportunities for teachers to assess students' mastery of foundational skills and respond to the needs of individual students based on ongoing assessments offered at regular intervals. Monitoring includes attention to invented spelling as appropriate for its diagnostic value.	Yes	Materials provide opportunities for teachers to assess students' mastery of foundational skills and respond to the needs of individual students based on ongoing assessments offered at regular intervals. Monitoring includes attention to invented spelling as appropriate for its diagnostic value. As part of the resources, the teacher can access the assessment in the All Units Assessment and

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			Remediation Guide. For the purpose of
			assisting teachers make the most use of
			their instructional time, placement
			assessments and guidelines are included in
			Grade 2, Unit 1. These provide a
			comprehensive overview of each student's
			strengths and weaknesses at the start of the
			academic year, or anytime a new student
			joins the class. For each section, there are
			pretests and post-tests accessible for the
			assessments. In certain situations, such as
			when the teacher has already used the
			Placement Assessments at the start of the
			year to identify a specific coding knowledge
			gap, the pretest is not necessary. To record
			student progress, or lack of progress,
			teachers administer a post-test after
			providing remedial instruction. For example,
			the Word Reading in Isolation Assessment is
			administered individually and the teacher
			has a tracking sheet for progress. The
			assessment includes 120 words in all, with
			distinct spellings. The word order
			corresponds to the CKLA program's order of
			instruction. While students read the words,
			the teacher records their responses on the
			Word Reading Record Sheet, Worksheet 7.5.
			According to the Assessment and
			Remediation Guide, teachers should
			administer the Grade 2 placement test to all
			students in the first few weeks at school.
			There are two parts to the placement test:
			Silent Reading, with comprehension
			questions, and Word Reading in Isolation.
			The Silent Reading should take 20-30

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			minutes depending on the student. Students who successfully pass a Silent Reading Assessment should continue with the next Silent Reading Assessment which is more difficult than the one prior. When a student can no longer pass a Silent Reading Assessment, they are given the Word Reading in Isolation so that the teacher can better identify areas of weakness. These assessments provide teachers with information that is needed to inform instruction and create groups based on skills when needed for remediation. A flowchart for the progression of placement tests is also provided in the Assessment and Remediation guide.
	Required *Indicator for grades K-5 only 4j) Foundational Skills materials are abundant and easily implemented so that teachers can spend time, attention and practice with students who need foundational skills supports.	Yes	Foundational Skill materials are abundant and easily implemented so that teachers can spend time, attention and practice with students who need foundational skill supports. The materials are grouped into six instructional units, outlined by the six unit Assessment and Remediation Guides and Teacher Guides. The Navigating K-3 Skills Lessons document includes an outline of the Week-by-Week Pacing Guides that provide teachers with an overview of the lessons and the estimated time allotted for each lesson component. Each lesson component is accompanied by the number of instructional minutes it requires and each daily lesson requires 60 total instructional minutes. For example in Unit 1, Lesson 11 includes the following: Introduce Spelling Words and Family Letter (15 minutes); Tricky

