

Guidance for ELA K-2 Foundations and Language and Literacy

The goal of English Language Arts (ELA) is for all students to read, understand, and express their understanding of complex, grade-level texts.

To ensure all students enter 3rd grade reading at grade level, K-2 core ELA instruction should include high-quality curriculum that addresses (1) Foundations and (2) Language and Literacy.

Table 1: Comparison of Foundations with Language and Literacy

Features	Foundations	Language and Literacy
Focus	Skills-based decoding	Building knowledge
Organization	Explicit sequence of phonics skills	Text sets to build knowledge
Type of Texts	Words and groups of words in isolation, decodable texts	Complex texts (often read aloud)
Writing	Letter formation, spelling	Expression of ideas
Grade band	Primarily K - 2	K - 12

K-2 classrooms in Louisiana could adopt either of the following:

- One high-quality program that includes both foundations and language and literacy (preferred), or
- Two high-quality programs, one for foundations and one for language and literacy.

Table 2: High-Quality Foundations and Language and Literacy Programs

Options	Foundations Programs	Language and Literacy Programs
1	American Reading Company - IRLA Foundational Skills Toolkit Amplify - Core Knowledge Language Arts Skills Strand, 2nd Edition	Great Minds - Wit & Wisdom
2	OpenUp Resources - EL Education	
3	American Reading Company - IRLA Foundational Skills Toolkit + ARC Core	

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4	Amplify - Core Knowledge Language Arts Skills Strand + Language Arts, 2nd Edition
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