



MES K-3 Literacy Program: Bookworms



Presentation for the Marlborough
Board of Education
February 23, 2023



Title:

Bookworms

Authors:

**Mike McKenna &
Sharon Walpole**

Publisher:

Open Up Resources

Copyright Date:

2022

The MES Literacy Committee has selected Bookworms as the knowledge-building component of our K-3 ELA program after considering all of the programs on the CSDE approved list, piloting one of them (EL) and then opting to pilot Bookworms.

Bookworms was developed by reading researchers Mike McKenna and Sharon Walpole. It is published as an open-licensed curriculum by the nonprofit publisher Open Up Resources.

Summary



- Designed to expose children to a high volume of full-length, deeply engaging trade books to build knowledge and drive literacy instruction
- Each book provides new content within predictable and consistent instructional routines
- Each day, students:
 - read (or are read to), as well as analyze and discuss interesting authentic texts representing diverse authors, characters, and topics
 - complete writing assignments that reinforce comprehension and build writing skills
 - hear, read, and speak a high volume of words, helping to build a rich vocabulary
 - build a deep appreciation of books and learning

Bookworms
Science / Social
Studies units
Daily Read Aloud



Fundations
Heggerty
Geodes
Decodable texts



THE MANY STRANDS THAT ARE WOVEN INTO SKILLED READING

LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION

BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE
(facts, concepts, etc.)

VOCABULARY
(breadth, precision, links, etc.)

LANGUAGE STRUCTURES
(syntax, semantics, etc.)

VERBAL REASONING
(inference, metaphor, etc.)

LITERACY KNOWLEDGE
(print concepts, genres, etc.)

WORD RECOGNITION

PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS
(syllables, phonemes, etc.)

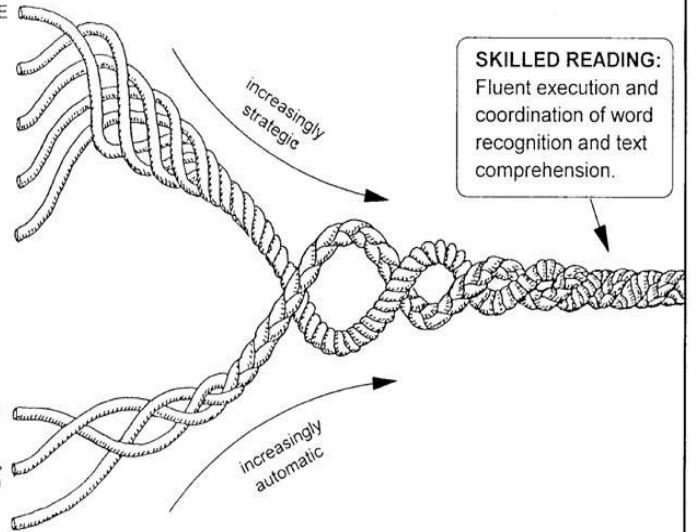
DECODING (alphabetic principle,
spelling-sound correspondences)

SIGHT RECOGNITION
(of familiar words)

increasingly
strategic

increasingly
automatic

SKILLED READING:
Fluent execution and
coordination of word
recognition and text
comprehension.



Overview

K

Module 1
The World Around Us (Rdg)
Listening to Stories (ELA)

Module 2
Insects (Rdg)
Our Changing Environment
(ELA)

Module 3
Fantasy Characters (Rdg)
Learning Together (ELA)

Module 4
Making a Difference (Rdg)
Describing Our World (ELA)

1st Grade

Module 1
Playing Games (Rdg)
Becoming a Writer (ELA)

Module 2
Imaginary Friends (Rdg)
Stories from Our Past (ELA)

Module 3
Telling Stories (Rdg)
Telling Our Stories (ELA)

Module 4
Solving Mysteries (Rdg)
Exploring Our World (ELA)

2nd Grade

Module 1
New Beginnings (Rdg)
Telling Our Stories (ELA)

Module 2
Native Americans (Rdg)
Weather (ELA)

Module 3
Making a Difference in the
World (Rdg)
Breaking Barriers (ELA)

Module 4
Books & Culture (Rdg)
For Love of Country (ELA)

3rd Grade

Module 1
Life's Lessons (Rdg)
Purposeful Writing (ELA)

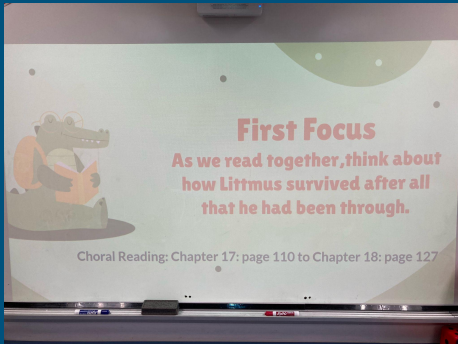
Module 2
Geology (Rdg)
Patterns in Our World (ELA)

Module 3
Fight for What's Right (Rdg)
Fearless American Females
(ELA)

