

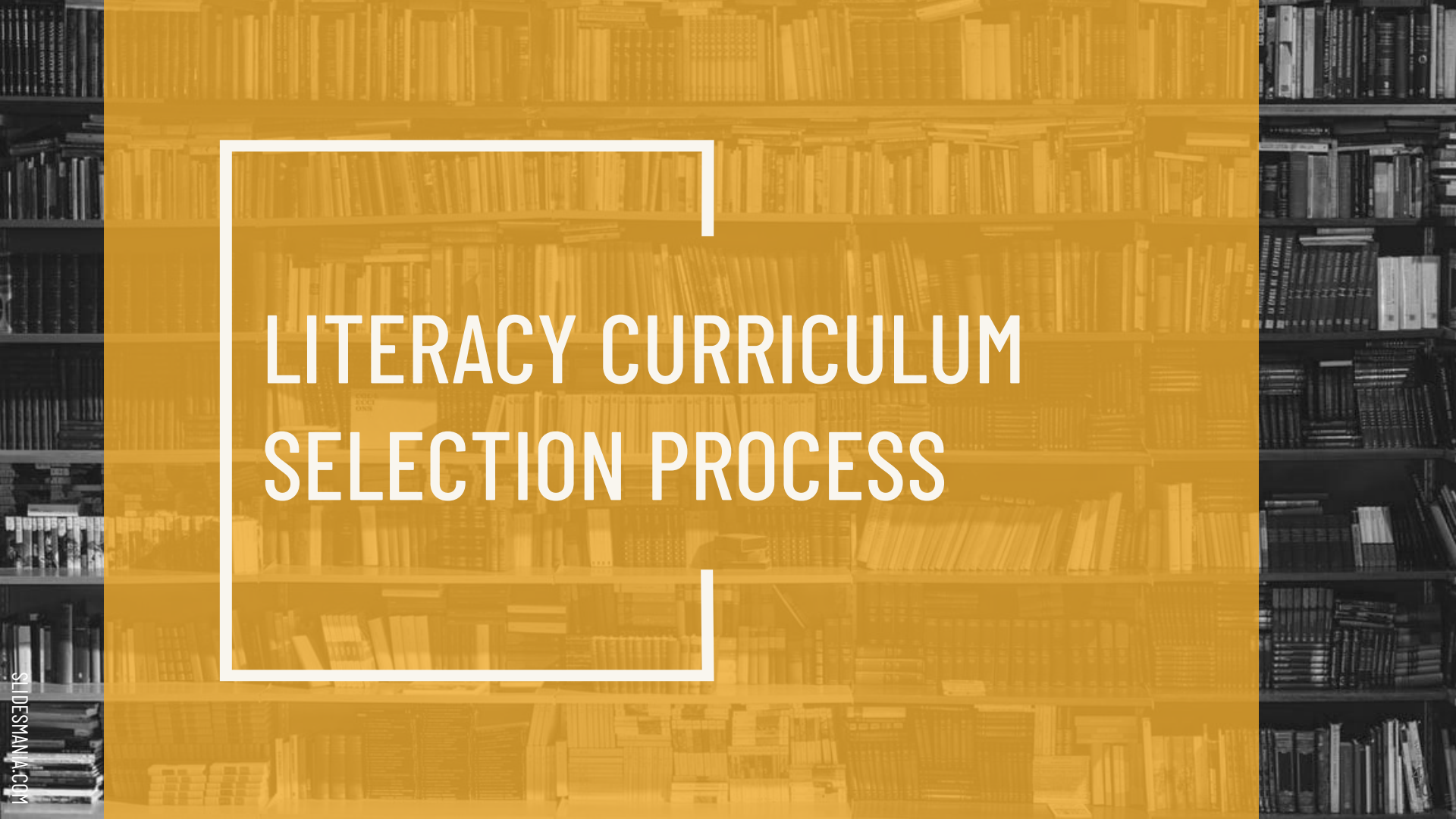
Bedford Central School District
K-5 Literacy Curriculum
Recommendation
Board CIA Subcommittee
April 29, 2024

AGENDA

1. Literacy Committee Process
2. Literacy Curriculum Selection Process
3. Recommendation
4. Timeline for Implementation

1. **Evaluate literacy curriculum** materials in order to recommend and adopt core curriculum aligned to the Science of Reading starting in the 2024-25 school year.
2. Develop a **literacy handbook** that outlines common language and consistent instructional guidance aligned to SOR.
3. Develop **implementation** and **professional development plan** to ensure alignment of instructional practices to core SOR curriculum materials.

