

Overview of Program by Level

Overall Scope:

Level K begins by teaching the oral language skills necessary to understand what is spoken, written, and read in the classroom. Students learn hundreds of basic language concepts and instructional words.

Level K Students:

- Accumulate important background information and knowledge
- Begin to build vocabulary that equips them to succeed in school
- Learn to identify letters and selected letter sounds
- Engage in phonemic awareness activities, including rhyming, segmenting, and blending.

Levels 1 and 2 begin with learning letter sounds, sounding-out, and word analysis strategies for decoding difficult words. By the end of Levels 1 and 2 Level 1 and 2 students read complex stories and answer interpretive comprehension questions.

Level 1 and 2 Students:

- Spell words based on previously taught sounds and patterns
- Build a reading vocabulary of approximately 2,500 words
- Read stories accurately at a normal speaking rate
- Plan, proofread, revise, and edit their own work

Levels 3 and 4 provide the structure and challenging materials that develop a strong vocabulary, multiple decoding skills, and world knowledge that allow students to understand, interpret, and use new information.

Level 3 and 4 Students:

- Make connections between text and prior knowledge
- Reason, make predictions, and search for evidence
- Use outside resources and reference materials
- Write responses that are focused and follow logical organizational patterns

Levels 5 and 6 include narrative stories, biographies, poetry, plays, factual articles, and full-length novels that come from a diverse body of classic and contemporary works. By the end of Levels 5 and 6, students can describe and connect essential ideas, find similarities and differences, and draw inferences and conclusions.

Level 5 and 6 Students

- Determine main ideas and concepts presented in reading selections and factual articles
- Define figurative language and identify its use
- Edit and revise compositions to improve coherence and progression