

Alignment to the Science of Reading

Wonders and *WonderWorks* support the delivery of high-quality literacy instruction aligned to the science of reading. They provide a comprehensive, integrated plan for meeting the needs of all students. Each program is developed to ensure that lessons focus on teaching the right content at the right time. The “right content” refers to teaching sufficient amounts of the content that has been proven to deliver learning advantages to students. The “right time” refers to a carefully structured scope and sequence within a grade and across grades. This ensures that teaching is presented in the most effective and efficient manner, with sound guidance to better support diverse learners.

The U.S. Department of Education has provided several well-respected summaries of research over the past two decades or so. These are valuable resources due to their methodological rigor, protection against conflicts of interest, and because their findings continue to hold up as additional research accumulates. The federal research summaries listed below, along with additional studies that have been conducted more recently, drove the evidence-based design and development of the *Wonders* and *WonderWorks* programs.

- [Report of the National Reading Panel. Teaching children to read: An evidence-based assessment of the scientific research literature on reading and its implications for reading instruction: Reports of the subgroups](#) (National Institute of Child Health and Human Development [NICHD], 2000).
- [Preventing reading difficulties in young children, a review of research on early childhood reading commissioned by the National Research Council](#) (Snow, Burns, & Griffin, 1998).
- [Writing to Read: Evidence for How Writing Can Improve Reading. A Report from the Carnegie Corporation of New York](#) (Graham & Hebert, 2010).
- [Writing Next: Effective Strategies to Improve Writing of Adolescents in Middle and High Schools. A Report from the Carnegie Corporation of New York](#) (Graham & Perin, 2007).
- [Improving Reading Comprehension in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade: A Practice Guide](#) (Shanahan et al., 2010).
- [Foundational Skills to Support Reading for Understanding in Kindergarten Through 3rd Grade](#) (Foorman et al., 2016).
- [Teaching Elementary School Students to Be Effective Writers: A Practice Guide](#) (Graham et al., 2012).

Foundational Skills

English is an alphabetic language; developing readers must learn to translate letters and spelling patterns to sounds and pronunciations, and to read text accurately, automatically, and with proper expression. When students learn to manage these foundational skills with a minimum of conscious attention, they will have the cognitive resources available to comprehend what they read.


Research shows that the explicit teaching of phonemic awareness, phonics, and text reading fluency are the most successful ways to succeed in foundational skills. **Wonders** and **WonderWorks** present a sequence of research-aligned learning activities in their grade-level placements, sequences of instruction, and instructional guidance across the following areas:


- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics/Decoding
- Text Reading Fluency

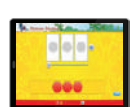
WEEK
1


Focus on Word Work


Build Foundational Skills with Multimodal Learning



Photo Cards


Response Board


Phonemic Awareness Activities


Sound-Spelling Cards


Word-Building Cards online


Phonics Practice Activities

MULTIMODAL

Phonological/Phonemic Awareness

- Recognize spoken alliteration in groups of words
- Isolate, blend, and categorize phonemes

Phonics: /p/p

- Introduce/review sound-spellings
- Blend/build words with sound-spellings
- Practice handwriting
- Decode and encode in connected texts

At the beginning of each text set, the **Wonders Teacher's Edition** provides an overview of Word Work, including the skills that will be covered and the multimodal resources that will support this learning.

Wonders Grade K Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T255E

See It in Action!

Phonemic Awareness

Explicit, systematic instruction in phonemic awareness, specifically in segmenting and blending, has been shown to improve reading achievement.

Phoneme Blending Routine

Introduce this routine by first blending two-letter VC words, such as *om* and *it*. Progress to CVC words that begin with a continuous sound (e.g., *in*, *mv*, *nv*, *iv*, *is*, *ni*, *iz*). Next blend words that start with stop sounds (e.g., *ib*, *id*, and *ig*). Finally, blend words that begin with consonant blends and digraphs. Blending phoneme by phoneme should begin with two-phoneme words at the beginning of Kindergarten, move to three-phoneme words by mid-year, and then to four- or five-phoneme words in Grades 1 and 2.

