

# IMRA Review Cycle 2024 Report



Publisher Name	Program Name
Pioneer Valley Educational Press, Inc	Phonics Launch, Grade 1
Subject	Grade Level
English Language Arts and Reading	1

**Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Coverage:** 100%  
**English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS) Coverage:** N/A  
**Quality Review Overall Score:** 209 / 313

## IMRA Reviewers

**Flags for Suitability Noncompliance** N/A

Indicator	Count of Flags
1. Prohibition on Common Core	N/A
2. Alignment with Public Education’s Constitutional Goal	N/A
3. Parental Rights and Responsibilities	N/A
4. Prohibition on Forced Political Activity	N/A
5. Protecting Children’s Innocence	N/A
6. Promoting Sexual Risk Avoidance	N/A
7. Compliance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA)	N/A

**Flags for Suitability Compliance** N/A

Indicator	Count of Flags
Alignment with Public Education’s Constitutional Goal, 2.1.1	N/A
Promoting Sexual Risk Avoidance, 6.2	N/A

**Alleged Factual Errors** 2

## Public Feedback

**Flags for Suitability Noncompliance** N/A

Rubric Indicator	Count of Flags
1. Prohibition on Common Core	N/A
2. Alignment with Public Education’s Constitutional Goal	N/A
3. Parental Rights and Responsibilities	N/A
4. Prohibition on Forced Political Activity	N/A
5. Protecting Children’s Innocence	N/A
6. Promoting Sexual Risk Avoidance	N/A
7. Compliance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA)	N/A

**Alleged Factual Errors** N/A

**Public Comments** N/A

# Quality Review Summary

Rubric Section	Quality Rating
<b>1. Intentional Instructional Design</b>	<b>43 / 53</b>
<b>2. Progress Monitoring</b>	<b>24 / 28</b>
<b>3. Support for All Learners</b>	<b>21 / 32</b>
<b>4. Phonics Rule Compliance</b>	<b>26 / 36</b>
<b>5. Foundational Skills</b>	<b>95 / 164</b>

## Strengths

- 1.2 Unit-Level Design: Materials include comprehensive unit overview, provide content knowledge and academic vocabular for effective teaching, and suggestions to support families in their students’ success.
- 2.2 Data analysis and Progress Monitoring: Materials include guidance to interpret student performance and tools for students to interpret track their growth
- 3.1 Differentiation and Scaffolds: Materials provide educators with guidance to pre-teach unfamiliar vocabular and references and implement differentiated instruction.
- 3.2 Instructional Methods: Materials guide educators in effectively modeling, delivering, and facilitating lessons through explicit instructional approaches and varied practice opportunities.
- 4.4 Assessment: Materials provide developmentally appropriate assessment tools with clear administration guidelines, systematic progress monitoring, and year-long assessment opportunities aligned to grade-level phonics skills.

## Challenges

- 1.1 Course-Level Design: Materials do not adhere to TEKS, ELPS, concepts, and knowledge. They fail to apply appropriate pacing, lack explanations for concepts, do not guide lesson internalization, and omit resources to support administrators.
- 1.3 Lesson-Level Design: Materials do not support educators in effective lesson-level implementation, offering minimal guidance or resources for instructional delivery.
- 2.1 Instructional Assessments: Materials lack clearly defined instructional assessments aligned to TEKS at varying levels of complexity. They provide inadequate guidance on assessment administration.
- 3.3 Support for Emergent Bilingual Students: Materials provide insufficient guidance on linguistic accommodations and do not adequately support emergent bilingual students or bilingual/ESL program implementation.
- 4.1 Explicit (Direct) and Systematic Phonics Instruction: Materials lack systematic, sequenced instruction in

phonics and foundational skills, with minimal daily opportunities for practice, isolated exercises, or cumulative review.

- 4.2 Daily Instructional Sequence and Routines: Materials fail to ensure daily lessons offer explicit instruction with teacher modeling, guided practice with feedback, and varied opportunities for independent student practice.
- 4.3 Ongoing Practice Opportunities: Materials do not incorporate cumulative review or intentional practice of taught phonics skills, nor do they provide ample opportunities for isolated and connected practice.
- 4.5 Progress Monitoring and Student Support: Materials offer limited data-management tools and provide minimal guidance on tracking individual and whole-class progress, progress monitoring frequency, or strategies to accelerate learning.
- 5.B.1 Oral Language Development: Materials lack explicit and systematic guidance for developing oral language, providing insufficient opportunities for communication, active listening, and discussion.
- 5.C.2 Letter-Sound Correspondence: Materials do not explicitly introduce letter-sound relationships, and fail to offer corrective feedback or sufficient activities for students to practice decoding in both isolated and connected text.
- 5.D.1 Phonological Awareness: Materials do not provide a systematic progression

of phonological awareness skills, lack explicit instruction, and fail to offer enough corrective feedback and practice activities aligned with grade-level TEKS.

- 5.D.2 Phonemic Awareness: Materials do not follow a systematic sequence for phonemic awareness, lack explicit instruction, and fail to connect phonemic awareness to the alphabetic principle with sufficient practice opportunities.
- 5.E.1 Sound-Spelling Patterns: Materials do not offer a systematic introduction of sound-spelling patterns, and provide inadequate instructional guidance or activities for developing and reinforcing these patterns.
- 5.E.2 Regular and Irregular High-Frequency Words: Materials fail to systematically introduce regular and irregular high-frequency words, and lack explicit instruction and sufficient activities for decoding and encoding these words.
- 5.E.3 Decoding and Encoding One-Syllable or Multisyllabic Words: Materials do not introduce syllable types or division principles, and fail to offer varied activities for decoding and encoding one-syllable and multisyllabic words.
- 5.E.4 Morphological Awareness: Materials provide insufficient instruction on grade-level morphemes and fail to offer varied activities for decoding, encoding, and comprehending morphemes in text.

## Summary

Pioneer Valley Phonics Launch is an English phonics K–3 product. The curriculum provides a set of lessons designed to support small group instruction with direct and explicit instruction that is aligned with TEKS and ELPS. The components aligned to the grade one TEKS are titled “On Our Way” Set 2, “Building Up” Set 1, and “Moving On: Set 1.” The curriculum is described as “flexible” and is designed to be taught four days a week, with 10-12 minutes allocated for each lesson. There is also an option to combine two lessons into one day. In addition to the core materials, there is a detailed program guide, Online Professional Learning Resources, and the Phonics Launch Downloadable Resources. These include assessment pieces, letters that can be shared with families, and exemplar videos of instruction using the curriculum.

Campus and instructional leaders should consider the following:

- Scripting for the program is direct and explicit, however the scope and sequence are not systematic. Students are often exposed to skills and parts of the alphabetic code they have yet to be instructed on or be able to practice.
- The program includes a uniform diagnostic assessment to be used at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year. There are no summative assessments in the program. The materials reference a progress monitoring piece at the end of each lesson, but these are stand-alone activities that can be used for formative assessment. There are no aligned and consistent progress monitoring tools, and there is no guidance on how to act on student progress monitoring results.
- The materials lack a variety of activities for students to engage in. The materials cyclically repeat the same activities with a different phonics focus for the duration of the program.
- A robust curriculum handbook provides broad guidance for obstacles or scenarios educators may encounter. Some of the tools referenced in the Handbook would require additional purchasing from the publisher. No guidance is lesson-specific or embedded in the daily lesson materials.

## Intentional Instructional Design

1.1	Course-Level Design	13/15
1.1a	<a href="#">Materials include a scope and sequence outlining the TEKS, ELPS, concepts, and knowledge taught in the course.</a>	4/5
1.1b	<a href="#">Materials include suggested pacing (pacing guide/calendar) to support effective implementation for various instructional calendars (e.g., varying numbers of instructional days – 165, 180, 210).</a>	1/2
1.1c	<a href="#">Materials include an explanation for the rationale of unit order as well as how concepts to be learned connect throughout the course.</a>	2/2
1.1d	<a href="#">Materials include guidance, protocols, and/or templates for unit and lesson internalization.</a>	2/2
1.1e	<a href="#">Materials include resources and guidance to support administrators and instructional coaches with implementing the materials as designed.</a>	4/4

The materials include a scope and sequence outlining the TEKS, concepts, and knowledge taught in the course. Materials do not include a scope and sequence outlining the ELPS. Materials include suggested pacing (pacing guide/calendar) to support effective implementation. Materials do not include suggested pacing (pacing guide/calendar) to support effective implementation for various instructional calendars (e.g., varying numbers of instructional days – 165, 180, 210). Materials include an explanation for the rationale of unit order as well as how concepts to be learned connect throughout the course. Materials include guidance, protocols, and/or templates for unit and lesson internalization. Materials include resources and guidance to support administrators and instructional coaches with implementing the materials as designed.

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a scope-and-sequence outlining the TEKS, ELPS, concepts, and knowledge taught in the course.**

- "Appendix A" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* includes ten scopes and sequences. These scopes and sequences outline the book number, book title, sight word, and phonics focus for each kit in the program. The kits include "Ready, Set, Go," "On Our Way," "Building Up," "Moving On," and "Lifting Off."
- The scope and sequences in "Appendix B" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* display the corresponding grade levels for each of the ten scopes and sequences. These scopes and sequences show TEKS alignment for all lessons within the program. The materials include a note at the bottom of the scope and sequence charts, which states, "This chart is organized by grade-level standards. However, Phonics Launch is designed to be a flexible program and can be used across grade levels." The "On Our Way" Set 2, "Building Up" Set 1, and "Moving On" Set 1 scope and sequences display grade 1 TEKS. The scope and sequences do not outline the materials with the ELPS.

- Table 4-3 in "Chapter 4" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* aligns the phonics activities in each lesson to the TEKS. The table provides the TEKS alignment for the thirteen phonics activities embedded throughout the lessons, for grades K through 3. For example, the "Breaking Words" activity aligns with grade 1 TEKS 1.2B.i, 1.2.B.ii, and 1.2.B.iii.

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**Materials include suggested pacing (pacing guide/calendar) to support effective implementation for various instructional calendars (e.g., varying numbers of instructional days–165, 180, and 210).**

- The materials include a scope and sequence that serves as the pacing guide. The *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides guidance on the number of days the lessons should take. For example, the "Lesson Overview" Section states, "The curriculum is flexible and features 10 to 12-minute lessons that span across four days." It also provides guidance that teachers can choose to monitor progress on day four or add a day five into each lesson.
- "Appendix B" in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* shows 66 lessons for grade 1. Following the four-day suggested model results in 264 instructional days.
- The materials do not include pacing calendars to support the effective implementation of various instructional calendars. However, they give guidance, such as "two lessons can be combined for a two-day lesson plan of 20 minutes each day."

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**Materials include an explanation for the rationale of unit order as well as how concepts to be learned connect throughout the course.**

- The materials include a rationale for unit order in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* in a graphic titled, "How Phonics Launch Targets Foundational Skills." This graphic in Table 41 of "Chapter 4" details how the "scope and sequences are built on a phonics continuum and structured within the gradual release of responsibility framework."
- Table 41 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* also shows each phonics element and where it is taught throughout the program from grade K through grade 3. The materials describe how the structure design leverages skills that students have already acquired.
- The "Lesson Framework" for "Ready, Set, Go," Lessons 13- 48, and all other Phonics Launch kits states that "students learn and practice phonemic awareness and phonics skills and then transfer those skills directly to reading and writing."
- The materials include an explanation for the unit order that details how the materials align with the systematic nature of phonics instruction. The introduction to "Building Up" Set 1 "Lesson Overview" under the heading of "Welcome" states, "Phonics Launch is a literacy curriculum that provides carefully sequenced, impactful phonics instruction. A systematic progression of explicit phonological awareness and phonics activities follows a carefully developed scope and sequence to ensure students have a strong foundation of basic and complex sound-letter links."

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**Materials include guidance, protocols, and/or templates for unit and lesson internalization.**

- The materials include guidance on unit internalization. "Getting Started Cards" for each unit include a scope and sequence, lesson overviews, and needed materials. The lesson description gives a series of steps to advise teachers on how to proceed through the lesson.
- The "Procedures" section in Chapter 4 of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* references the lesson layout and explicitly explains and differentiates between teacher and student actions in each activity. It includes visuals of materials, teaching tips, and a QR code teachers can use to access model videos.
- The materials include guidance for lesson internalization. For example, "Chapter 4" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides directions on how to teach the different and recurring phonics activities. It also includes teacher tips, suggestions for differentiating instruction, and directions for additional materials such as "Sound Boxes" and "Picture Sorting."

