



**Avon Grove Charter School**  
*English Language Arts Skills*  
Grade Level: First

AGCS uses Reading Wonders as its primary elementary ELA program. The purpose of this document is to provide an overview of the major concepts/skills at this grade level. Parents are the target audience of this resource, however students may also find it helpful as a skills checklist.

**FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS**

***A student will be able to...***

- Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).
- Know and apply grade level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
- Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

**READING INFORMATIONAL TEXT**

***A student will be able to...***

- Identify the main idea and retell key details of text.
- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.
- Use various text features and search tools to locate key facts or information in a text.
- Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text.
- Use illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.
- Identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.
- Identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic.
- Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading, and being read to, and responding to texts, including words that signal connections and relationships between the words and phrases.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade level reading and content.
- Read and comprehend literary non-fiction and informational text on grade level, reading independently and proficiently.

**READING LITERATURE**

***A student will be able to...***

- Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.
- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.
- Identify who is telling the story at various points in a text.
- Explain major differences between books that tell stories and books that give information, drawing on a wide reading or range of text types.
- Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses.
- Use illustrations and details in a story to describe characters, settings, or events.

- Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade level reading and content.
- Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading, and being read to, and responding to texts, including words that signal connections and relationships between the words and phrases.
- Read and comprehend literature on grade level, reading independently and proficiently.

### WRITING-INFORMATIVE & EXPLANATORY

**A student will be able to...**

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
- Identify and write about one specific topic.
- Develop the topic with two or more facts.
- Group information and provide some sense of closure.
- Choose words and phrases for effect.
- Demonstrate a grade appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

### WRITING-OPINION & ARGUMENTATIVE

**A student will be able to...**

- Write opinion pieces on familiar topics or texts.
- Form an opinion by choosing among given topics.
- Support the opinion with reasons related to the opinion.
- Create an organizational structure that includes reasons and provides some sense of closure.
- Use a variety of words and phrases.
- Demonstrate a grade appropriate command of the conventions of Standard English, grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation and spelling.

### WRITING-NARRATIVE

**A student will be able to...**

- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events.
- Establish who and what the narrative will be about.
- Include thoughts and feelings to describe experiences and events.
- Recount two or more appropriately sequenced events using temporal words to signal event order and provide some sense of closure.
- Use a variety of words and phrases.
- Demonstrate a grade appropriate command of the conventions of English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

### WRITING

**A student will be able to...**

- With guidance and support from peers and adults, focus on a topic, respond to questions and suggestions from peers and add details to strengthen writing as needed.

- With guidance and support, use technology to produce and publish writing including in collaboration with peers.
- Participate in individual or shared research and writing projects.
- With guidance and support, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.
- Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## SPEAKING AND LISTENING

### ***A student will be able to...***

- Participate in collaborative conversations with peers and adults in small and larger groups.
- Confirm understanding of a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media by asking and answering questions about key details and requesting clarification if something is not understood.
- Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to gather additional information, or clarify something that is not understood.
- Describe people, places, things, and events relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.
- Produce complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation.
- Add drawings or other visual displays when sharing aloud to clarify ideas, thoughts, and feelings.
- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English when speaking, based on Grade 1 level and content.