- 1. Explain** Briefly explain the routine and its purpose to students.
Today we will be blending, or putting together, sounds to make words.
- 2. Model** Say each sound in a word. Model how to blend the sounds to make the words.
I will put sounds together to make a word. Listen: /s/ /a/ /t/.
/ssssssst/ sat. The word is sat.
- 3. Guided Practice** Have students practice blending words phoneme by phoneme, sound by sound. Do the first word with students.
Listen to the sounds. Blend, or put together, the sounds to say the whole word.

/s/ /a/ /t/	/mv/ /a/ /v/
/n/ /i/ /p/	/t/ /u/ /v/

Now let's try some harder ones. Listen to the word parts. Blend, or put together, the word parts to say the whole word.

/tv/ /a/ /t/	/t/ /u/ /a/ /t/
/nv/ /i/ /sh/	/s/ /a/ /n/ /p/
/t/ /v/ /a/ /t/	/t/ /u/ /i/ /p/ /a/ /t/
- 4. Practice** Students can practice independently by completing related pages from the **Practice Book** or doing Phonological Awareness Activities online. See Additional Strategies and Tips for Teaching Phonological Awareness on page 45 for more ideas for independent practice.

Teaching Tip

A phoneme is an individual sound and can be represented by a single letter, such as *s* for */s/*, or by a combination of letters, such as *sh* for */sh/* or *oy* for */oi/*.

Corrective Feedback

When students make mistakes during blending, stretch (or sing) the sounds together. Move your hands from right to left as you move from sound to sound to emphasize the changing sounds. Repeat the routine using the same word, asking students to respond without you. Go back and repeat the last two examples before proceeding with additional examples.

PHONOLOGICAL AND PHONEMIC AWARENESS 39


Wonders Instructional Routines Handbook, p. 39

Research indicates that the most critical phonemic awareness skills are blending and segmenting, since they are most closely associated with early reading and writing growth and are implicated in the decoding process (NICHD, 2000). The **Instructional Routines Handbook** in *Wonders* includes research-based routines for blending, segmentation, and other tasks to support development of these skills.

LESSON

2

READING • WORD WORK



LEARNING GOALS

- We can blend sounds to say words.
- We can connect letters to sounds to read words.
- We can read the word a.

In a Flash: Sound-Spellings

Display the Sound-Spelling Card for p.

1. Teacher: What's the letter?	Children: p
2. Teacher: What's the sound?	Children: /p/
3. Teacher: What's the word?	Children: piano

Continue the routine for previously taught sounds.

5

Phoneme Awareness

Phoneme Blending

1 Model Demonstrate how to blend phonemes to make words. *Listen to the sounds in a word. /p/ /a/ /t/ /I/ I can blend those sounds to make a word: /paata/ paat. When I blend the sounds, it makes the word paat.*

Model phoneme blending with the following:

/p/ /t/ /N/ pick	/p/ /a/ /N/ pan	/p/ /t/ /N/ pet
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2 Guided Practice/Practice Listen to the sounds in a different word: /p/ /r/ /I/ /g/ Say the sounds with me: /p/ /r/ /I/ /g/. Let's blend the sounds and say the word /piig/ pig. Tell children to listen to the sounds in words, repeat the sounds, and then blend them to say the word. Guide practice and provide corrective feedback as needed.

/p/ /r/ /I/ pit	/p/ /a/ /N/ pack	/p/ /t/ /N/ pot
/p/ /a/ /I/ pat	/p/ /a/ /s/ pass	/p/ /e/ /N/ peck

OBJECTIVES

Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).

Demonstrate basic knowledge of one-to-one letter-sound correspondences by producing the primary sound or sounds of the most frequent sounds for each consonant.


Read common high-frequency words by sight.

Blend phonemes to form words.