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**Materials include resources and guidance to support administrators and instructional coaches with implementing the materials as designed.**

- The materials include resources to support administrators and instructional coaches in implementing the material as designed. For example, the "Phonics Launch Fidelity Implementation Checklist" supports administrators and coaches in monitoring the implementation of the product. The checklist components include scoring scale indicators of evident, work in progress, and not observed. There is also a section where observers can write notes. The checklist breaks down the components, which include logistics, Step 1 (Days 1 and 3), Step 1 (Days 2 and 4), Step 2 (Days 1-4), Step 3 (Days 1 and 3), and Step 3 (Days 2 and 4). The checklist provides the observer with specific things to look for throughout the lesson. For example, on Day 3 (Days 2 and 4): Applying Phonics, one indicator states, "Teacher is correctly facilitating dictated sentence(s)."
- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides guidance to support coaches with implementing the materials as designed. The materials guide coaches to use the "Phonics Launch Fidelity Implementation Checklist" "When observing lessons to ensure successful implementation of them." The materials include explicit guidance for coaches and administrators on the Phonics Launch Fidelity Implementation Checklist. For example, it provides coaches with what to do before, during, and after observing a lesson. The materials also provide guidance on what to expect when doing an informal walkthrough versus a formal observation. It also provides the next steps of what the administrator should do after an observation session.



## Intentional Instructional Design

1.2	Unit-Level Design	4/4
1.2a	<a href="#">Materials include comprehensive unit overviews that provide the background content knowledge and academic vocabulary necessary to effectively teach the concepts in the unit.</a>	2/2
1.2b	<a href="#">Materials contain supports for families in both Spanish and English for each unit with suggestions on supporting the progress of their student.</a>	2/2

**The materials include comprehensive unit overviews that provide the background content knowledge and academic vocabulary necessary to effectively teach the concepts in the unit. Materials contain supports for families in both Spanish and English for each unit with suggestions on supporting the progress of their student.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include comprehensive unit overviews that provide the background content knowledge and academic vocabulary necessary to effectively teach the concepts in the unit.**

- The materials include comprehensive unit overviews in the "Getting Started Cards" for each kit, which provide the scope and sequence, sight words, materials needed, and phonics focus for each lesson. This component of the materials provides detailed instructions for the teacher on each activity and insights into how each lesson component is connected. For example, in the "Getting Started Card" for "On Our Way," Set 2, the "Step 3" component outlines the focus of applying phonics. This section states, "In this step, students utilize and transfer the phonemic awareness and phonics skills they have been working on to reading and writing text." The materials provide six activities students will complete in this kit to support this concept. The materials describe how to complete these activities and their location in the kit sequence.
- Under the "Welcome" section of the "Getting Started Card," the materials briefly describe the kit's focus. For example, on the "Getting Started Card" for "On Our Way," Set 2, the materials state, "On Our Way provides the beginning reader with opportunities to practice decoding CVC words, words with initial and final digraphs, and simple words with initial blends." At the bottom of this section, a QR code and web address provide access to more digital resources. These resources include instructional videos for each part of the lesson and an "Academic Language Glossary."

**Materials contain supports for families in both Spanish and English for each unit with suggestions on supporting the progress of their student.**

- The materials provide five letters for caregivers with suggestions on supporting student progress. There is one letter for each of the five kits. The "On Our Way," "Building Up," and "Moving On" kits correlate with grade 1 standards. The top of the letter provides the learning



objectives for the upcoming lessons. The bottom of the letters include activities to reinforce the learning. These include rereading, scavenger hunt, sight word tic-tac-toe, drawing and labeling pictures of items containing the phonics pattern, and writing a sentence. The materials provide the letters in English and Spanish.

- The materials provide "Phonics Launch at Home" letters to be sent home after introducing a new phonics focus. The guide instructs the teacher to fill out the take-home letter with the current phonics focus, review phonics focus, sight words, dictated sentences, phonics storybook, and activities. The letter includes a list of activities for the teacher to highlight for students to complete, or they can allow parents to select the activities they want to complete. The letter includes activity descriptions on the back to assist parents. The materials only provide the letter in English.

## Intentional Instructional Design

1.3	Lesson-Level Design	26/34
1.3a	<a href="#">Materials include comprehensive, structured, detailed lesson plans that include daily objectives, questions, tasks, materials, and instructional assessments required to meet the content and language standards of the lesson.</a>	24/30
1.3b	<a href="#">Materials include a lesson overview outlining the suggested timing for each lesson component.</a>	1/1
1.3c	<a href="#">Materials include a lesson overview listing the teacher and student materials necessary to effectively deliver the lesson.</a>	0/2
1.3d	<a href="#">Materials include guidance on the effective use of lesson materials for extended practice (e.g., homework, extension, enrichment).</a>	1/1

**The materials include comprehensive, structured, detailed lesson plans that include questions, tasks, materials, and instructional assessments required to meet the content and language standards of the lesson. Materials do not include comprehensive, structured, detailed lesson plans that include daily objectives needed to meet the content and language standards of the lesson. Materials include a lesson overview outlining the suggested timing for each lesson component. Materials do not include a lesson overview listing the teacher and student materials necessary to effectively deliver the lesson. Materials include guidance on the effective use of lesson materials for extended practice (e.g., homework, extension, enrichment).**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include comprehensive, structured, detailed lesson plans that include daily objectives, questions, tasks, materials, and instructional assessments required to meet the content and language standards of the lesson.**

- The "Phonics Launch Lesson Cards" provide structured daily lesson plans with the lesson focus, questions, tasks, and materials aligned to the content standards. They also include explicit instructional routines to model and teach the skills. For example, in "Building Up," Set 1, Lesson 9, students complete a sight word activity. Guidance for the activity includes, "Before we read the book, we are going to learn an important word that we will see in many stories. The word is great. Have students repeat the word. Now model for students by saying the word, counting the sounds, and mapping the letters."
- The materials provide comprehensive, structured, detailed lesson plans that include tasks and materials required to meet the content and language standards. For example, on the "Building Up," Set 1, Lesson 10 card, the Day 2 activity of "Sight Word Review" has students "read previously taught sight words on cards from the Sight Word Box Set and/ or write the word began and two previously taught sight words on dry-erase boards."
- The materials provide instructional assessments aligned with the content and language standards. For example, on the "Moving On," Set 1, Lesson 8 card, the progress monitoring guidance states, "Dictate three words containing *three-letter blends squ* or *str* and ask

students to write the words. Have them write the new sight word and two previously taught sight words. Then have students reread this book and previously read *Phonics Storybooks* while you observe and take anecdotal notes." The assessment aligns with the four-day lesson phonics focus of three-letter blends "squ" and "str."

- The comprehensive, structured, detailed lesson plans provide questions that align with the content and language standards. For example, in "Moving On," Set 1, Lesson 12, students repeat words with the diphthong vowel team "ew" and listen for the sound at the end. A provided question includes, "What sound do you hear at the end of these words?"
- The materials do not provide daily objectives within the lesson plan but include the lesson focus at the top of each lesson card. For example, the phonics focus on the "Building Up" Set 1, Lesson 15 card states, "Long e Vowel Teams ee and ea."

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**Materials include a lesson overview outlining the suggested timing for each lesson component.**

- "Chapter 2" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides a lesson framework and instructional outline with suggested times for each lesson section. For example, for "Ready, Set, Go" Lessons 13-48, and all other phonics Launch Kits, Step 1 should take 1-2 minutes, Step 2 should take 2-3 minutes, and Step 3 should take 5-7 minutes.
- Under the "Welcome" heading on the "Getting Started Cards," it states, "The curriculum is flexible and features short 10–12-minute mini-lessons that can be stand-alone or supplementary and can easily be modified for whole-group instruction."
- The materials do not provide an overview of the suggested timing for each lesson component on the lesson cards.

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**Materials include a lesson overview listing the teacher and student materials necessary to effectively deliver the lesson.**

- The materials do not provide a lesson overview listing the teacher and student materials necessary to effectively deliver the lesson. The materials provide a list of materials required for each kit on the "Getting Started Cards." These cards display a materials needed section. It provides details such as, "In addition to the *Phonics Storybooks* and lesson cards, you will be using a variety of teaching tools. The material required will vary with each lesson and are not included in the Phonics Launch Kits." The materials are available for purchase on the company website.
- The materials needed for each individual lesson are pictured next to each activity to provide a visual support for teachers to locate the materials. However, the materials do not provide a lesson overview listing the teacher and student materials.
- Examples of required materials for "Building Up," Set 1, include "Sight word box set, sound box/analogy chart card, digraph-blend card, vowel chart card, writing journals, plastic write-on sleeves, dry-erase boards and markers with erasers, magnetic dry-erase easel, magnetic letters with storage box, and magnetic letter trays." This list does not designate which are teacher and which are student materials.

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**Materials include guidance on the effective use of lesson materials for extended practice (e.g., homework, extension, enrichment).**

- The Phonics Launch at Home" letter provides activity ideas to support your class phonics instruction at home and reinforce new and review concepts." Materials also include guidance on assigning activities for students to practice at home. Teachers can assign decodable stories to the *Digital Reader*, which students can access at home.
- Table 3-2 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides an if-then chart with suggestions on enriching instruction if students master phonemic awareness concepts. For example, if students master adding sounds to the end of a word, it suggests, "Have the student add a part or phoneme to the beginning of the word." Table 4-4 provides the same guidance for phonics, and Table 5-2 for teaching reading concepts.

## Progress Monitoring

2.1	Instructional Assessments	20/24
2.1a	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of instructional assessments at the unit and lesson level (including diagnostic, formative, and summative) that vary in types of tasks and questions.</a>	12/12
2.1b	<a href="#">Materials include the definition and intended purpose for the types of instructional assessments included.</a>	2/2
2.1c	<a href="#">Materials include teacher guidance to ensure consistent and accurate administration of instructional assessments.</a>	2/2
2.1d	<a href="#">Diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments are aligned to the TEKS and objectives of the course, unit, or lesson.</a>	4/6
2.1e	<a href="#">Instructional assessments include standards-aligned items at varying levels of complexity.</a>	0/2

**The materials include a variety of instructional assessments at the unit and lesson level (including diagnostic, formative, and summative) that vary in types of tasks and questions. Materials include the definition and intended purpose for the types of instructional assessments included. Materials include teacher guidance to ensure consistent and accurate administration of instructional assessments. Formative assessments are aligned to the TEKS and objectives of the course, unit, or lesson. Diagnostic and summative assessments are aligned to the objectives of the course, unit, or lesson. Diagnostic and summative assessments are not aligned to the TEKS of the course, unit, or lesson. Instructional assessments do not include standards-aligned items at varying levels of complexity.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a variety of instructional assessments at the unit and lesson level (including diagnostic, formative, and summative) that vary in types of tasks and questions.**

- The materials include a diagnostic assessment, the Phonics Survey, for teacher administration in the Phonics Launch Handbook. The Phonics Survey determines which level a student should enter the program. This survey includes a letter-sound assessment, decoding inventory, and encoding inventory. It directs teachers to collect quantitative and qualitative data on letter knowledge and sounds, decoding, and encoding. Teachers give this assessment at the beginning of the year but also can administer it at the middle and end of the year.
- The materials include formative assessments at the lesson level. Each weekly lesson card contains a progress monitoring activity, which serves as a formative assessment for the weekly objective. These assessments vary in types of tasks and questions. For example, in "On Our Way," Set 2, Lesson 5, students encode three words dictated by the teacher with the short "u" sound and write three sight words. The student then rereads a previous *Phonics Storybook* while the teacher takes anecdotal notes.

- The materials include summative and formative assessments at the unit level that vary in types of tasks and questions. For example, the Moving On, Unit 4.b assessment assesses students on phonological/phonemic awareness skills, decoding of words containing the phonics skill and sight words, and encoding words, sentences, and sight words.

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**Materials include the definition and intended purpose for the types of instructional assessments included.**

- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides the purpose of the "Phonics Survey." The purpose is to "help determine a starting place in the lesson sequence and provide information to guide you in supporting individual students during instruction." The materials do not explicitly name the assessment as diagnostic, but that is its utility in the program. The materials explain that students' performance determines if they take additional assessments to determine small group placement.
- The materials explain in the handbook that the "Letter-Sound Assessment" helps determine students' specific letter and sound knowledge. It explains this knowledge is essential in building strong foundational knowledge. The handbook indicates the purpose of the "Decoding Inventory": "To identify the appropriate starting place along the continuum for each student..."
- Each weekly lesson card contains a progress monitoring activity. The handbook explains that these assessments aim to determine the next steps for students in the program.
- The Phonics Launch Handbook provides assessment definitions in the Phonics Launch Assessments table. For example, Diagnostic/Progress monitoring is defined as, "Assesses phonic knowledge, phoneme-grapheme identification, and matching, decoding/encoding skills. Use the beginning of the year placement and mid/end of year as a diagnostic to track progress/determine need for intervention. Can be used for progress monitoring."