LITERACY COMMITTEE GOALS



LITERACY CURRICULUM SELECTION PROCESS

2023 - 2024 Timeline of Literacy Curriculum Work

Sept. 2023

Literacy Committee gathered resources and draft of handbook developed

Oct-Nov. 2023

Literacy Consultants to support work of the District; addition of Ben Powers & Haskins Global Literacy Hub

Dec-Jan. 2024

Research on curriculum resources based on Ed Reports and vendor visits and addition of Dr. Molly Ness

Feb-April 2024

Research using Knowledge Matters, Reading League, State approved lists, and feedback from districts in the region;
Recommend to CIA

May-June 2024

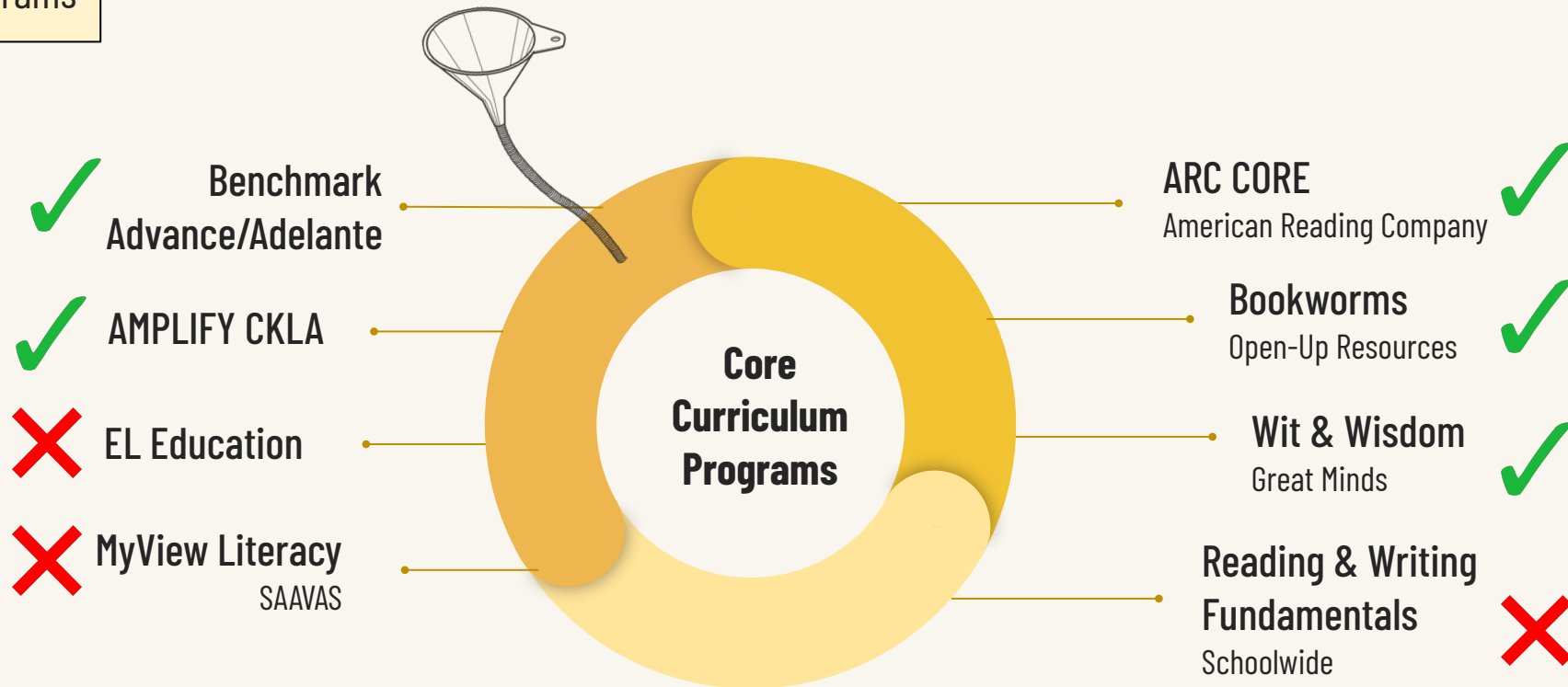
Final recommendation to Board, Purchase of materials, plan for onboarding professional development

Literacy Curriculum Priorities

1. **START WITH RESEARCH:** Strong core literacy curriculum aligned to research on reading brain (“Swiss Army Knife”)
2. **BUILD STRONG FOUNDATION:** Priority given to knowledge building curriculum (language comprehension) and foundational skills (word recognition)
3. **APPLY FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS:** Foundational skills, morphology, spelling, grammar and vocabulary extend into upper grades
4. **READING-WRITING CONNECTION:** Strong writing component
5. **PRIORITIZE ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY LITERATURE:** Utilize authentic, high-interest texts with wide range of perspectives and topics
6. **SUPPORT FOR ALL STUDENTS:** Layers of support for all students and intentional consideration for students learning in dual-language setting