ELA ACADEMIC LANGUAGE


- blend, connect

Wonders Grade K Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T278



5 min

Phonemic Awareness




Phoneme Segmentation

- 1

Model Use the **Sound Boxes** and markers. Say: *Listen as I say a word: kiss. Say the sounds in kiss with me: /k/ /i/ /s/. I'll place a marker in a box for each sound: /k/ /i/ /s/. There are three sounds in kiss. Repeat for luck.*
- 2

Guided Practice/Practice Distribute Sound Boxes and markers. Have children say each sound in the word as they place a marker in a box. Then have them say the word and tell the number of sounds in the word. Guide children with the first word.



Sound Boxes

keep /k/ /ē/ /p/	dock /d/ /o/ /k/	Kim /k/ /i/ /m/
key /k/ /ē/	kit /k/ /i/ /t/	sick /s/ /i/ /k/

If children need additional practice segmenting words into phonemes, have them use **Practice Book** page 260.

Wonders Grade K Teacher's Edition, Unit 6, p. T366

Phonics/Decoding/Encoding

Research findings strongly support phonics instruction that is both explicit and systematic. An explicit approach includes specific directions to teachers for teaching letter-sound correspondences. A systematic approach is one that incorporates a planned, sequential set of phonetic elements to master. These elements are explicitly and systematically introduced in meaningful reading and writing tasks (Ehri, Nunes, Stahl, & Willows, 2001; Stuebing, Barth, Cirino, Francis, & Fletcher, 2008).


5 mins

Phonics

Introduce Short u

1

Model Display the **Umbrella Sound-Spelling Card**. Teach /u/ spelled *u* using *up* and *sun*. Model writing the letter *u*. Use the handwriting models provided. *This is the Umbrella Sound-Spelling Card. The sound is /u/. The /u/ sound is spelled with the letter u. This is the sound at the beginning of the word umbrella. Listen: /uuu/, umbrella. I'll say /u/ as I write the letter u several times.*



Sound-Spelling Card

2

Guided Practice/Practice Have children practice connecting *u* to the sound /u/ by writing it. Say: *Now do it with me. Say /u/ as I write u. This time, write u five times as you say the /u/ sound. As needed, provide handwriting models for children to use.*

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T90

Wonders phonics instruction is explicit and systematic and progresses from simple to more complex sound-spellings, providing support and scaffolding as new sound-spellings are introduced.

Phonics lessons in the **Wonders Teacher's Edition** provide modeling, guided practice, and independent practice, and indicate resources and tools that can be used to support multimodal instruction.

Routines

The routines in this section are integrated within the lessons in the Teacher's Edition.

Phonics Routine

- Sound-by-Sound Blending
- Sound-Spelling Cards
- Building Words
- Reading Decodable
- Multisyllable Words
- Reading Big Words

Sound-by-Sound Blending Routine

For each week of phonics instruction in K-2, you will find word lists online to use with the blending routine. For most of the word lists:

- Lines 1-2 contain decodable words found in the upcoming selections;
- Line 3 contains minimal contexts;
- Line 4 contains a mixed list with cumulative review words;
- Lines 5-7 contain sentences.

1. **Explain.** Briefly explain the routine and its purpose.

Today we will be blending sounds to make words. The more practice we have sounding out words with the letters and spellings we have learned, the better readers we will be.

2. **Model.** Display the first word, writing it on the Response Board or placing letter cards in a pocket chart. Model how to blend sounds.

We will say each sound. Watch me, my turn: [Touch under each letter and say the sound] /c/ /a/ /t/ Now do it with me. [Touch under each letter and say the sound with students.] Now do it by yourselves. [Touch under each letter as students say the sound.]

Now we will blend the sounds to make a word. Watch me, my turn: [Point to the left of a and sweep under the a, stretching each sound for 1-1 1/2 seconds as you blend them.] Now do it with me. [Sweep under the letters and blend the sounds with students.] Now do it by yourselves. [Sweep under the letters as students say the sound.] Repeat to blend the third sound.

Now we will say the word. Watch me, my turn: [Slide your hand under the word] cat. Now do it with me. [Sweep under the letters and say the word with students.] Now do it by yourselves. [Sweep under the letters as students say the word.]