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**Materials include teacher guidance to ensure consistent and accurate administration of instructional assessments.**

- "Chapter 1" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* contains teacher guidance, the necessary materials, and specific procedures for administering the "Phonics Survey" and "Decoding Inventory" assessments. The handbook provides scripted language to ensure consistent and accurate assessment administration, and the materials provide specific guidelines on when to move students on to the next assessment.
- The materials also provide information on administering assessments using the *Digital Reader*, an add-on supplemental technology resource.
- "Chapter 7" in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides teacher guidance to ensure consistent and accurate progress monitoring. The recording form provides detailed steps and guidance for the procedure. It also offers teaching tips for adjusting administration to ensure data accuracy if a student struggles with the assessment.

**Diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments are aligned to the TEKS and objectives of the course, unit, or lesson.**

- Table 3-1 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* shows the "Phonemic Awareness Alignment" to the TEKS. It includes the TEKS for each phonemic awareness activity in the program for each grade level. The alignment is for grades K-2.
- The *Phonics Launch Handbook*, "Chapter 1," subsection "Administering the Phonics Survey" details how the diagnostic assessment aligns with and supports the curriculum's objective. However, the TEKS are not aligned.
- The "Phonics Survey" is a diagnostic assessment that directly aligns with the materials. It contains 11 matrices that show the lesson aligned with each section of the decoding accuracy and encoding accuracy portions based on data collected from the student.
- Every lesson ends with a formative progress monitoring activity. The materials do not provide a TEKS correlation, but the assessment items align with the weekly objective. A correlation chart in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* ties each week's lessons to TEKS.
- The materials provide summative assessments aligned to the objectives of the course. The summative assessments assess phonological/phonemic awareness skills, sight words, encoding, and decoding over the focus objectives throughout the unit. The materials do not provide TEKS alignment for the assessments.

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**Instructional assessments include standards-aligned items at varying levels of complexity.**

- The *Phonics Launch Handbook*, "Chapter 1," subsection "Administering the Phonics Survey," details how the assessment is aligned with and supports the curriculum's objective. However, there is no reference to or alignment with the TEKS.
- The activities and "Progress Monitoring" instructions at the bottom of the lesson card informally assess the objectives for each week's lesson. These objectives are not identified by TEKS in the lesson; however, each objective for the week is tied to TEKS. Assessment items do not exist at varying levels of complexity.



## Progress Monitoring

2.2	Data Analysis and Progress Monitoring	4/4
2.2a	<a href="#">Instructional assessments and scoring information provide guidance for interpreting and responding to student performance.</a>	2/2
2.2b	<a href="#">Materials provide guidance for the use of included tasks and activities to respond to student trends in performance on assessments.</a>	1/1
2.2c	<a href="#">Materials include tools for students to track their own progress and growth.</a>	1/1

**The instructional assessments and scoring information provide guidance for interpreting and responding to student performance. Materials provide guidance for the use of included tasks and activities to respond to student trends in performance assessments. Materials include tools for students to track their own progress and growth.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Instructional assessments and scoring information provide guidance for interpreting and responding to student performance.**

- The "Phonics Survey" uses decoding and encoding accuracy data to identify a student's strengths, weaknesses, and gaps. 11 matrices place the student in a lesson progression sequence corresponding to and responding to their data.
- According to the program's diagnostic assessment results, the materials guide teachers in placing students in the appropriate instructional groups. The materials state, "Depending on how the student scores, place them or move on to the additional inventories as needed according to the matrix. Another option is to pinpoint the gaps between the encoding and decoding skills and choose the lessons that will fill in those missing skills." In the *Phonics Launch Handbook*, the "Chapter 1" "Phonics Survey Placement" provides teachers with detailed guidance on scoring administered assessments and interpreting the scores for placement in instructional groups. "If a student can name more than 40 letters and at least 8 of the 26 sounds, then move on to administering the Decoding and Encoding Inventories."
- "Chapter 7" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* addresses progress monitoring. Table 7-1 "Using Progress Monitoring Data" guides teachers in responding if a student has yet to achieve proficiency in encoding and/or decoding. There is guidance for students who have achieved proficiency and those who have not. Additionally, the guidance separates into whole-group and small-group support opportunities.
- The materials state, "Ongoing progress monitoring is an essential step when teaching students in small groups. Students will gain control of different skills at different rates and times. Because of this, groups should be flexible, as students may move in and out of groups. Therefore, the Progress Monitoring section at the end of each Phonics Launch lesson is a critical part of the lesson framework."

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**Materials provide guidance for the use of included tasks and activities to respond to student trends in performance on assessments.**

- "Chapter 1" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* includes activities for "Pre-Alphabetic" students. The "Procedures" for the "Letter Sound Assessment" direct teachers to use these activities "if a student is controlling less than 20 letter names and/or only a few sounds." The activities address phonemic awareness, phonics, comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, and writing.
- The "Phonics Survey" diagnostic assessment provides 11 placement matrices, each containing a prescribed lesson sequence and tasks that respond to students' performance on the diagnostic assessment.
- Table 3-2 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides target and specific instruction moves for the teacher to use in response to student trends in assessment performance regarding phonemic awareness. For example, if a student struggles with blending compound words or syllables, it is recommended that the teacher try using hand motions or singing the parts of the word. It suggests that students who master this skill should practice blending onsets and rimes.

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**Materials include tools for students to track their own progress and growth.**

- The *Phonics Launch Resource* website provides a "Student Tracker" which students use to track their progress. The student data sheet allows students to track their progress on progress monitoring assessments. The student-friendly form provides graphs for students to track their scores for retelling, fluency, phonics, and writing sight words. Students can track six lessons on one page.

## Supports for All Learners

3.1	Differentiation and Scaffolds	8/8
3.1a	<a href="#">Materials include teacher guidance for differentiated instruction, activities, and/or paired (scaffolded) lessons for students who have not yet reached proficiency on grade-level content and skills.</a>	3/3
3.2b	<a href="#">Materials include pre-teaching or embedded supports for unfamiliar vocabulary and references in text (e.g., figurative language, idioms, academic language). (T/S)</a>	2/2
3.1c	<a href="#">Materials include teacher guidance for differentiated instruction, enrichment, and extension activities for students who have demonstrated proficiency in grade-level content and skills.</a>	3/3

**The materials include teacher guidance for differentiated instruction, activities, and/or paired (scaffolded) lessons for students who have not yet reached proficiency on grade-level content and skills. Materials include pre-teaching and or embedded supports for unfamiliar vocabulary and references in text (e.g., figurative language, idioms, academic language). Materials include teacher guidance for differentiated instruction, enrichment, and extension activities for students who have demonstrated proficiency in grade-level content and skills.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include teacher guidance for differentiated instruction, activities, and/or paired (scaffolded) lessons for students who have not yet reached proficiency on grade-level content and skills.**

- The materials do not advise placing students into instructional groups by grade level but instead by the skills they have attained. Many units align to multiple grade levels, thus being utilized to respond to the skills students need to master.
- "Chapter 1" in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides a "Placement Guide" for teachers to form differentiated instructional small groups using the diagnostic assessment. The materials suggest considering what stage of word reading development students align with when analyzing test results and grouping students.
- The materials provide multiple sources for students needing more foundational skills practice. For example, Table 3-2 in the handbook provides guidance for differentiating phonemic awareness activities within the lesson. The table uses an if-then format to match teacher observations to student behaviors to provide corrective feedback and lesson differentiation. The materials provide scaffolds for letter sound identification, letter sorting, blending, segmenting, adding/deleting, and substituting.

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**Materials include pre-teaching or embedded supports for unfamiliar vocabulary and references in text (e.g., figurative language, idioms, academic language). (T/S)**

- The *Phonics Launch* program website provides vocabulary scope and sequences for each unit. The materials list each book's knowledge-building/story words and procedures for introducing vocabulary words before reading. The procedure prompts the teacher to provide a student-friendly definition, connect the word to something familiar, describe the word's usage in the text, and have students orally use the word in a sentence.
- The materials provide graphic organizers to support students' vocabulary development. Three graphic organizers, "Vocabulary 4 Square," "Vocabulary Builder," and "Word Connections," are available for download.
- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides guidance on conducting the "Book Introduction" routine within the lessons. These procedures support vocabulary development. For example, the last step states, "Discuss new vocabulary and unfamiliar concepts to build background knowledge as needed."

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**Materials include teacher guidance for differentiated instruction, enrichment, and extension activities for students who have demonstrated proficiency in grade-level content and skills.**

- The materials include teacher guidance for extension activities for students who demonstrate proficiency in grade-level skills. Table 3-2 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides ways to differentiate instruction in phonemic awareness based on observational data. It utilizes an if-then formatted chart to match teacher observations of student behaviors to corrective feedback and lesson differentiation ideas. For example, if students successfully segment words by onset and rime, have students segment words into phonemes.
- The materials include teacher guidance on enriching instruction for students who have demonstrated proficiency in grade-level skills. Table 4-4 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides ways to differentiate phonics instructions. It utilizes an if-then formatted chart to match teacher observations of student behaviors to corrective feedback and lesson differentiation ideas. For example, if students successfully write words using the correct letters for each sound, then have students create and write an additional word containing the phonic element.
- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* recommends frequent regrouping of instructional groups to ensure that instruction meets the needs of all students. Students receive different levels of instruction depending on their assessment and observation data.

## Supports for All Learners

3.2	Instructional Methods	13/13
3.2a	<a href="#">Materials include prompts and guidance to support the teacher in modeling, explaining, and communicating the concept(s) to be learned explicitly (directly).</a>	6/6
3.2b	<a href="#">Materials include teacher guidance and recommendations for effective lesson delivery and facilitation using a variety of instructional approaches.</a>	4/4
3.2c	<a href="#">Materials support multiple types of practice (e.g., guided, independent, collaborative) and include guidance for teachers and recommended structures (e.g., whole group, small group, individual) to support effective implementation.</a>	3/3

**The materials include prompts and guidance to support the teacher in modeling, explaining, and communicating the concept(s) to be learned explicitly (directly). Materials include teacher guidance and recommendations for effective lesson delivery and facilitation using a variety of instructional approaches. Materials support multiple types of practice (e.g. guided, independent, collaborative) and include guidance for teachers and recommended structures (e.g., whole group, small group, individual) to support effective implementation.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include prompts and guidance to support the teacher in modeling, explaining, and communicating the concept(s) to be learned explicitly (directly).**

- The materials include prompts to support teachers in communicating, explaining, and modeling the concepts directly and explicitly. In "Building Up," Set 1, Lesson 11, Day 1, Step 1, the teacher says, "I will say two words, and we will listen to the long vowel sound in each one. If the sounds are the same, put your thumb up. If the sounds are different, put your thumb down." The materials prompt the teacher to model the first pair. This explicit guidance for the teacher is provided consistently throughout all lessons.
- The materials provide guidance in modeling concepts. For example, the *Phonics Launch Handbook* includes detailed guidance for all routines within the lessons. A QR code in the "Table of Contents" provides access to professional learning videos on the *Phonics Launch Resources and Videos Website*. These videos provide explicit instruction on how to teach each lesson component.
- The materials include prompts and guidance to support teachers in modeling. For example, in "Building Up," Set 1, Lesson 15, Day 1, students learn the new sight word, "keep." The materials state, "Now model for students by saying the word, counting the sounds, and mapping the letters." After the teacher models this, students make the word. The graphic provided for this routine includes steps such as "Say the Word, Count the Sounds: 3, Map the Letters."

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**Materials include teacher guidance and recommendations for effective lesson delivery and facilitation using a variety of instructional approaches.**

- In the Introduction to *Phonics Launch*, the publisher explains the variety of instructional approaches. "Multimodal letter learning and phonics tools foster vibrant student learning experiences. The lessons provide differentiated instruction in phonemic awareness, alphabets, phonics, decoding, and encoding—all critical elements in a science-based reading program."
- The materials guide and recommend effective lesson facilitation by offering active student participation, manipulatives, and engagement opportunities. For example, in "On Our Way" Set 2, Lesson 3, students use magnetic letters to create and change words based on teacher directions.
- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* includes guidance and recommendations for effective lesson delivery in small groups but also provides instructions for converting to a whole-group format.
- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* includes a detailed instructional outline of each lesson's four days. The guidance lists the lesson component, teacher actions, student actions, and the time allotted. For example, students develop phonics skills in "Step 2" each day. This step takes two to three minutes. It states, "Students practice the week's phonics skill using engaging activities that combine multiple modalities of learning." During this component, the teacher provides corrective feedback.