8 Core
Programs

THE "FUNNEL" OF CURRICULUM OPTIONS



Phonics & Phonemic Awareness Programs under Consideration:

UFLI, Aprendo Leyendo & PAF, Heggerty, Foundations, Estrellita

5 Core
Programs

3 Core Programs

CURRICULUM REVIEW MATRIX

KEY: Does not meet criteria
Partially Meets criteria
Meets or Exceeds criteria

	Amplify CKLA	ARC Core (American Reading Company)	Benchmark Advance/ Adelante	Wit & Wisdom (Great Minds)	Bookworms K-5 Reading & Writing
Ed Reports	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria	Partially met
Knowledge Matters Review	Met criteria	Met criteria	Not reviewed	Met criteria	Met criteria
MA Dept.Ed.: Student Accessibility	Partially met	Partially met	Partially met	Met criteria	Not reviewed
MA Dept. Ed.: Teacher Usability	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria	Not reviewed
Curriculum Insight Project	Not reviewed	Not reviewed	Falls short	Not reviewed	Met criteria
Reading League Tool	Met criteria	Met criteria	Partially met	Met criteria	Met criteria
Reading Rope: Language Comp.	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria
Reading Rope: Word Recognition	Met criteria	Met criteria	Concerns	Pair w/ Foundations	Met criteria
Strength of Writing Component	Concerns K-2	Met criteria	Concerns	Met criteria	Met criteria
PD Support from Vendor	Weak support	Strong support	Support evident	Weak support	Strong support
Available in both English & Spanish	Met criteria	Met criteria	Met criteria	Not available	Not available
Researched Peer Review Study	Not reviewed	Not reviewed	Not reviewed	Not reviewed	Met criteria

STRENGTHS OF ARC CORE

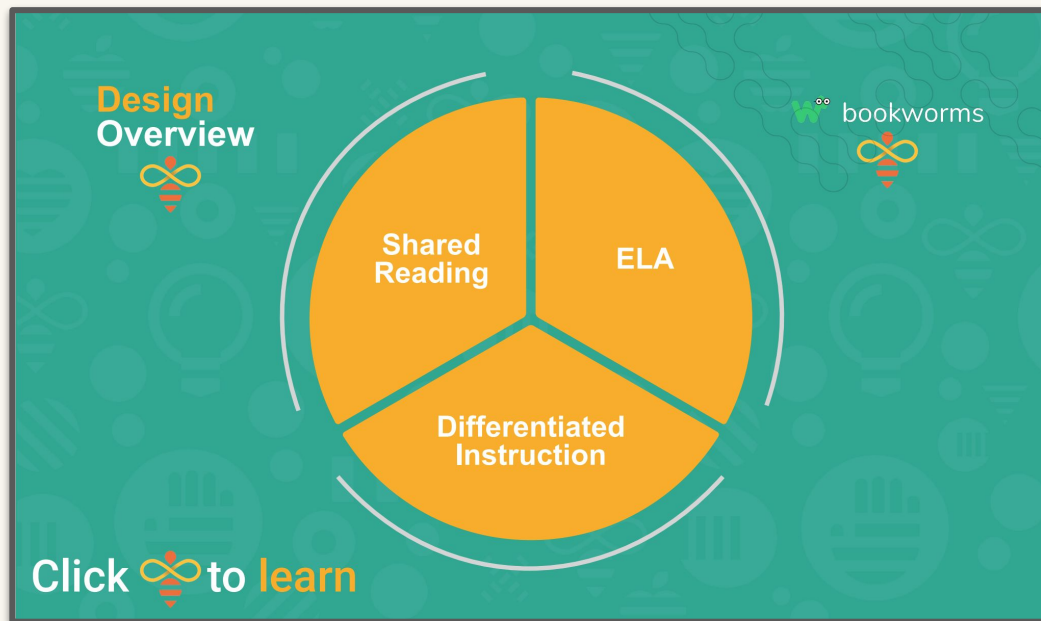
- Strong knowledge building core curriculum for 50/50 dual-language model in both English and Spanish
- ALL components of reading rope (K-5)
- Explicit Reading-Writing Connection
- Assessments and Intervention for both Spanish & English
- States where ARC Core is being implemented:
AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, LA,
MD, MA, NE, NY, OH, RI,
TX, VT, WI