Repeat until students understand the task.

3. **Guided Practice** Select words from the list, display them, and have students blend sounds. This portion of the lesson should be brief and take 5-10 minutes maximum.

[Point to each letter.] Sound? Have students chorally say the sound. Repeat for each letter.

[Point to the left of the word, sweep under the first two letters.] Blend? Have students chorally blend the sounds. Repeat for all letters in the word.

[Point to the left of the word, sweep quickly under the whole word.] Word? Have students chorally say the word.

4. **Practice** Provide individual turns as a check. Call on several students for one word each. Call on students in an unpredictable order. Call more frequently on students who made errors.

Have students chorally read the word lists and sentences. Students should read a word every two seconds. This will help to develop fluency with the words and spelling patterns before students read the Decodable Text.

For additional independent practice, assign the corresponding page(s) in the Practice Book or Phonics Activities online. See Additional Strategies for Teaching Phonics on pages 59 and 60 for more ideas.

Teaching Tip

After months of blending practice, transition students to sounding out words in their head. Follow the same steps in Guided Practice, but have students say the sound in their head only. For the last step, when you sweep under the entire word and prompt students with Word?, have them say the word aloud. Be sure to offer enough time for students to blend the word in their heads before saying it, and reinforce this kind of blending when students are reading decodable text. The ultimate goal of blending is Whole Word Reading, where they scan and say the word. When students get to this stage, you may need to remind them they don't have to work through every sound for familiar words.

Corrective Feedback

To correct students who make a sound error, model the sound they missed, then have them repeat the sound. If they still make an error, have them say it with you. Take note of those sounds children consistently miss and provide needs-based reteach lessons during small group time.

To correct students who make a blending error, model blending again, then lead students in blending, responding with them to offer support. Have them repeat on their own, checking at each blending step. Have them do this once more on their own. Then back up two words and repeat the Guided Practice step, reteach the missed word, and continue on.

If students struggle reading CVC words, use vowel-first blending. Point to the vowel, say its sound, and have children repeat. Then blend the word from the beginning.


Wonders Instructional Routines Handbook, pp. 50-51

Explicit decoding instruction that includes blending instruction using continuous phonation provides students with the best chance of making early learning progress (Gonzalez-Frey & Ehri, 2021; Martens, Werder, Hier, & Koenig, 2013; O'Connor & Padeliadu, 2000). The **Wonders Instructional Routines Handbook** and **Teacher's Edition** lessons teach blending using continuous phonation.

Blend Words with Short u

1

Model Display the Word-Building Cards *f*, *u*, *n*. Model how to blend the sounds. *This is the letter f. It stands for /f/. This is the letter u. It stands for /u/. This is the letter n. It stands for /n/. Listen as I blend these sounds together: /ffuuunnn/, fun. Continue to model, blending the words hug, nut, fuzz, and plum.*



2

Guided Practice/Practice Display the Lesson 1 Phonics Practice Activity. Read each word in the first row with children. Blend the sounds; for example, /u/ /p/ /uuup/. The word is *up*. Continue to guide practice as needed with rows 2-7. Provide corrective feedback as children sound out decodable words, and read the words in connected text.

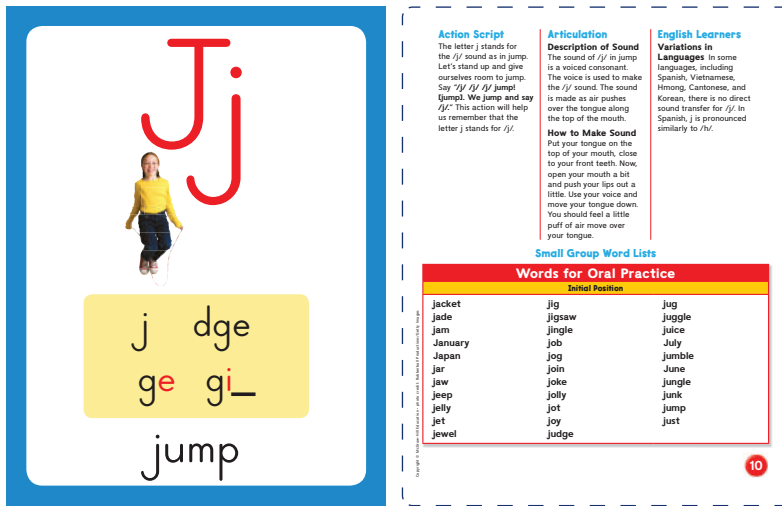
up	us	but	hut	fun	cub
mud	bug	duck	yuck	huff	stuff
rug	rag	luck	lock	truck	track
yelled	drum	skill	plum	head	puffed