Module 4
Journey of Self-Discovery (Rdg)
Actions and Consequences
(ELA)

Shared Reading Block

- Focus Question
- Choral Reading
- Partner Reading
- Comprehension Tasks

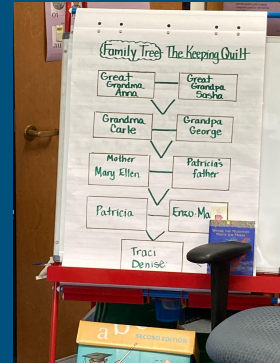


ELA Block

- Read Aloud
- Writing Instruction
- Writing – independent practice & small group / individual

Skills Block

- Phonemic Awareness
- Foundations
- Skills group: decodables



Word Study that focuses on generalizing rather than memorizing:

- 5 day sequences - 2 words per day
- Building sentences (K - 2nd)
- Super Sentences (3rd and up)
- Transfer words on assessments

Explicit vocabulary instruction:

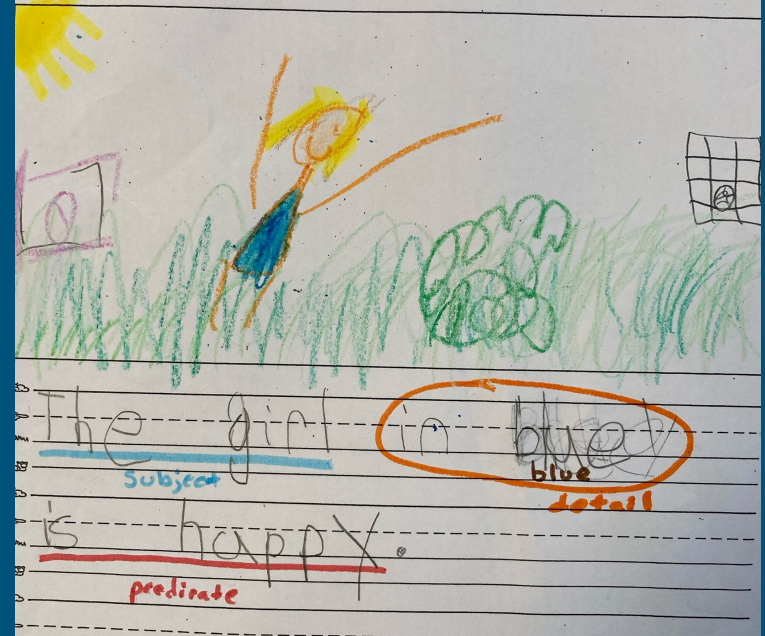
- Presented in context of text
- Write own sentence



Building Sentences

Soccer Game

Subject	Predicate
The girl	is happy





SUPER Sentences!

The floor at my gymnastics center is unyielding and hurts my knees and feet.

sil · ver · smith closed, r-controlled, closed
Silvermith is a compound noun that means a person who creates things made of silver.

Verb	When	
Subject	silvermith	Where
How	Why	

Built-in Assessments

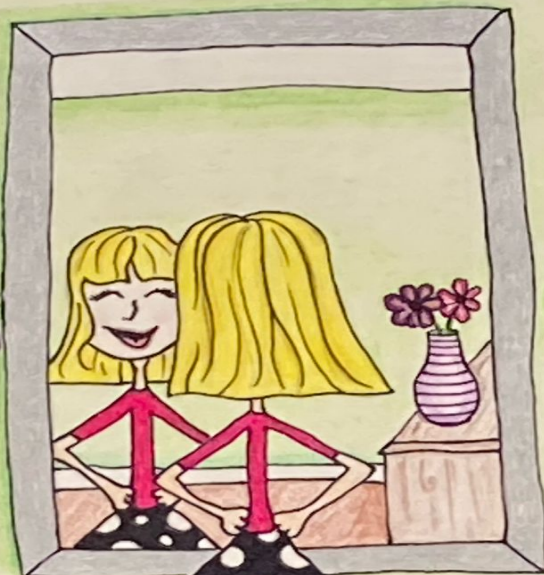
Area	Grade Level	Frequency
Retellings	K	Every 5 days
Text Connections	K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd	4x per module
Speaking & Listening	K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd	1x per month
Word Study Assessments	K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd	Every 5 days
Narrative Writing	1st, 2nd, 3rd	1x per module
Informational Writing	1st, 2nd, 3rd	1x per module
Opinion Writing	1st, 2nd, 3rd	
Editing	1st, 2nd, 3rd	1x module
Culminating Task - Content Knowledge, Literacy Knowledge, and Integration of Knowledge and Ideas	K, 1st, 2nd, 3rd	1x module

Culminating Task - 4 per year (end of module)

- **Showcases** knowledge of the specific genre of writing, specific text structure, and content learned
- **Requires** listening, speaking, reading and writing
- **Demonstrates** content knowledge, literacy knowledge and integration of knowledge



"Books are
Sometimes
Windows..."



...and can
also be a
mirror."

~Rudine Sims Bishop

Image/Artist Credit: Teresa Moraga