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			Words (10 minutes); Double-Letter Spellings
			for Consonant Sounds (15 minutes); and
			Partner Reading, "The Hot Dog" (20
			minutes). In Unit 5, Lesson 13, students
			engage in the following: Warm-Up, Review
			/ə/ Spelling Tree(s), schwa sound/spelling (5
			minutes); The /ə/ + /l/ Sound and Its
			Spellings (20 minutes); Syllable Review,
			Syllable Chunking (10 minutes); and Reading
			Time: Whole Group, "The Letter" (25
			minutes). Lessons are organized logically,
			allowing students to be taught in whole-
			group and then work in small-groups based
			on the student's individual needs. The
			Assessment and Remediation Guide (ARG)
			allows remediation to be administered
			based on student need as identified by
			outcomes in routine progress monitoring.
			Additionally, materials are easy for students
			to access. Each student is given an individual
			decodable reader and workbook for each
			unit. Teachers are provided an Assessment
			and Remediation Guide for students who
			need additional support. In the ARG,
			teachers use a cross reference chart and a
			students need flowchart to determine
			where to begin instruction for each child.
			Once the teacher establishes the level of
			instructional need, the ARG directs the
			teacher to the corresponding lesson
			structure at the beginning of each unit.
			Teachers are provided sound cards, big book
			versions of the decodable readers, and
			teacher manuals with explicit directions for
			teaching.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
Section III. Additional Criteria of Section	uperior Quality		
5. RANGE AND VOLUME OF	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
TEXTS:	5a) Materials seek a balance in instructional time between		
Materials reflect the distribution	literature and informational texts. (Reviewers will consider		
of text types and genres	the balance within units of study as well as across the entire		
suggested by the <u>standards (e.g.</u>	grade level using the ratio between literature/informational		
RL.K.9, RL.1.5, RI.1.9, RL.2.4,	texts to help determine the appropriate balance.)		
<u>RI.2.3, RL.3.2, RL.3.5, RI.4.3,</u>	<ul> <li>The majority of informational texts have an</li> </ul>		
<u>RL.5.7, RI.7.7, RL.8.9, RI.9-10.9,</u>	informational text structure.		
and RL.10/RI.10 across grade	<ul> <li>In grades 3-12, narrative structure (e.g. speeches,</li> </ul>		
<u>levels.)</u>	biographies, essays) of informational text are also		
	included.		
Yes No	Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>5b)</b> Materials include print and/or non-print texts in a <b>variety</b>		
	of formats (e.g. a range of film, art, music, charts, etc.) and		
	lengths (e.g. short stories, poetry, and novels).		
	<b>5c)</b> Additional materials provide direction and practice for	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	regular, accountable independent reading of texts that		
	appeal to students' interests to build reading stamina,		
	confidence, motivation, and enjoyment and develop		
6. WRITING TO SOURCES,	knowledge of classroom concepts or topics.  Required	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
SPEAKING AND LISTENING, AND	<b>6a)</b> Materials include a <b>variety of opportunities</b> for students	N/A	
LANGUAGE:	to listen, speak, and write about their understanding of texts		
The majority of tasks are text-	measured by Criteria 1 and 2; those opportunities are		
dependent or text-specific,	prominent, varied in length and time demands (e.g., informal		
reflect the writing genres	peer conversations, note taking, summary writing, discussing		
named in the standards,	and writing short-answer responses, whole-class formal		
	discussions, shared writing, formal essays in different genres,		
require communication skills	on-demand and process writing, etc.), and require students		
for college and career	to engage effectively, as determined by the grade-level		
readiness, and help students	standards. <sup>5</sup>		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Technology and digital media may be used, when appropriate, to support the standards addressed in this indicator.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
meet the language standards for the grade. Yes No	Required *Indicator for grades 3-12 only 6b) The majority of oral and written tasks require students to demonstrate the knowledge they built through the analysis and synthesis of texts, and present well defended claims and clear information, using grade-level language and conventions and drawing on textual evidence to support valid inferences from text. Required	N/A N/A	Not applicable to this review. Not applicable to this review.
	<ul> <li>6c) Materials include multiple writing tasks aligned to the three modes of writing (opinion/argumentative, informative, narrative) as outlined by the standards at each grade level.</li> <li>As students progress through the grades, narrative prompts decrease in number and increase in being based on text(s).</li> <li>In grades 3-12, tasks may include blended modes (e.g., analytical writing).</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>6d) Materials address the grammar and language conventions specified by the language standards at each grade level and build on those standards from previous grade levels through application and practice of those skills in the context of reading and writing about unit texts.</li> <li>For example, materials create opportunities for students to analyze the syntax of a quality text to determine the text's meaning and model their own sentence construction as a way to develop more complex sentence structure and usage.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
7. ASSESSMENTS: Materials offer assessment opportunities that genuinely measure progress and elicit	<b>Required</b> <b>7a)</b> Materials use varied modes of assessment, including a range of pre-, formative, summative and self-assessment measures.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
direct, observable evidence of the degree to which students can independently demonstrate the	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>7b) Materials assess student understanding of the topics,</li> <li>themes, and/or ideas presented in the unit texts. Questions</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
assessed grade-specific standards with appropriately complex text(s).	and tasks are developed so that students demonstrate the knowledge and skill built over the course of the unit.		
Yes No	<b>Required</b> <b>7c)</b> Aligned <b>rubrics or assessment guidelines</b> (such as scoring guides or student work exemplars) are included and provide sufficient guidance for interpreting student performance.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<ul> <li>Required</li> <li>7d) Measurement of progress via assessments include</li> <li>gradual release of supporting scaffolds for students to</li> <li>measure their independent abilities.</li> </ul>	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>7e)</b> Materials assess student proficiency using methods that are <b>unbiased and accessible</b> to all students.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
8. SCAFFOLDING AND SUPPORT: Materials provide all students, including those who read below grade level, with extensive opportunities and support to encounter and comprehend grade-level complex text as	<b>Required</b> <b>8a)</b> As needed, pre-reading activities and suggested approaches to teacher scaffolding are focused and engage students with <b>understanding the text</b> itself (i.e. providing background knowledge, supporting vocabulary acquisition). Pre-reading activities should be no more than 10% of time devoted to any reading instruction.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
required by the standards.	Required 8b) Materials do not confuse or substitute mastery of skills or strategies for full comprehension of text; reading strategies support comprehension of specific texts and focus on building knowledge and insight. Texts do not serve as platforms to practice discrete strategies.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	<b>Required</b> <b>8c)</b> Materials include guidance and support that regularly directs teachers to return to focused parts of the text to guide students through rereading and discussion about the ideas, events, and information found there.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES	
	Required 8d) Materials provide additional supports for expressing understanding through formal discussion and writing development (i.e. sentence frames, paragraph frames, modeled writing, student exemplars).	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
	Required 8e) Materials are easy to use and well organized for students and teachers. Teacher editions are concise and easy to manage with clear connections between teacher resources. The reading selections are centrally located within the materials and the center of focus.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
	<b>Required</b> <b>8f)</b> Support for English Learners and diverse learners is provided. Appropriate suggestions and materials are provided for <b>supporting varying student needs</b> at the unit and lesson level. The language in which questions and problems are posed is not an obstacle to understanding the content, and if it is, additional supports are included (e.g., alternative teacher approaches, pacing and instructional delivery options, strategies or suggestions for supporting access to text and/or content, suggestions for modifications, suggestions for vocabulary acquisition, etc.).	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
	<b>8g)</b> The content can be <b>reasonably</b> completed within a regular school year and the pacing of content allows for maximum student understanding. Materials provide guidance about the amount of time a task might reasonably take.	N/A	Not applicable to this review.	
FINAL EVALUATION <i>Tier 1 ratings</i> receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria and a "Yes" for each of the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality. <i>Tier 2 ratings</i> receive a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria, but at least one "No" for the Additional Criteria of Superior Quality. <i>Tier 3 ratings</i> receive a "No" for at least one of the Non-negotiable Criteria.				
	I-III to make a final decision for the material under review.			
Section	Criteria	Yes/No	Final Justification/Comments	