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**Materials support multiple types of practice (e.g., guided, independent, collaborative) and include guidance for teachers and recommended structures (e.g., whole group, small group, individual) to support effective implementation.**

- The materials recommend delivering instruction in small groups. The *Phonics Launch Handbook* states, "The power of working with students in a small group is the opportunity to provide individual attention. While students are grouped together based on similar skills and stages of literacy development, you will still find a range of responses for each student." The *Phonics Launch Handbook* also gives suggestions on how to implement whole-group instruction.
- Materials support guided, independent, and collaborative structures. During the "New Sight Word" component of the lesson, the teacher guides students through the routine of learning a new word. The teacher models saying the word, counting the sounds, and mapping the letters before students attempt this. Throughout the week, students read independently using soft voices as the teacher works with individuals. During the "Picture Sorting" activity, students take turns saying the picture, identifying the first sound, identifying the correct letter, and placing the Word Study card under the correct letter.

## Supports for All Learners

3.3	Supports for Emergent Bilingual Students	0/11
3.3a	<a href="#">Materials include teacher guidance on providing linguistic accommodations for various levels of language proficiency [as defined by the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS)], which are designed to engage students in using increasingly more academic language.</a>	0/2
3.3b	<a href="#">Materials include implementation guidance to support teachers in effectively using the materials in state-approved bilingual/ESL programs.</a>	0/1
3.3c	<a href="#">Materials include embedded guidance for teachers to support emergent bilingual students in developing academic vocabulary, increasing comprehension, building background knowledge, and making cross-linguistic connections through oral and written discourse.</a>	0/8
3.3d	<a href="#">If designed for dual language immersion (DLI) programs, materials include resources that outline opportunities to address metalinguistic transfer from English to the partner language.</a>	Not scored

**The materials do not include teacher guidance on providing linguistic accommodations for various levels of language proficiency [as defined by the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS)], which are designed to engage students in using increasingly more academic language. Materials do not include implementation guidance to support teachers in effectively using the materials in state-approved bilingual/ESL programs. Materials do not include embedded guidance for teachers to support emergent bilingual students in developing academic vocabulary, increasing comprehension, building background knowledge, and making cross-linguistic connections through oral and written discourse.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include teacher guidance on providing linguistic accommodations for various levels of language proficiency [as defined by the English Language Proficiency Standards (ELPS)], which are designed to engage students in using increasingly more academic language.**

- The materials do not provide teacher guidance on providing linguistic accommodations for various levels of language proficiency to engage students in increasing academic language. However, they do include general tips in the *Phonics Launch Handbook*.
- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides general guidance for all lessons and grade levels. For example, "To support oral language during the book discussion, provide sentence starters to assist EL students with [forming] complete sentences. For additional support, have students reference a specific page with an illustration or a photograph and allow them to use the picture support as a scaffold while discussing the book." The guidance does not align with the levels of language proficiency defined by the ELPS.



**Materials include implementation guidance to support teachers in effectively using the materials in state-approved bilingual/ESL programs.**

- The materials do not include strategic and consistent implementation guidance for state-approved bilingual/ESL programs. However, they include general guidance for teachers to support emergent bilingual students. For example, "Chapter 9" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* suggests, "If students struggle decoding words with previously taught or current phonics elements, then have them make a word out of magnetic letters and demonstrate how to break it into parts."

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**Materials include embedded guidance for teachers to support emergent bilingual students in developing academic vocabulary, increasing comprehension, building background knowledge, and making cross-linguistic connections through oral and written discourse.**

- The materials do not include embedded and consistent guidance for teachers to support emergent bilingual students in developing vocabulary, increasing comprehension, building background knowledge, and making cross-linguistic connections through oral and written discourse. The materials include general guidance in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* for emergent bilingual students, but it is intended to apply to all students developing foundational language skills. For example, to support students with oral language and comprehension during a book discussion, it suggests having students use pages from the book as a reference and providing them with sentence starters.

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**If designed for dual language immersion (DLI) programs, materials include resources that outline opportunities to address metalinguistic transfer from English to the partner language.**

- This curriculum is not designed for dual language immersion programs.

## Phonics Rule Compliance

4.1	Explicit (Direct) and Systematic Phonics Instruction	8/9
4.1a	<a href="#">Materials include systematic and sequenced instruction of phonics (sound-symbol correspondence) and foundational skills.</a>	4/4
4.1b	<a href="#">Materials include explicit (direct) and intentional daily opportunities for phonics (sound-symbol correspondence) and foundational skills.</a>	1/2
4.1c	<a href="#">Materials include practice of phonics skills both in isolation and through decodable texts.</a>	2/2
4.1d	<a href="#">Materials include opportunities for cumulative review of previously taught skills.</a>	1/1

The materials include systematic and sequenced instruction of phonics (sound-symbol correspondence) and foundational skills. Materials include intentional daily opportunities for phonics (sound-symbol correspondence). Materials do not include explicit (direct) daily opportunities for phonics (sound-symbol correspondence). Materials include practice of phonics skills both in isolation and through decodable texts. Materials include opportunities for cumulative review of previously taught skills.

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include systematic and sequenced instruction of phonics (sound-symbol correspondence) and foundational skills.**

- Materials include systematic and sequenced instruction of foundational skills. Students engage in phonemic awareness activities on days 1 and 3 of each lesson card. Table 3-1 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* outlines the phonemic awareness alignment for activities in grades K - 2. For example, at the beginning of *Building Up*, "Set 1," students identify sounds at the end of words through the "Identifying Sounds and Letters" activity. By the end of the kit, students substitute sounds through the "Substituting" routine.
- The materials include systematic and sequenced instruction of phonics (sound-symbol correspondence) skills. Table 4-1 in the *In Phonics Launch Handbook* outlines the "Phonics Scope and Sequence." The materials introduce/review short vowels in the first 12 lessons, then sequence into digraphs, blends (building off knowledge of consonants), long vowels, and vowel teams.

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**Materials include explicit (direct) and intentional daily opportunities for phonics (sound-symbol correspondence) and foundational skills.**

- The materials include an intentional daily opportunity for phonics. Each lesson includes the same structure. Each activity has a suggested time limit. The activities exist under six domains in the program: 1. "Learning Letters/Phonemic Awareness" (days 1 and 3, 1–2 minutes), 2.

"Sight Word Review" (days 2 and 4, 1–2 minutes), 3. "Developing Phonics Skills" (2–3 minutes), 4. "Reading" (day 1, 5–7 minutes), 5. "Rereading" (day 3, 5–7 minutes), and 6. "Writing Skills" (days 2 and 4, 5–7 minutes). The reading and writing portions of the lesson are considered the application of phonics. Each daily lesson should take between 10-12 minutes.

- The materials do not provide explicit, direct opportunities for phonics. The phonics concepts are taught through activities and do not provide explicit explanations. For example, in *On Our Way* "Set 2, Lesson 21," to introduce the initial blend /cr/, the teacher says the words "cross, crawl, crush." The teacher says, "Now let's say these words together and listen for the sound at the beginning: cross, crawl, crush. What sounds do you hear at the beginning of these words?" The teacher points to the /cr/ on the "Digraph-Blend Card" and instructs the students to say the picture, the sounds, and the letters that spell those sounds.

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**Materials include practice of phonics skills both in isolation and through decodable texts.**

- Materials include the practice of phonics skills in isolation. For example, in *Moving On* "Set 1, Lesson 8, Day 4," students write the sentence the teacher dictates: "How did the pig get to the bank of the stream?" Students practice encoding words with the lesson focus of three-letter blends /squ/ and /str/.
- Materials include the practice of phonics skills through decodable texts. For example, in *On Our Way* "Set 1, Lesson 10, Day 1," students read *I Am a Bat* in the decodable book. Students locate words with short vowel /a/. Students read words like "at, bad, bat, bats, fan, bugs." Students learned the letters Tt, Bb, Dd, Tt, Ss, Nn, and Gg in *Ready, Set, Go* "Set 1."

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**Materials include opportunities for cumulative review of previously taught skills.**

- The materials include opportunities for cumulative review. In *Building Up* "Set 1, Lesson 24, Day 1, Step 2," students practice making words with letter magnets. The teacher instructs the students to remove the letters Aa, Bb, Ff, Gg, Ll, Oo, Rr, Ss, Tt, Ww, and Yy from their trays. The teacher instructs students to pull down the letters Gg, Rr, Aa, and Yy to read the word gray. The instructions then state, "Change the ay to ow and read the word grow." This activity continues with words "flow, blow, stow, stay." These words continue the current lesson's focus on vowel teams, including /ow/, while also reviewing vowel team /ay/ from *Building Up* "Set 1, Lesson 17."

## Phonics Rule Compliance

4.2	Daily Instructional Sequence and Routines	2/8
4.2a	<a href="#">Daily lessons include explicit (direct) instruction with teacher modeling.</a>	0/1
4.2b	<a href="#">Daily lessons include opportunities for explicit (direct) guided instruction and immediate and corrective feedback.</a>	0/3
4.2c	<a href="#">Daily lessons include a variety of opportunities for students to practice through collaborative learning and independent practice.</a>	2/4

The daily lessons do not all include explicit (direct) instruction with teacher modeling. Daily lessons do not include opportunities for explicit (direct) guided instruction and immediate and corrective feedback. Daily lessons include a variety of opportunities for students to practice through independent practice. Daily lessons do not include a variety of opportunities for students to practice through collaborative learning.

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

### Daily lessons include explicit (direct) instruction with teacher modeling.

- Daily lessons do not include explicit (direct) instruction with teacher modeling. Lessons do not provide explicit instruction with teacher modeling before students complete phonics activities. For example, the teacher instructs students to create words using magnets to introduce the initial blend /cr/ in *On Our Way* "Set 2, Lesson 21." The materials provide the teacher with exactly what to say, such as "Make the word: *crib*." The materials never instruct the teacher to model the activity or provide direct instruction on the phonics focus.
- Lessons include phonics practice using "Sound Boxes" on day four of each week. The materials include the statement, "Model how to say each word slowly, pushing a penny or chip into a box for each sound." The materials provide the teacher action but do not provide the words broken up into sounds to model.

### Daily lessons include opportunities for explicit (direct) guided instruction and immediate and corrective feedback.

- Daily lessons do not include opportunities for explicit guided phonics instruction, and the materials do not provide direct, explicit phonics instruction. During the "Applying Phonics" component of the lesson on day one of each week, students read a decodable reader. The teacher provides a brief synopsis of the story and instructs students to look through the book. After that, students talk about the story. The materials prompt the teacher to have students locate the phonics pattern. For example, in *On Our Way* "Set 2, Lesson 19, Day 1," students locate words with initial blend /sk/. Students then read the book independently.
- Daily lessons do not include opportunities for immediate and corrective feedback. The lessons do not embed guidance but provide general guidance in the *Phonics Launch*

*Handbook*. For example, Table 4-4 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides phonics differentiation with corrective feedback suggestions. For example, if a student struggles to identify the letter or produce the sound, the materials suggest students sort letters that are not visually or audibly similar.

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**Daily lessons include a variety of opportunities for students to practice through collaborative learning and independent practice.**

- Daily lessons include a variety of opportunities for students to practice independently. On days one and three of each week, students independently read the decodable text. For example, they read the decodable book *Kit and Jim Jim in On Our Way* "Set 2, Lesson 2." Also, on "Day 1," students use letter magnets to make the words "zip, lip, lit, kit, sit, six."
- Daily lessons do not include opportunities for collaborative learning. Students engage in whole-group activities such as the Identifying "Sounds and Letters" activity in *On Our Way* "Set 2, Lesson 2, Day 1." In this activity, students listen to the teacher say three words and then identify the sound in the middle of each word.