Comparing Wit & Wisdom and Bookworms

	Wit & Wisdom (K-8)	Bookworms (K-5)
Research	Research-based	Research-based and evidence informed
Language Comprehension & Knowledge-Building	Strong knowledge-building with authentic, high-interests texts	Strong knowledge-building with authentic, high-interest texts
Word Recognition & Phonics Instruction	Not in the program; designed to be paired with Foundations and Geodes; word study for upper grades would need to be supplemented	Embedded in K-5 program; no supplement needed; explicit, structured foundational skills taught and assessed throughout
Writing Component	Evidence of writing improvement, but instruction starts at paragraph level	Writing component is very strong; explicit writing instruction starts at sentence level
Professional Development	Concerns reported about PD from vendor	Excellent PD and support from vendor
Feasibility	Lessons are quite long; takes 2-3 days to complete 1 lesson; Students could be sitting for 45 minutes	It's a heavy lift, get ready for a whole school reform, but teachers are seeing a difference

STRENGTHS OF BOOKWORMS



- Shared Reading Block (Knowledge building and word study)
- ELA Block (Explicit reading-writing connection)
- Differentiation Block (targeted small group instruction)
- Research-based and Evidence Informed
- ALL components of Reading Rope (K-5)
- Strong explicit writing instruction
- States where Bookworms is being implemented: AZ, CT, GA, MD, NY, OH, VA, WI

Research Base - Walpole et al., 2017

Quasi-experimental study, students in three Bookworms schools made significantly greater growth in fluency in grades three and five ($d = .55$) and comprehension in grades three, four, and five ($d = .42$) than students in four comparison schools

Research Efficacy for Bookworms



Scientific Studies of Reading >
Volume 28, 2024 - Issue 3

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Research Article

The Effects of Bookworms Literacy Curriculum on Student Achievement in Grades 2-5

[Henry May](#) , [John Z. Strong](#)  & [Sharon Walpole](#) 

Pages 321-344 | Published online: 03 Dec 2023

 Cite this article  <https://doi.org/10.1080/10888438.2023.2284811>  Check for updates

Methodology

- Students ($N = 8,806$) in grades 2–5 in 17 elementary schools across three school years.
- Measures of Academic Progress reading scores with up to 10 data points per student

Findings

Gains compounding over time and producing a standardized effect size of .26 by the end of fifth grade

A significant moderation effect for students with a special education designation, which suggests that the impacts of Bookworms for students qualifying for special education services are larger each year than for other students.

K-5 LITERACY CURRICULUM RECOMMENDATION

Language Comprehension:

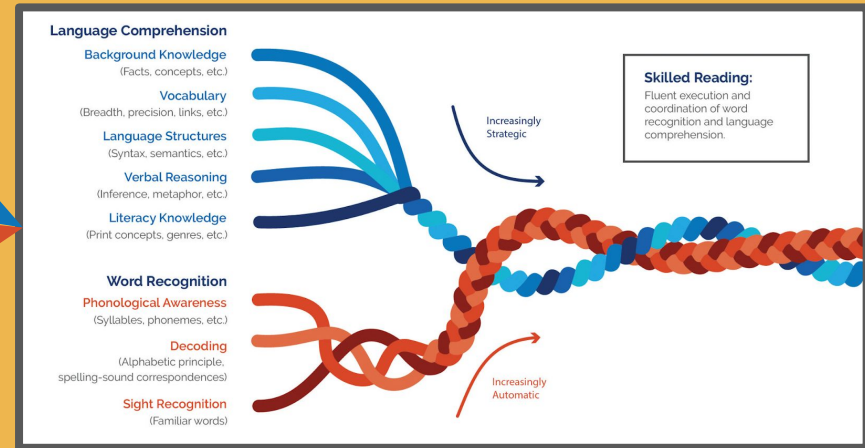
Background Knowledge, Vocabulary, Language Structures, Verbal Reasoning, Literary Knowledge

- **Bookworms** (BHES, BVES, PRES, WPES)
- **ARC Core** (DLBE @ MKES)

Word Recognition:

Phonological Awareness, Decoding, Sight Word Recognition

- **Bookworms K-5 (stand alone or with)**
 - Heggerty (K-1)
 - Foundations (K-2)
 - UFLI & Word Connections
- **ARC Core K-5 with**
 - Heggerty (K-1)
 - Foundations (K-2)/Estrellita (K-1)
 - PAF/Aprendo Leyendo (K-2)



Implementation & Professional Development Recommendations

5-Year Implementation Plan:

- Year #1 = Building consistent reading & writing foundation
- Year #2 & 3 = Strengthening & gaining fluency in teaching, reading & writing
- Year #4 & 5 = Growing our skilled readers and writers

