Bookworms: Components, Research, and Outcomes

Bookworms is a comprehensive literacy program designed for K-5 students. It focuses on improving reading skills through structured activities including daily fluency, comprehension, vocabulary and writing work. This program applies the science of reading but also promotes the love of reading.



Right to Read Mandate

Connecticut's Right to Read Mandate is a statewide plan for early literacy that requires school districts to use evidence-based reading programs in grades K-3.

1	2	3
ELA Team Reviewed initial five mandated programs	ELA Team submitted waiver to state	Waiver denied. New state compendiums offered



Proposal

Enhance existing science of reading resources K-3 with daily fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and writing using Bookworms.

Regional District 18 Compendium Model to comply with the mandate:

- *Bookworms Reading Program**
- Fundations Structured Literacy (Foundational Skills)/Geodes Books
- Heggerty - Phonemic Awareness Activities

**Note: Only new purchase to current curricula*

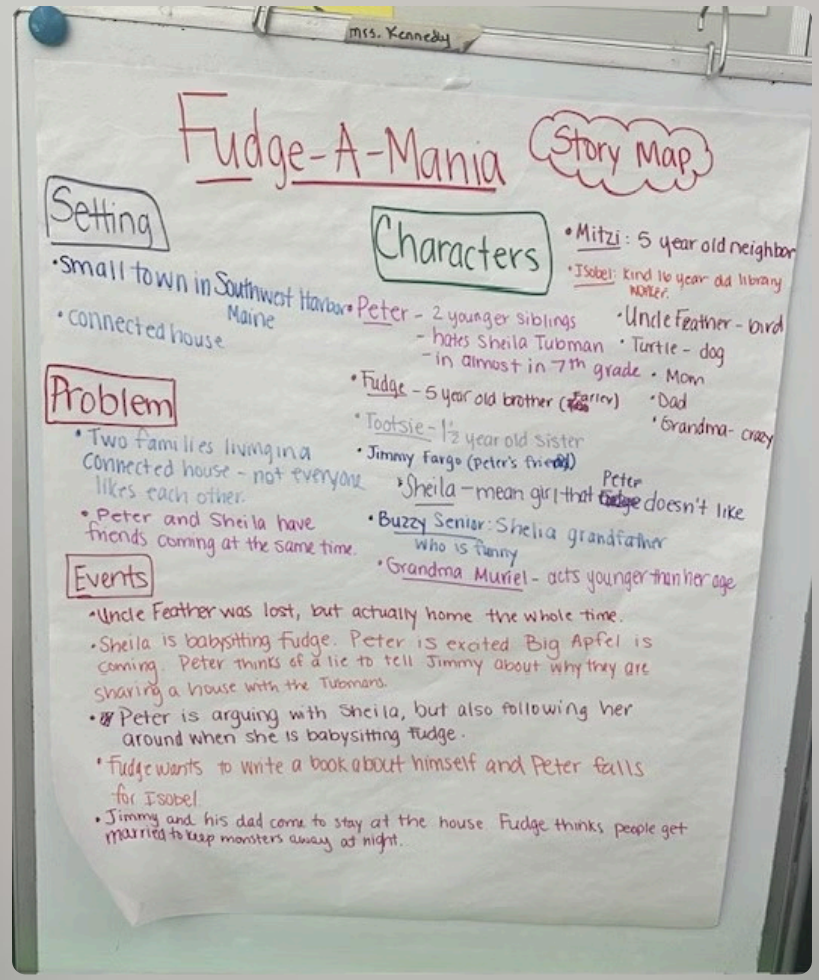
List of approved programs/compendiums

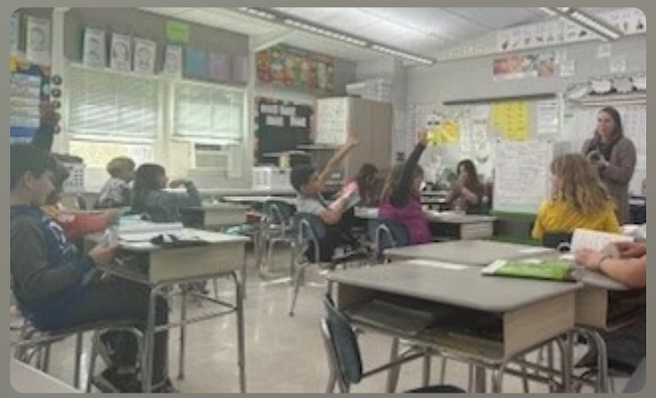


Scarborough Braid/Reading Rope

Bookworms: Scientifically research-based and aligned to the Science of Reading







Key Components of Bookworms

Shared Reading

- Reading fluency and comprehension
- Complex vocabulary and text structures

Intervention (DI block)

- Teacher led differentiated reading instruction
- Station learning

Interactive Read-Aloud (ELA)

- Listening comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills
- Develop a love of reading

Writing Instruction

- Integrate writing instruction with reading activities
- Writing mechanics, structure, and conventions in genres

Introduction to Bookworms

1

Pilot in K-3 Classes

Understand ease of use, impact on students, quality of resources

2

Training for Teachers

Initial pilot training (asynchronous and live); two coaching calls

3

Tracking Progress

Qualitative and quantitative data collected

4

Positive Results

Students and teachers are enthusiastic about using Bookworms and want to continue using it for the remainder of the school year.



R18 Pilot Feedback

1

Student Engagement

Increased student engagement in reading activities

2

Student Impact

Improved writing, stamina, comprehension and procity

3

Teacher Efficacy

Enhanced teacher confidence in our literacy curriculum and instruction

4

Feedback

Positive feedback from educators and students around all components of Bookworms





Bookworms Research

1

Data-Driven Research

Multiple school/district studies showing major gains in reading and writing

2

Impact on Struggling Readers

8,800 student study highlighted students with weaker reading skills in third grade made the most notable progress

3

Skill Improvements in Reading Rope

Improvements in reading fluency, comprehension, vocabulary development/use, and writing

4

Books in Kids Hands

Students will read between 30-50 books per year, or more



Implementation Considerations

Professional Development	Professional development for all K-3 teachers/admin. Spring/Summer 2025; on-going coaching 2025-2026
Implementation	Full K-3 implementation fall of 2025
Assessment	On-going assessment of pilot K-2 starting in January 2025
Scheduling	Leadership Team to work on scheduling ideas/consult with other districts/Admin. to create schedule spring 2025

Total Cost of Ownership

Initial Investment: $68K

Initial purchase including trade books, shared reading books, DI materials, workbooks, and teacher manuals

Funding Sources: $65.3K

- Right to Read State Funding
- Other savings incurred from other budgeted areas in current budget

Net District Investment: $2.7K

Total remaining cost to district after state and local funding

Curriculum is free through Open Up Resources





To review detailed information on the pilot, a link to the teacher feedback survey can be found HERE.