## Phonics Rule Compliance

4.3	Ongoing Practice Opportunities	5/6
4.3a	<a href="#">Materials include intentional cumulative review and practice activities throughout the curriculum.</a>	2/2
4.3b	<a href="#">Practice opportunities include only phonics skills that have been explicitly taught.</a>	0/1
4.3c	<a href="#">Decodable texts incorporate cumulative practice of taught phonics skills.</a>	1/1
4.3d	<a href="#">Lessons include an instructional focus with opportunities for practice in isolation and connected text.</a>	2/2

**The materials include intentional cumulative review and practice activities throughout the curriculum. Practice opportunities do not include only phonics skills that have been explicitly taught. Decodable texts incorporate cumulative practice of taught phonics skills. Lessons include an instructional focus with opportunities for practice in isolation and connected text.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include intentional cumulative review and practice activities throughout the curriculum.**

- The materials include intentional practice activities throughout the curriculum. For example, in *On Our Way Set 1, Lesson 10, Day 1*, students read *I Am a Bat* in the decodable book. Students read words like *at, bad, bat, bats, fan, and bugs*. Students learned the letters *t, b, d, t, s, n, and g* in *Ready, Set, Go Set 1*.
- The materials include intentional cumulative reviews throughout the curriculum. For example, in *On Our Way, Set 2* (linked below), students are introduced to the short vowel *i* in Lesson 2 and revisit this concept as a main focus in Lessons 3, 9, 11, and 12.
- The materials include intentional practice activities throughout the curriculum. For example, in Lesson 16, Day 1, students encode the words *thin, chin, shin, and ship* with magnetic letters. The lesson focuses on digraphs *ch, th, and sh*. Students previously learned the vowel *i* in Lesson 2 and consonant letters in *Ready, Set, Go, Sets 1 and 2*. The *Getting Started* card for each set provides a scope and sequence showing the phonics storybook, phonics skill, and sight words taught in each lesson. Teachers can reference the scope and sequence to see when the material previously introduced phonics skills.

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**Practice opportunities include only phonics skills that have been explicitly taught.**

- Practice opportunities include phonics skills beyond those explicitly taught. Students read decodable text that contains phonics concepts that have yet to be covered. For example, in *On Our Way, Set 2, Lesson 18*, students read the decodable book *Baby Lamb is Lost*. Students read words containing phonic patterns they learn in future lessons, such as *baby, hungry, lamb, something, eat, peach, chewed, and cheep*. The *Phonics Launch Handbook* states, "The

Phonics Storybooks have, on average, a 65–80 percent decodability factor, allowing ample phonics practice."

- For example, in *On Our Way*, Set 2, Lesson 6, students independently read the decodable reader *Wake Up, Tom*. Students read words containing unfamiliar phonics patterns, such as *wake* and *napping*. Students learn the long vowel pattern *a\_e* in *Building Up*, Set 1, Lesson 7. The scope and sequence does not include inflectional ending *-ing*.

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### **Decodable texts incorporate cumulative practice of taught phonics skills.**

- Decodable texts incorporate the cumulative practice of taught phonics skills. For example, in *On Our Way*, Set 1, Lesson 11, students read the book *Tig the Pig*. They read words such as *fed*, *help*, *did*, *pig*, *vet*, and *pen*. Students decode words using their previous knowledge of consonants and short vowels.
- For example, in *On Our Way*, Set 2, Lesson 15, students read the book *Thump in the Night*. They read words such as *they*, *thief*, *think*, *Thor*, and *thump*. Students use their previous knowledge of short vowel sounds to decode words like *thump*.

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### **Lessons include an instructional focus with opportunities for practice in isolation and connected text.**

- Lessons include an instructional focus with opportunities for practice in isolation. For example, in *Moving On* Set 1, Lesson 8, Day 4, students write the sentence the teacher dictates: "How did the pig get to the bank of the stream?" Students practice encoding words with the lesson focus of three-letter blends *squ* and *str*.
- Lessons include an instructional focus with opportunities for practice with connected text. For example, in *Moving On* Set 1, Lesson 8, Day 4, students locate three-letter blends *squ* and *str* in the book *The Pig Rescue*. Students locate three-letter blends *squ* and *stra*, in the book. Students read the book independently and decode words such as *squashed*, *squatted*, *squeaked*, *strange straw*, and *steam*. These words correlate with the lesson focus of three-letter blends *squ* and *str*.



## Phonics Rule Compliance

4.4	Assessment	7/7
4.4a	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of assessment tools that are developmentally appropriate.</a>	2/2
4.4b	<a href="#">Materials include clear, consistent directions for accurate administration of assessments.</a>	2/2
4.4c	<a href="#">Materials include progress monitoring tools that systematically and accurately measure students' acquisition of grade-level phonics skills.</a>	2/2
4.4d	<a href="#">Materials include assessment opportunities across the span of the school year aligned to progress monitoring tools.</a>	1/1

**The materials include a variety of assessment tools that are developmentally appropriate. Materials include clear, consistent directions for accurate administration of assessments. Materials include progress monitoring tools that systematically and accurately measure students' acquisition of grade-level phonics skills. Materials include assessment opportunities across the span of the school year aligned to progress monitoring tools.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

### **Materials include a variety of assessment tools that are developmentally appropriate.**

- The materials include a diagnostic assessment for formative progress monitoring across the program. The teacher records data from the "Phonics Survey: on the provided tracker at the year's beginning, middle, and end. This assessment tool reflects the continuum of phonics skills, as explained in the grade-level TEKS. It begins with a letter-sound assessment and then a decoding and encoding words assessment where words progress from CVC, digraphs, blend, silent-e, vowel teams, vowel-r, diphthongs, more rare vowel patterns, and affixes.
- "Chapter 7" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides detailed information on progress monitoring for each set of lessons in the *Ready, Set, Go* and all other *Phonics Launch Kits*. "The goal of progress monitoring at these early levels is to determine whether novice readers are controlling the reading behaviors necessary for a pre-decoder to move into the next stage of reading and writing." These serve as weekly formative assessments. Not all components of given tasks serve as true progress monitoring as they are not tracking the same data over time. In addition, teachers must select elements that the materials do not provide at the time of the assessment.

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### **Materials include clear, consistent directions for accurate administration of assessments.**

- The materials include guidance to help the teacher efficiently administer the assessment. The *Phonics Launch Handbook* refers to these diagnostic assessments as inventories. There is a step-by-step procedure for teachers to follow on the "Letter-Sound Assessment." For

example, "Show the student the Letter-Sound Recognition Student Form and say, Can you tell me the names of some of these letters? Then point to the first uppercase letter in the first row and say, Start here and tell me the names of the letters you know. Have the student read across each row rather than down each column."

- "Chapter 1" in the *Phonics Launch Handbook* and the "Placement Matrix" (found on the resource website) include detailed information to support the teacher's understanding of the assessment tools provided in the curriculum and the scoring procedures. For example, the materials provide a scoring matrix, detailed step-by-step assessment procedures, and placement information for which lessons to place students.
- The "Phonics Survey" includes clear, consistent directions for accurate administration. The first page provides clear guidance on scoring responses accurately across different administrators. For example, "To be correct, the student must give the natural pronunciation of the word without teacher support. If a student sounds out the letters (s-e-t) but does not put the sounds together, it is still an error."

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**Materials include progress monitoring tools that systematically and accurately measure students' acquisition of grade-level phonics skills.**

- The materials include weekly progress monitoring tools that are also used as diagnostic and formative assessments. The progress monitoring guidance for *Moving On* "Set 1, Lesson 4" states, "Dictate three words containing vowel-*r* combination *ur* and ask students to write the words." It also states, "Then have students reread this book and previously read Phonics Storybooks while you observe and take anecdotal notes." The words chosen must contain the focus feature of the lesson, but the materials do not provide the words for students to encode.

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**Materials include assessment opportunities across the span of the school year aligned to progress monitoring tools.**

- "Chapter 1" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* recommends formally assessing students at least three times a year using the "Phonics Survey" diagnostic assessment at the beginning, middle, and end of the year. The materials embed a "Progress Monitoring" assessment at the end of each lesson to determine whether students are progressing adequately with the aligned objectives. The weekly progress monitoring assessments are also designated as diagnostic assessments.

## Phonics Rule Compliance

4.5	Progress Monitoring and Student Support	4/6
4.5a	<a href="#">Materials include data-management tools for tracking individual student progress to make appropriate instructional decisions to accelerate instruction.</a>	1/1
4.5b	<a href="#">Materials include data-management tools for tracking whole-class student progress to analyze patterns and needs of students.</a>	2/2
4.5c	<a href="#">Materials include specific guidance on determining frequency of progress monitoring based on students' strengths and needs.</a>	0/2
4.5d	<a href="#">Materials include guidance on how to accelerate learning based on the progress monitoring data to reach mastery of specific concepts.</a>	1/1

**The materials include data-management tools for tracking individual student progress to make appropriate instructional decisions to accelerate instruction. Materials include data-management tools for tracking whole-class student progress to analyze patterns and needs of students. Materials do not include specific guidance on determining frequency of progress monitoring based on students' strengths and needs. Materials include guidance on how to accelerate learning based on the progress monitoring data to reach mastery of specific concepts.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include data-management tools for tracking individual student progress to make appropriate instructional decisions to accelerate instruction.**

- The materials include hard copy trackers to enable teachers to document individual data regarding progress on taught phonics skills. The individual form allows teachers to track data from the "Phonics Survey" from the beginning, middle, and end of the year. The teacher records the score for letter names and sounds, along with decoding and encoding results for the following phonics concepts: "CVC," "Initial/Final Digraphs," "Initial Blends," "Final Blends/Final Digraphs/Floss Rule," "Silent E," "Vowel Teams 1," "Vowel Teams 2," "Vowel-r Combinations 1," "Diphthong Vowel Teams," "Vowel-r Combinations 2," "Vowel Teams 3," and "Prefixes and Suffixes." The teacher also records the lesson placement at the bottom of each section. The teacher uses the provided "Scoring Matrix" to find the lesson placement depending on student assessment results.
- The data from the assessment tools help teachers when planning differentiated instruction. After teachers administer the "Phonics Survey," they use the assessment results with the scoring matrix to place students in groups with targeted instructional focuses. For example, if a student scores a two on decoding and encoding accuracy on the "CVC" assessment, the student should start with *On Our Way* "Lesson 1."

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**Materials include data-management tools for tracking whole-class student progress to analyze patterns and needs of students.**

- The materials include data-management tools for tracking whole-class student progress to analyze patterns and student needs. The *Phonics Launch Handbook* states, "As a supplementary or intervention program, Phonics Launch is designed to pair with a core curriculum (K–3) to fill in any gaps in key instructional areas: phonemic awareness, phonics, and/or fluency. It can also act as a supplement or intervention for other grade levels. Here students still need additional instruction along the phonics continuum." The "Phonics Launch Progress Monitoring Recording" form allows teachers to record progress monitoring for each small group of students based on the group focus skills in encoding/spelling, sight words, and reading.
- The materials also advise teachers that "The lessons can easily be adapted to the whole group so that students gain the benefits of whole-group instruction, including equitable exposure to the same learning, a baseline for learning goals and assessment, authentic peer-to-peer conversations, and the building of a strong community in the classroom." The data-management tools provide a place for teachers to organize their whole-group data.

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**Materials include specific guidance on determining frequency of progress monitoring based on students' strengths and needs.**

- Materials do not include specific guidance on the frequency of progress monitoring. For example, "Chapter 1" of the *Phonics Launch Handbook* states, "Once the gap between encoding and decoding begins to close, reassess. At this point, the students may be able to progress ahead or skip a few lessons. As students progress at different rates, know that frequent regrouping and/or testing may be necessary to ensure instruction is falling within the student's appropriate zone of proximal development." The guidance on the progress monitoring frequency is unclear, and teachers have discretion on when to reassess using the "Phonics Survey."
- Materials do not include explicit advice for the frequency of progress monitoring. The materials include a "Progress Monitoring" assessment at the end of each lesson. The *Phonics Launch Handbook* recommends using the data from the assessment and observations of students' encoding and decoding to determine if a student controls the target skill. If students have control of the target skill, the materials recommend reassessing students with the "Phonics Survey."

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**Materials include guidance on how to accelerate learning based on the progress monitoring data to reach mastery of specific concepts.**

- The materials provide guidance on accelerating learning based on progress monitoring data to reach mastery of specific concepts. However, the materials provide broad suggestions for

students who master targeted skills within the lesson. The *Phonics Launch Handbook* recommends skipping lessons if students master targeted concepts.

- The *Phonics Launch Handbook* provides several tables with scaffolds and differentiated instruction ideas for students who have reached mastery and who haven't reached mastery in specific phonics skills. Table 7-1 provides scaffolds for progress monitoring. For example, if a student can manipulate sounds in words, "Have the student produce a word and then have them indicate a part of the word to substitute with another word part."