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
I. K-12 Non-negotiable Criteria of Superior Quality <sup>6</sup>	1. Quality of Texts	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	2. Text-Dependent Questions	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	3. Coherence of Tasks	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
II. K-5 Non-negotiable Foundational Skills Criteria (grades K-5 only) <sup>7</sup>	4. Foundational Skills	Yes	Materials provide and follow a logical sequence of appropriate foundational skills instruction indicated by the standard while providing abundant opportunities for every student to become proficient in each of the foundational skills. Materials provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction. Materials provide opportunities and practice for students to master grade-appropriate high-frequency irregular words using multisensory techniques. Resources and texts provide ample practice of foundational reading skills using texts and allow for systematic, explicit, and frequent practice of reading foundational skills, including phonics patterns and word analysis skills in decoding words. Opportunities are frequently built into the materials that allow for students to achieve reading fluency in oral and silent reading. Monitoring is included and allows students to receive regular feedback on their oral reading fluency in the specific areas of appropriate rate, expressiveness, and accuracy. Materials provide instruction and practice in word study including pronunciation, roots, prefixes, suffixes and

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria to receive a Tier 1 or Tier 2 rating.
 <sup>7</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Non-negotiable Criteria to receive a Tier 1 or Tier 2 rating.

CRITERIA	INDICATORS OF SUPERIOR QUALITY	MEETS METRICS (YES/NO)	JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS WITH EXAMPLES
			spelling/sound patterns, as well as decoding of grade-level words, by using sound-symbol knowledge and knowledge of syllabication and regular practice in encoding the sound symbol relationships of English. Materials provide opportunities for teachers to assess students' mastery of foundational skills and respond to the needs of individual students based on ongoing assessments offered at regular intervals. Monitoring includes attention to invented spelling as appropriate for its diagnostic value. Foundational Skill materials are abundant and easily implemented so that teachers can spend time, attention and practice with students who need foundational skill supports.
III. Additional Criteria of Superior Quality <sup>8</sup>	5. Range and Volume of Texts	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	6. Writing to Sources, Speaking and Listening, and Language	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	7. Assessments	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
	8. Scaffolding and Support	N/A	Not applicable to this review.
FINAL DECISION FOR THIS MAT	ERIAL: Tier 1, Exemplifies quality	1	1

\*As applicable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Must score a "Yes" for all Additional Criteria of Superior Quality to receive a Tier 1 rating.



Instructional materials are one of the most important tools educators use in the classroom to enhance student learning. It is critical that they fully align to state standards—what students are expected to learn and be able to do at the end of each grade level or course—and are high quality if they are to provide meaningful instructional support.

The Louisiana Department of Education is committed to ensuring that every student has access to high-quality instructional materials. In Louisiana all districts are able to purchase instructional materials that are best for their local communities since those closest to students are best positioned to decide which instructional materials are appropriate for their district and classrooms. To support local school districts in making their own local, high-quality decisions, the Louisiana Department of Education leads online reviews of instructional materials.

Instructional materials are reviewed by a committee of Louisiana educators. Teacher Leader Advisors (TLAs) are a group of exceptional educators from across Louisiana who play an influential role in raising expectations for students and supporting the success of teachers. Teacher Leader Advisors use their robust knowledge of teaching and learning to review instructional materials.

The 2022-2023 Teacher Leader Advisors are selected from across the state and represent the following parishes and school systems: A.E. Phillips, Ascension, Belle Chasse Academy, Bienville, Caddo, Calcasieu, Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge -REACH Department, East Baton Rouge, Hynes Charter School Corporation, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, KIPP New Orleans, Lafayette, Lafourche, Lincoln, Louisiana Virtual Charter Academy, LSU Laboratory School, Orleans, Monroe City Schools, Morehouse, Orleans, Ouachita, Plaquemines, Rapides, Richland, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, University View Academy, Vermillion, Webster, West Feliciana, and Zachary Community Schools. This review represents the work of current classroom teachers with experience in ECE and grades K-5.

## Appendix I.

## **Publisher Response**

The publisher had no response.

## Appendix II.

## **Public Comments**

There were no public comments submitted.