Professional Development (Vendor):

- Onboarding PD with vendor (June-September 2024)
- Ongoing staff development (Fall 2024 - Spring 2025)

Professional Development (District):

- Consultants (Dr. Molly Ness & Mr. Mario Palma)
- Coaching (Literacy Coach & ECs)
- Grades 6-8 PD Support
 - Content Literacy, Academic Language & Vocabulary Development;
 - Explicit Reading-Writing Instruction;
 - Assessments & targeted interventions

Literacy Handbook: Clear expectations for consistent, coherent & comprehensive literacy program

TIMELINE

April 29, 2024	CIA Meeting: Curriculum Recommendation
May 1, 2024	Reading League Tool Released
May 8, 2024	Board of Education Meeting: Curriculum Adoption
May 10, 2024	Place order by May 10
June 2024	"Unboxing" & overview of programs
July-August '24	Onboarding training for administrators Onboarding training for teachers
September 2024	Implementation (Year #1) Literacy Handbook Final

The background of the slide is a photograph of a library aisle. On the left, there are dark wooden bookshelves filled with books. The right side of the image is a bright, solid yellow-orange color. In the center, there is a large white rectangular frame with a thick border. Inside this frame, the words "THANK YOU" are written in a large, white, sans-serif font.

THANK YOU

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Science of Reading Research

Curriculum Review Tools:

Ed Reports

Knowledge Matters Campaign

The Reading League Curriculum
Evaluation Guidelines

Massachusetts Department of
Education CURATE ratings

Colorado Department of
Education Advisory List

CT Approved K-3 Reading
Programs

Mississippi Dept. of Education

Building Knowledge Can Help Build Reading Success, International Dyslexia Foundation

Building Phonemic Awareness: Know What Matters, International Dyslexia Foundation

Embracing Reading for Understanding: Expanding our Vision of Science of Reading, Literacy Today, September/October 2020, p. 26-28

Teaching Reading Is Rocket Science, Louisa Moats, American Educator, Summer 2020

The Science of Reading Comprehension, by Joan Sedita, Keys to Literacy, October 2021

The Science of Reading Comprehension Instruction, by Nell Duke, Alessandra E. Ward, P. David Pearson, International Literacy Association, The Reading Teacher, Volume 74, No. 6, p.663-672, 2021

What Every Parent and Educator Should Know About Reading Instruction, by Joan Sedita, Reading Rocket,

What Constitutes a Science of Reading Instruction by Timothy Shanahan, International Literacy Association, Reading Research Quarterly 55 (S1), 2020

How the Science of Reading Informs 21st-Century Education by Petscher et al., International Literacy Association, September 2020

Guidance for Educators Using Balanced Literacy Program, Student Achievement Partners, Achieve the Core

Tier 1 Instructional Strategies to Improve K-4 Reading Comprehension, James S. Kim & Zhongyu Wei, EdResearch for Recovery Brief No. 25, Harvard University, June 2022

The Science of Learning to Read Words A Case for Systematic Phonics Instruction by Linnea Ehri, International Literacy Association, August 2020

A Meta-Analytic Review of the Relations Between Motivation and Reading Achievement for K-12 Students by Toste et al. , Sage Journals

English Language Learners: Reading Wars, Reading Science, and English Learners by Claude Goldenberg, ILA, September 2020

A Call to Action: The State of Early Literacy in New York / NYSED Science of Reading Literacy Briefs, January 2024

Colorin Colorado: A bilingual site for educators and families of English Language Learners

Mass Literacy: Components of Core Literacy Block, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

The Reading League: Joint Statement on the Science of Reading and English Learners/Emergent Bilinguals

RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Core Curriculum Research

Bookworms:

[University of Delaware: Leading the Way With Bookworms](#)

[Achieve the Core: We're Bullish on Bookworms](#)

[The Effects of Bookworms Literacy Curriculum on Student Achievement in Grades 2-5 \(Peer Review Study\)](#)

[Forbes: More People Should Know About the Bookworms Literacy Curriculum](#)

[Curriculum Insight Project - One High-Quality Exemplar](#)

[Knowledge Matters Review Tool - Bookworms](#)

American Reading Company (ARC) Core:

[EdReports: ARC Core Review](#)

[Consortium for Policy Research in Education, ARC Zoology One Efficacy Evaluation, 2020](#)

[Knowledge Matters Review Tool - ARC Core](#)

[Massachusetts Dept. of Education CURATE Report: ARC Core](#)

[ARC Core en español Curriculum K-2 Scores Big with the Texas Resource Review, April 2024](#)

[Delaware Department of Education: ARC Core Review](#)



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