## Foundational Skills

5.B.1	Oral Language Development	7/21
5.B.1a	<a href="#">Materials include explicit (direct) and systematic instructional guidance on developing oral language and oracy through a variety of methods (e.g., modeling, guided practice, coaching, feedback, and independent practice). (T)</a>	0/8
5.B.1b	<a href="#">Materials include opportunities for students to engage in social and academic communication for different purposes and audiences. (S)</a>	2/4
5.B.1c	<a href="#">Materials include authentic opportunities for students to listen actively, ask questions, engage in discussion to understand information, and share information and ideas. (S)</a>	5/9

**The materials do not include explicit (direct) and systematic instructional guidance on developing oral language and oracy through a variety of methods (e.g., modeling, guided practice, coaching, feedback, and independent practice). Materials include opportunities for students to engage in academic communication for different purposes and audiences. Materials do not include opportunities for students to engage in social communication for different purposes and audiences. Materials include authentic opportunities for students to engage in discussion to understand information, and share information and ideas. Materials include authentic opportunities for students to listen actively and ask questions to understand information. Materials do not include authentic opportunities for students to listen actively and ask questions to share information and ideas.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include explicit (direct) and systematic instructional guidance on developing oral language and oracy through a variety of methods (e.g., modeling, guided practice, coaching, feedback, and independent practice). (T)**

- The materials include discussion prompts but lack systematic and explicit guidance for oral language development. The *Phonics Launch* lessons include discussion prompts but lack systematic and explicit guidance for oral language development. For example, in *Moving On* "Set 1, Lesson 9," the "Book Discussion" portion states, "Engage students in a discussion about the facts they learned about shrimp."
- The materials do not include explicit and systematic instructional guidance on developing oracy. They allow students to discuss after reading books but do not provide scripted guidance on modeling, speaking audibly, clearly, and politely conversing.
- The materials do not include systematic and explicit instructional guidance for developing oral language and oracy through a variety of methods. The *Phonics Launch* resource website provides teachers with a "How to Facilitate Effective Discussions" chart that provides generic guidance on active listening, asking questions, responding to thinking, and explaining thinking. For example, for active listening, teachers will teach and model taking turns without interrupting. Students will practice "Sitting quietly while their partner responds." The materials do not embed this instructional guidance within the lesson structure.

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**Materials include opportunities for students to engage in social and academic communication for different purposes and audiences.** (S)

- The materials provide opportunities for different purposes to engage in academic communication. For example, in *Building Up* "Set 1, Lesson 1, Day 1," after reading *A Trunk in the Road*, the materials prompt the teacher to engage students in a discussion about the story's problem and solution. Students do not have the opportunity to engage in social communication.
- The materials provide opportunities for students to communicate academically with different audiences. For example, in *Building Up* "Set 1, Lesson 8, Day 1," the materials prompt the teacher to have students generate questions about their favorite page in the book *A Fine Place to Hide* and discuss them with a partner. While it is not explicit, students engage in all other discussion questions during "Step 3" of the lesson in a whole group unless specified to work with a partner.

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**Materials include authentic opportunities for students to listen actively, ask questions, engage in discussion to understand information, and share information and ideas.** (S)

- The materials provide opportunities within lesson plans for students to listen actively to understand information. For example, in *Moving On* "Set 1, Lesson 7," students engage in a "Thumbs-up, Thumbs-down" routine to identify whether the middle sounds are the same or different. Students listen to the words the teacher says, then put their thumbs up if they are the same and down if they are different. The materials do not provide prompts or guidance to ensure students listen actively to share information or ideas.
- The materials provide opportunities within lesson plans for students to ask questions to understand information. In *Moving On* "Set 1, Lesson 8," the materials prompt students to turn to their favorite page in the book and ask their partner a question about the page. The materials do not provide prompts or guidance to ensure students ask questions to share information or ideas.
- The materials provide opportunities within lesson plans for students to engage in discussion to understand and share information and ideas. For example, in *Moving On* "Set 1, Lesson 12," students discuss, to understand the characters in the story *My Nephew Drew* and their actions. Students then share ideas on character traits that would fit each character. In *Moving On* "Set 1, Lesson 7," students share facts learned about sharks after reading *All About Sharks*.



## Foundational Skills

5.C.2	Letter-Sound Correspondence	14/18
5.C.2a	<a href="#">Materials explicitly (directly), and systematically introduce letter-sound relationships in an order that allows for application to basic decoding and encoding. (PR 2.A.1)</a>	2/4
5.C.2b	<a href="#">Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction focused on connecting phonemes to letters within words with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. (PR 2.A &amp; 2.A.2)(T)</a>	0/2
5.C.2c	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce (through cumulative review) their understanding of applying letter-sound correspondence to decode one syllable and multisyllable words in isolation and decodable connected text. (PR 2.A &amp; 2.A.3)(S)</a>	12/12

**The materials do not explicitly (directly), and systematically introduce letter-sound relationships in an order that allows for application to basic decoding and encoding. Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction focused on connecting phonemes to letters within words with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce (through cumulative review) their understanding of applying letter-sound correspondence to decode one syllable words in isolation and decodable connected text.**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials explicitly (directly), and systematically introduce letter-sound relationships in an order that allows for application to basic decoding and encoding. (PR 2.A.1)**

- The materials do not provide explicit instruction on letter-sound relationships that allow for application to basic decoding and encoding. The materials provide activities for teaching phonics, but these activities do not provide explicit instruction on letter-sound relationships. For example, in *Building Up* "Set 1, Lesson 2," students engage in the "Identifying Sounds and Letters" activity to learn the final blend /nt/. The teacher says the words "ant, tent, mint." Students repeat the words and identify the sound at the end of the words. Students say the sound, and the teacher writes "nt" on the easel. The teacher does not explicitly model or explain the sound-letter relationship for the blend introduced. Students cannot apply the letter-sound relationships to basic decoding and encoding without this explicit instruction.
- The materials include systematic and sequenced instruction of letter-sound relationships. For example, *On Our Way* "Set 2," spends 12 lessons reviewing short vowels, each lasting four days. The materials teach blends after teaching initial and final digraphs.

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**Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction focused on connecting phonemes to letters within words with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions.** (PR.2.A & 2.A.2) (T)

- The lesson plans do not script the teacher’s direct and explicit instruction to connect phonemes to letters within words. Students only engage in activities such as "Making Words," "Breaking Words," and "Sound Boxes" to practice connecting phonemes to letters.
- The materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit instruction focused on connecting phonemes to letters within words with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. The materials provide feedback support in Table 4-4 in the *Phonics Launch Handbook*, which provides general guidance for students who struggle with phonics skills. For example, if the student "has difficulty identifying the letter or producing the sound," the teacher can "consider sorting letters that are not visually or auditorily similar or sort one known letter/sound against an unknown letter/sound. Model emphasizing the target sound and have students repeat it."

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce (through cumulative review) their understanding of applying letter-sound correspondence to decode one syllable and multisyllable words in isolation and decodable connected text.** (PR.2.A & 2.A.3)

(S)

- Materials include various activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce their understanding of applying letter-sound correspondence to decode one-syllable words in isolation. In *Ready, Set, Go* "Set 1, Lesson 20," students develop their understanding of decoding one-syllable words during "Day 2, Step 2." In this step, students use letter magnets to create words with short /u/ and /i/. During the activity, the teacher instructs the students to "Change the *b* to *f* and read the word: *fin*." Students practice decoding words in isolation during "Day 4, Step 3." After students encode words the teacher dictates using the "Sound Box Cards," students run their fingers under each letter, check the letter and sounds, and read the whole word. Students engage in these activities weekly to reinforce through cumulative review their previous letter-sound correspondence knowledge and practice new ones.
- Materials include various activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce their understanding of applying letter-sound correspondence to decode one-syllable words in connected text. In *Ready, Set, Go* "Set 1, Lesson 20," students develop applying letter-sound correspondence to decode one-syllable words in "Day 1, Step 3." Students find and read short /i/ and /u/ words in the book *Sid the Big Pup*. Students read words such as "big, Sid, pup, run." Students then practice this skill by reading the list of words with short vowels /i/ and /u/ from the book and locating them within it. Students engage in these activities weekly to reinforce through cumulative review their previous letter-sound correspondence knowledge and practice new ones.

## Foundational Skills

5.D.1	Phonological Awareness (K–2)	0/12
5.D.1a	<a href="#">Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing phonological awareness activities in accordance with grade-level TEKS that begins with simple skills and larger units of sound (e.g., identifying and producing rhyming words, recognizing spoken alliteration, identifying the individual words in spoken sentences) and gradually transitions to more complex skills and smaller units of sound (e.g., adding, deleting, and substituting syllables). (PR 2.A.1)</a>	0/4
5.D.1b	<a href="#">Materials include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonological awareness skills with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. (PR 2.A &amp; 2.A.2)(T)</a>	0/2
5.D.1C	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources (including the use of memory-building strategies) for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonological awareness skills connected to grade-level TEKS (through cumulative review). (PR 2.A &amp; 2.A.3)(S)</a>	0/6

**The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing phonological awareness activities in accordance with grade-level TEKS that begins with simple skills and larger units of sound (e.g., identifying and producing rhyming words, recognizing spoken alliteration, identifying the individual words in spoken sentences) and gradually transitions to more complex skills and smaller units of sound (e.g., adding, deleting, and substituting syllables). Materials do not include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonological awareness skills with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. Materials do not include a variety of activities and resources (including the use of memory-building strategies) for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonological awareness skills connected to grade-level TEKS (through cumulative review).**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing phonological awareness activities in accordance with grade-level TEKS that begins with simple skills and larger units of sound (e.g., identifying and producing rhyming words, recognizing spoken alliteration, identifying the individual words in spoken sentences) and gradually transitions to more complex skills and smaller units of sound (e.g., adding, deleting, and substituting syllables). (PR 2.A.1)**

- Materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing phonological awareness activities by grade-level TEKS that begins with simple skills and larger units of sound and gradually transitions to more complex skills and smaller units of sound. The Phonics Launch Handbook Ch. 4 states, "Each phonics activity has been carefully designed to help students strengthen their phonics knowledge. Procedures strategically build in complexity throughout the lessons to support skill building of words in isolation before students apply their newly acquired knowledge to authentic reading and writing experiences." While the materials

reference a sequence of skill building that goes from less to more complex, there is no detail in their scope and sequence to show that the lessons systematically align with the grade 1 TEKS.

- The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing phonological awareness activities by grade-level TEKS that begins with simple skills and larger units of sound and gradually transitions to more complex skills and smaller units of sound. For example, rhyming is first introduced using an easel and letters in *On Our Way*, Set 2, Lesson 4. Students do not receive explicit instruction on rhyming before producing a word that rhymes with *hot* but starts with a *d*. Students then spell the word *dot*. This activity continues to get the word *rot*. Students never engage in producing just rhyming words. In an activity called Analogy Charts in *Building Up* Set 1, Lessons 7 - 11, students distinguish between long and short vowel sounds in one-syllable words through the Analogy Chart routine. Students sort and write words based on short and long vowel sounds.

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**Materials include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonological awareness skills with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions.** (PR 2.A & 2.A.2) (T)

- The materials do not include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonological awareness skills with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. The materials provide generic grade K-2 advice for adjusting the activity to meet the needs of students in the *Phonics Launch Handbook*. They provide a table on adjusting phonemic awareness activities, but some activities address phonological awareness activities. For example, in the *Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down* activity, if students struggle to identify if the targeted area in the words sounds the same, it suggests repeating the words and overemphasizing the targeted area. The materials do not provide explanatory feedback based on common errors or possible misconceptions students may have within each lesson.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources (including the use of memory-building strategies) for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonological awareness skills connected to grade-level TEKS (through cumulative review).** (PR 2.A & 2.A.3) (S)

- The materials do not include various activities to develop, practice, and reinforce phonological awareness skills connected to grade-level TEKS. The materials only include one phonological awareness activity through the Analogy Card routine. For example, in *Lesson Building Up*, Set, 1 Lesson 11, students sort and write one-syllable words by long or short vowels in the Analogy chart. The materials engage in this activity in Lesson 2 - 11. . Rhyming is modeled through the teaching point using print. Students do not produce rhyming words as required in the grade 1 TEKS.
- The materials do not include various resources, including memory-building strategies, for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonological awareness skills connected to grade-level TEKS. They do not include kinesthetic movements, manipulatives, stories, or other

memory-building resources to support students in developing, practicing, and reinforcing phonological awareness skills.

## Foundational Skills

5.D.2	Phonemic Awareness (K–2)	8/13
5.D.2a	Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing phonemic awareness activities that begins with identifying, blending, and segmenting phonemes, and gradually transitions to more complex manipulation practices such as adding, deleting, and substituting phonemes. (PR 2.A.1)	0/3
5.D.2b	Materials include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonemic awareness with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. (PR 2.A & 2.A.2)(T)	0/2
5.D.2C	Materials include explicit (direct) guidance for connecting phonemic awareness skills to the alphabetic principle, to support students in the transition from oral language activities to basic decoding and encoding. (PR 2.A.1)(T)	2/2
5.D.2d	Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonemic awareness skills (through cumulative review). (PR 2.A & 2.A.3)(S)	6/6

The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing phonemic awareness activities that begins with identifying, blending, and segmenting phonemes, and gradually transitions to more complex manipulation practices such as adding, deleting, and substituting phonemes. Materials do not include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonemic awareness with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. Materials include explicit (direct) guidance for connecting phonemic awareness skills to the alphabetic principle, to support students in the transition from oral language activities to basic decoding and encoding. Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonemic awareness skills (through cumulative review).

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing phonemic awareness activities that begins with identifying, blending, and segmenting phonemes, and gradually transitions to more complex manipulation practices such as adding, deleting, and substituting phonemes.** (PR 2.A.1)

- Materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing phonemic awareness activities that begin with identifying phonemes and gradually transition to more complex manipulation practices such as adding, deleting, and substituting phonemes. For example, in Moving On, Set 1, students segment and blend phonemes in the first seven lessons. Students then substitute rime at the end of words. Students then return to identifying similar phoneme sounds in a set of words. Students never engage in adding or deleting phonemes orally.
- Materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing phonemic awareness activities that begin with blending and segmenting phonemes and gradually transition to more complex manipulation practices such as adding, deleting, and substituting phonemes. The materials teach blending and segmenting phonemes but then move to substituting and blending using onset-rime. This is not a systematic sequence as it moves from smaller to

larger sound units. Lessons 1-11 of On Our Way Set 2 focuses on the skill of blending and segmenting at the phoneme level. Substituting with onset-rime is introduced in Lesson 12, and Blending with onset-rime returns in Lesson 13.

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**Materials include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonemic awareness with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions.** (PR 2.A & 2.A.2) (T)

- The materials do not include explicit (direct) instruction for teaching phonemic awareness with recommended explanatory feedback for students based on common errors and misconceptions. The materials provide generic grade K-2 advice for adjusting the activity to meet the needs of students in the Phonics Launch Handbook. For example, in the Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down activity, if students struggle to identify if the targeted area in the words sounds the same, it suggests repeating the words and overemphasizing the targeted area. The materials do not provide explanatory feedback based on common errors or possible misconceptions students may have within each lesson.

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**Materials include explicit (direct) guidance for connecting phonemic awareness skills to the alphabetic principle, to support students in the transition from oral language activities to basic decoding and encoding.** (PR 2.A.1) (T)

- The materials include explicit guidance for connecting phonemic awareness skills to the alphabetic principle to support basic encoding. For example, in Building Up, Set 1, Lesson 22, the materials state, "Say the following words, emphasizing the long o sound: toad, soap, boat. Now let's say these words together and listen for the sound in the middle: toad, soap, boat. What sound do you hear in the middle of these words? Say the sound: /ō/. Point to the oa on the Vowel Chart Card. Say the picture, the sound, and the letters that spell that sound." In Step 2, students use letter magnets to create words. The teacher dictates a word or instructs students on which letter to change to create a new word.
- The materials do directly or explicitly connect phonemic awareness skills to the alphabetic principle for decoding. This direct and explicit connection is embedded throughout Phonics Launch lessons. For example, On Our Way Set 2, Lesson 1, Day 3, Step 3, the Teaching Point states: "Show yourself the word *cat*. Listen as I say *cat*, slowly stretching the middle sound: c-aaa-t. We see the letter *a* in the word *cat* and hear the sound /a/. When we read, we match the letter we see to the sound the letter spells."

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonemic awareness skills (through cumulative review).** (PR 2.A & 2.A.3) (S)

- The materials include various activities for students to develop, practice, and reinforce phonemic awareness skills. For example, in Building Up, Set 1, Lesson 3, students identify the common sound at the end of the words *dust*, *nest*, and *fast* during the *Identifying Sounds and Letters component*. Making Words and Emergent Breaking Words activities develop and



reinforce manipulation of sounds, segmenting, and blending; Substituting uses onset-rime manipulations, and Identifying Sounds and Letters reinforces segmenting. The students engage in these activities in future lessons to reinforce phonemic awareness skills.

## Foundational Skills

5.E.1	Sound-Spelling Patterns	10/16
5.E.1a	<a href="#">Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level sound-spelling patterns, as outlined in the TEKS. (PR 2.A.1)</a>	0/1
5.E.1b	<a href="#">Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for grade-level sound-spelling patterns. (PR 2.A.1)(T)</a>	0/1
5.E.1c	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level sound-spelling patterns (through cumulative review). (PR 2.A.1)(T)</a>	6/6
5.E.1d	<a href="#">Materials provide a variety of activities and resources to support students in decoding and encoding words that include taught sound-spelling patterns, both in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts). (PR 2.A.1 &amp; 2.A.3)(S)</a>	4/8

The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level sound-spelling patterns, as outlined by TEKS. Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for grade-level sound-spelling patterns. Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level sound-spelling patterns (through cumulative review). Materials provide a variety of activities and resources to support students in decoding words that include taught sound-spelling patterns in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts). Materials provide a variety of activities and resources to support students in encoding words that include taught sound-spelling patterns, in isolation (e.g., word lists). Materials do not provide a variety of activities and resources to support students in decoding words that include taught sound-spelling patterns, in isolation. Materials provide a variety of activities and resources to support students in encoding words that include taught sound-spelling patterns, in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level sound-spelling patterns, as outlined in the TEKS.** (PR 2.A.1)

- Materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level sound-spelling patterns, as the TEKS outlines. The Phonics Launch On Our Way, Building Up, and Moving On materials include phonics lessons that lack sequence from simple to complex skills and concepts across the school year. For example, in On Our Way, Set 2, Lesson 21, the phonics focus is the initial blend *cr-*. To this point, students have studied common consonant sounds, short vowels, digraphs, and other blends. The Teaching Point on Day 3 features the word *crow*. Students do not have explicit instruction on the vowel team *ow* when this lesson occurs. The activity states, "Use magnetic letters to make the word *crow* on the easel. Give each student one of the following letter clusters: *bl*, *fl*, *gr*, *sh*, or *sn*. Who has the letters to make the word

show? Have the student with the *sh* cluster make the word on the easel. Repeat with the words snow, blow, flow, and grow."

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**Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for grade-level sound-spelling patterns.** (PR 2.A.1) (T)

- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for grade-level sound-spelling patterns. Lesson 13 in *On Our Way, Set 2* introduces Initial Digraph *sh*. The materials never explicitly state the term digraph to the student. The teaching point for that lesson states, "On the easel, write the word *sheet*. Underline *sh*. These two letters make one sound: /sh/. Then write the word *wheel*. Repeat the process with *wh*." The spelling activity for that lesson, *Making Words*, states, "Have students remove the following letters from their trays: *h, i, n, o, p, s, t,* and *u*. Pull down the letters: *h, u,* and *t*. Read the word: *hut*. Make the word: *shut*. Change the *u* to *o* and read the word: *shot*. Make the word: *shop*. Change the *o* to *i* and read the word: *ship*. Make the word: *shin*."
- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for grade-level sound-spelling patterns. For example, in *Building Up Set 1, Lesson 21*, the materials teach vowel teams *oo* and *oo* through the *Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down* activity. The students repeat the words *wood* and *hood* after the teacher says them. The teacher says, "Let's repeat these words, stretching the middle vowel sound." Students are instructed to put their thumbs up if the sounds are the same and down if they are different. The teacher repeats this for words *booth, tooth,* and *book, boot*. The materials do not provide direct instruction on when to use each vowel team and the rules they follow.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level sound-spelling patterns (through cumulative review).** (PR 2.A.1) (T)

- The materials include activities and resources for students to develop and practice grade-level sound-spelling patterns. The *Getting Started Card* for each set shows the lesson overview and the activities used for each step. For example, *Building Up Sets 1 and 2* lists seven activities used for developing words in isolation. The *Analogy Chart, Sound Boxes,* and *Writing Words* also practice words in isolation and provide variety. *Read (Reread) the Book* and *Guided Writing* are two activities for practicing words in context. Students engage in these activities weekly to reinforce through cumulative review their previous sound-spelling patterns and practice new ones.

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**Materials provide a variety of activities and resources to support students in decoding and encoding words that include taught sound-spelling patterns, both in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).** (PR.2.A.1 & 2.A.3) (S)

- The materials provide a variety of activities and resources for decoding words in decodable connected text. Students read decodable readers with taught sound-spelling partners. For example, in *On Our Way*, Set 2, Lesson 20 the materials introduce blend *sn-* and students read the book *Snip-Snap*. Students read words such as *snack*, *snail*, *snake*, *snip-snap*, and *snug*.
- The materials provide a variety of activities and resources to encode words in isolation. Students encode words and sentences dictated by the teacher. For example, in *On Our Way*, Set 2, Lesson 11, the activity Dictated Sentence states, "Dictate the following sentences one at a time and have students repeat them: *I see a pig in the pigpen. I like pigs.* Draw one line for each word in the sentences. Have students say each word as they write the words on the lines. Use sound boxes for students who need help encoding words. When students are finished, have them circle the words with short e or *i*."
- The materials do not provide a variety of activities and resources for encoding words in decodable connected text or decoding words in isolation.

## Foundational Skills

5.E.2	Regular and Irregular High-Frequency Words	36/42
5.E.2a	<a href="#">Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing regular and irregular high-frequency words.</a> (PR 2.A.1)	0/2
5.E.2b	<a href="#">Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for decoding and encoding regular and irregular high-frequency words.</a> (PR 2.A.1)(T)	0/4
5.E.2c	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce skills to decode and encode regular and irregular high-frequency words (through cumulative review).</a> (PR 2.A.1 & 2.A.3)(S)	24/24
5.E.2d	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources (including the use of memory-building strategies) for students to recognize, read, and write high-frequency words in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in connected text (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).</a> (PR 2.A.1)(S)	12/12

**The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing regular and irregular high-frequency words. Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for decoding and encoding regular and irregular high-frequency words. Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce skills to decode and encode regular and irregular high-frequency words (through cumulative review). Materials include a variety of activities and resources (including the use of memory-building strategies) for students to recognize, read, and write high-frequency words in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in connected text (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing regular and irregular high-frequency words.** (PR 2.A.1)

- Materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing regular high-frequency words. The materials lack a coherent sequence for introducing regular words that align with the sound-spelling patterns taught in phonics. Many words would be regular high-frequency once the materials introduce the phonics concepts. For example, the materials introduce the sight word, *good*, in *On Our Way*, set 2, lesson 24, but vowel team *oo* does not appear until *Building Up*, set 1, lesson 20. The materials introduce the sight word *here*, in *On Our Way*, set 2, lesson 1, but silent *-e* does not appear until *Building Up* set 2. The sight word *going* is introduced in *On Our Way*, set 2, lesson 8, before suffixes *-ing* and digraph *-ng* appear in lesson 24.
- Materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing irregular high-frequency words. No background knowledge/guidance or alignment to the phonics focus suggests a systematic sequence. The high-frequency word focused on in the lesson is consistently used in the decodable reader and dictated sentence of each lesson cycle. The *On Our Way*, set 1, materials lack a coherent sequence for introducing irregular words that align with the sound-spelling patterns learned in phonics. For example, in lesson 1, the short vowel *a* is introduced

with the sight word look. In lesson 6, the materials introduce short vowels, *o* and *u*, with the sight word *like*. In *On Our Way* set 2, lesson 11, short vowels *e* and *i* are introduced with the sight word *like*.

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**Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for decoding and encoding regular and irregular high-frequency words.** (PR 2.A.1) (T)

- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for decoding and encoding irregular high-frequency words. The materials include sample scripts and explicit activities for encoding and decoding irregular high-frequency words. For example, in *On Our Way* set 1, lesson 4, the new sight word activity states, "Have students repeat the word. Now, model for students saying the word, counting the sounds, and mapping the letters. Have students make the word *for* out of magnetic letters. Have them mix the letters, remake the word, and read the word." The materials provide the number of sounds for the teacher but do not provide explicit instruction for connecting the sounds to letters. There is no indication or background knowledge for the teacher about the specific features of the word, and if it is irregular for the student within the curriculum sequence.
- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for decoding and encoding regular high-frequency words. The materials use sight words, and the sequence does not reflect phonics patterns learned but rather correlates with the decodable readers so some regular high-frequency words are considered irregular by students. Chapter 5 of the Phonics Launch Handbook, regarding procedures for the new sight word activity, states, "After students make an irregularly spelled high-frequency word with magnetic letters, have them use their index fingers to frame the 'tricky part' or parts that are irregularly spelled." However, this guidance appears outside the lesson cards, and there is no indication for teachers when the word is irregular for the student at that point in the sequence of skills taught.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce skills to decode and encode regular and irregular high-frequency words (through cumulative review).** (PR 2.A.1 & 2.A.3) (S)

- Materials include various activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce skills to decode and encode irregular high-frequency words. For example, the materials introduce sight words on day 1 by modeling mapping the sound to words. Students use manipulative letters to build, break, and rebuild the word to read it. A picture supports the teacher's knowledge of how to map the word. The word is practiced again in the book introduction activity; after students echo-read the book with the teacher, the students find and read the word. On days 2 and 4, a review of the high-frequency word occurs with cards and/or written on a whiteboard. Students also practice these words in the dictated sentence activity. On day 3, students reread the book, allowing students to decode the word in context. This routine repeats with each lesson cycle.

- Materials include various activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce skills to decode and encode regular high-frequency words. The materials follow the same routine used for irregular high-frequency words. For example, in *Ready, Set, Go* set 1 and 2 and *On Our Way* set 1, the materials introduce sight words on day 1 by modeling mapping the sound to words. Students use manipulative letters to build, break, and rebuild the word to read it. A picture supports the teacher’s knowledge of how to map the word. The word is practiced again in the book introduction activity; after students echo-read the book with the teacher, the students find and read the word. On days 2 and 4, a review of the high-frequency word occurs with cards and/or written on a whiteboard. Students also practice these words in the dictated sentence activity. On day 3, students reread the book, allowing students to decode the word in context. This routine repeats with each lesson cycle.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources (including the use of memory-building strategies) for students to recognize, read, and write high-frequency words in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in connected text (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).** (PR 2.A.1) (S)

- Materials include various activities and resources for students to recognize, read, and write high-frequency words in isolation (e.g., word lists). For example, in grade 1 materials, the new sight word activity supports recognition and reading the word in isolation by building it with manipulatives. The sight word review uses sight word cards and whiteboards to support students in recognizing, reading, and writing high-frequency words in isolation.
- Materials include various activities and resources for students to recognize, read, and write high-frequency words in connected text (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts). The decodable text and dictated sentence activities support students in recognizing, reading, writing, and focusing on high-frequency words in context. For example, in *On Our Way*, set 2, lesson 6, students read the sight word *can* in the decodable text *Wake Up, Tom*. Students encode sentences from the text, such as, “Gus the pup can run. Gus the pup can hop.”



## Foundational Skills

5.E.3	Decoding and Encoding One-Syllable or Multisyllabic Words	12/23
5.E.3a	<a href="#">Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level syllable types and syllable division principles, as outlined in the TEKS. (PR 2.A.1)</a>	0/1
5.E.3b	<a href="#">Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for applying knowledge of syllable types and syllable division principles to decode and encode one-syllable or multisyllabic words. (PR 2.A.1)(T)</a>	0/2
5.E.3c	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice and reinforce skills to decode and encode one-syllable or multisyllabic words (through cumulative review). (PR 2.A.1 &amp; 2.A.3)(S)</a>	12/12
5.E.3d	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to practice decoding and encoding one-syllable or multisyllabic words, using knowledge of syllable types and syllable division principles, in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts). (PR 2.A &amp; 2.A.3)(S)</a>	0/8

The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level syllable types, as outlined in the TEKS. Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for applying knowledge of syllable types principles to decode and encode one-syllable words. Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce skills to decode and encode one-syllable words (through cumulative review). Materials do not include a variety of activities and resources for students to practice decoding and encoding one-syllable, using knowledge of syllable types, in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level syllable types and syllable division principles, as outlined in the TEKS. (PR 2.A.1)**

- Materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level syllable types, as outlined by the TEKS. The materials for grade 1 do not have a systematic sequence for introducing syllable types. The materials introduce syllables in *Building Up* set 1, lesson 1 in the *Make a Big Word* activity. The teacher states, "Say the word honking and have students clap the syllables. Have students make the word honking. Then, have students break the word at the syllable *honk-ing* and say each part. Have students remake and read the word." However, the materials do not introduce what a syllable is until lesson 3. Students use the knowledge before it is modeled and explained.
- The systematic sequence for introducing syllable patterns does not align with grade 1 TEKS. *Building Up* set 1 uses but does not explicitly label the silent-e syllable type. *In Building Up* set 2, students use vowel team digraphs, and lesson 16 introduces the vowel team syllable type. Lesson 21 introduces the closed syllable type. *Moving On* set 1 uses but does not label the

vowel-r syllable type and vowel diphthongs. The materials do not introduce open syllables in the grade 1 materials.

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**Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for applying knowledge of syllable types and syllable division principles to decode and encode one-syllable or multisyllabic words.** (PR 2.A.1) (T)

- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for applying knowledge of syllable types to decode and encode one-syllable words. There is no gradual release of responsibility, and students apply their skills before modeling and direct instruction. For example, in *Building Up*, set 1, lesson 3, the teacher writes the word *lost* and asks, “How many vowel sounds do you hear? Make a small dot above the letter o. Say and clap the word. That’s one clap and one vowel sound, which means this is one syllable. Repeat with *cost* and *frost*.” In lesson 6, the concept expands to multisyllabic words with the same process, except students identify the two syllables. The materials include explicit instruction on identifying syllables, but do not include explicit instruction for applying knowledge of syllable types to decode and encode one-syllable words.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice and reinforce skills to decode and encode one-syllable or multisyllabic words (through cumulative review).** (PR 2.A.1 & 2.A.3) (S)

- Materials include various activities and resources for students to develop and practice skills for decoding and encoding one-syllable or multisyllabic words. For example, students encode and decode one-syllable words during the emergent breaking words activity in *On Our Way*, set 2, lesson 5. For example, students use letter magnets to make the word *nut*. Students then break the word at the vowel, read each part, put the letters together, and read the word. Students engage in these activities weekly to reinforce encoding and decoding skills.
- Materials include various activities and resources for students to develop and practice skills for decoding and encoding one-syllable words. In *Moving On*, set 1, lesson 12, students develop encoding and decoding skills with one-syllable words during the making words component. Students manipulate letters to create and read words with magnetic letters. Students create and read words such as *chew*, *crew*, *crow*, *throw*, *threw*, and *screw*. Students practice decoding one-syllable words while reading the decodable book, *My Nephew Drew*. Students read words such as *blew*, *new*, *knew*, and *phew*. Students practice encoding during the writing about the character activity. Students encode the sentence, “Drew acted rude when he flew his toy airplane and wouldn’t share. Students engage in these activities weekly to reinforce encoding and decoding skills.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to practice decoding and encoding one-syllable or multisyllabic words, using knowledge of syllable types and syllable division principles, in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).** (PR 2.A & 2.A.3) (S)

- Materials do not include a variety of activities for students to practice decoding and encoding one-syllable, using knowledge of syllable types in isolation (e.g., word lists) and decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts). Materials include a few activities for students to practice decoding or encoding one-syllable words. However, they do not teach knowledge of syllable types. The activity segmenting sounds states, "Model saying a word containing the target phonics skill. Then model segmenting that word by the onset-rime or individual phonemes. Then repeat the whole word once more. Say another word that contains the target phonics skill. Have students segment the word by onset rime or individual phonemes. Then have them say the whole word. Repeat step 2 with another word containing the phonics skill." In lesson 11 of *On Our Way*, set 2, the activity that students complete states, "Say the word beg and model segmenting the phonemes in the word: b-e-g, beg. Have students segment big and pet." There is no instruction on syllables or their meaning. In the 24 lessons of *On Our Way*, set 2, the word syllable does not occur in any lesson.

## Foundational Skills

5.E.4	Morphological Awareness (1–3)	8/19
5.E.4a	<a href="#">Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level morphemes, as outlined in the TEKS. (PR.2.A.1)</a>	0/1
5.E.4b	<a href="#">Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for supporting recognition of common morphemes and using their meanings (e.g., affixes, roots, and base words) to support decoding, encoding, and reading comprehension. (PR.2.A.1)(T)</a>	0/4
5.E.4c	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level morphological skills (through cumulative review). (PR.2.A.1 &amp; 2.A.3)(S)</a>	0/6
5.E.4d	<a href="#">Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to decode and encode words with morphemes in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts). (PR.2.A.1 &amp; 2.A.3)(S)</a>	8/8

**The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level morphemes, as outlined in the TEKS. Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for supporting recognition of common morphemes and using their meanings (e.g., affixes, roots, and base words) to support decoding, encoding, and reading comprehension. Materials do not include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level morphological skills (through cumulative review). Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to decode and encode words with morphemes in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).**

Evidence includes, but is not limited to:

**Materials include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level morphemes, as outlined in the TEKS.** (PR.2.A.1)

- The materials do not include a systematic sequence for introducing grade-level morphemes, as outlined in the TEKS. They do not have a systematic approach to studying morphemes. For example, morphemes are not taught in the grade 1 On Our Way lessons, as evidenced in both the scope and sequence and lessons. Morphemes are introduced in the grade 3 Lifting Off lessons, starting in Lesson 13.

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**Materials include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for supporting recognition of common morphemes and using their meanings (e.g., affixes, roots, and base words) to support decoding, encoding, and reading comprehension.** (PR 2.A.1) (T)

- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for supporting the recognition of common morphemes. The materials do not include direct and explicit instruction in morphological awareness. The implicit approach implies that students will build this knowledge independently as they read. Students are introduced to *-ed* and *-ing* in *On Our Way*, Set 2, Lessons 15 and 17 before the sounds of *-ed* are discussed (Lesson 19) or the phonics pattern of *ng* has been taught (Lesson 24). Lesson 17 Teaching Point states, "Write the word *rush* on the easel. Run your finger under the word, matching the sounds to letters. When you add *-ed* to *rush*, you get a new word. Now let's read the word. Write the word *rushing* on the easel. When you add *-ing* to *rush*, you get a new word. Have students read the word."
- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for using common morpheme meanings (e.g., affixes, roots, and base words) to support decoding and encoding. The materials do not include direct and explicit instruction in morphological awareness. The implicit approach implies that students will build this knowledge independently as they read. For example, The first encounter with morphemes is in the Teaching Point in Lesson 15 of *On Our Way* Set 2. The teaching point uses the word *shouted* and states, "What are a few things we can do to help us figure out this word (cover the ending, find a known part)? Have students assist in finding parts (*sh-out-ed*). When we get to big words, we can help ourselves figure them out by finding a part we know. Repeat with *thumped*." While students decode the word, the teacher does not provide explicit instruction on the sounds suffix *-ed* makes.
- Materials do not include guidance for the teacher to provide explicit (direct) instruction for using common morphemes meanings (e.g., affixes, roots, and base words) to support reading comprehension. The materials do not include direct and explicit instruction to use common morphemes meanings. How it changes the word is not discussed when introducing and using morphemes. When it is, it is a vague prompt for the teacher and lacks specific phrasing, often referring to morphemes as endings instead of suffixes. For example, in *Building Up* Set 2, Lesson 16, the teacher's guidance states that students should "Discuss the meaning of the word *rainy*." The materials do not explain how the word's meaning changes with the suffix *-y* for the teacher to use. In other activities, it does not direct teachers to acknowledge the meaning.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level morphological skills (through cumulative review).** (PR 2.A.1 & 2.A.3) (S)

- Materials do not include a variety of resources for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level morphological skills (through cumulative review). The materials do not include resources to support students' understanding of morphological awareness. The materials do not cumulatively review concepts previously taught.

- The materials do not include a variety of activities for students to develop, practice, and reinforce grade-level morphological skills (through cumulative review). The materials include two approaches (one encoding and one decoding activity) to morphological word study, but they lack a variety of practice opportunities. Students practice breaking off morphemes from words in the Breaking Big Words activity before they develop the skill. The materials have students identify morphemes in words without focusing on the meaning.

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**Materials include a variety of activities and resources for students to decode and encode words with morphemes in isolation (e.g., word lists) and in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts).** (PR 2.A.1 & 2.A.3) (S)

- The materials include various activities and resources for students to decode and encode words with morphemes in isolation (e.g., word lists). They also include instructional routines, such as dictation, emphasizing encoding and decoding. In the activity Breaking Big Words in Lesson 14 of Building Up, Set 2, students use letter magnets to create word speaking before breaking off the word's ending and breaking the word at the vowel. Students read each part before putting it back together and reading the whole word.
- Materials include various activities and resources for students to decode and encode words with morphemes in decodable connected text that builds on previous instruction (e.g., within sentences or decodable texts). For example, In Moving On, Set 1, Lesson 15, students decode words in the decodable connected text, *Uncle Saul*. Students read words such as *coughing* and *sausages*. Students encode a sentence connected to the text, such as, “Mom feels \_\_\_\_ when she sees exhaust coming from Uncle Saul’s car.”