Russ is snug in his bed.
Gus plays the drums.
A hen clucks.

Lesson 1 Phonics Practice Activity

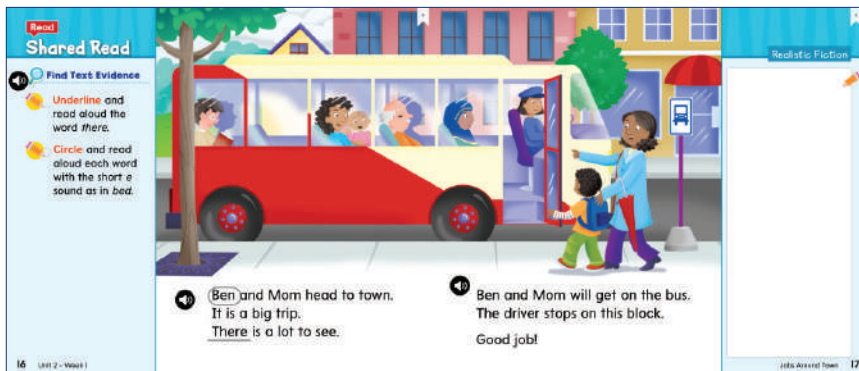
Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T91

4



Wonders Sound Spelling Cards, front and back

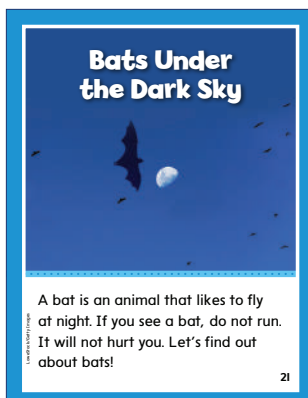
When there is overlap in speech between where one phoneme ends and the next one begins, it is important to monitor changes in the mouth that occur as children pronounce words. The teacher directing attention to the shape and position of the lips and tongue will help children distinguish the sequence of phonemes in the pronunciation of words (Ehri et al., 2001). **Sound-Spelling Cards** in *Wonders* provide articulation support, with the lenticular versions of these cards offering images that shift to show articulation in action.



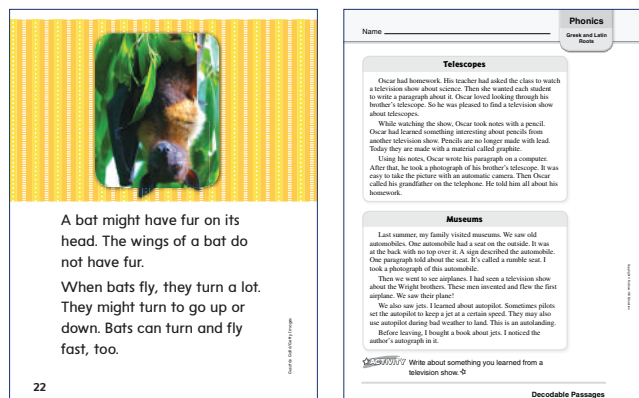
Wonders Grade 1, Unit 2, pp. 16–17

Using decodable texts in early reading accelerates students' knowledge and use of phonics patterns, improves their spelling, and positively affects their motivation to read (Blevins, 2000).

In *Wonders*, students reinforce and apply their phonetic knowledge in context through the Shared Read selections in the **Reading/Writing Companion** at Grades K–1, **Decodable Readers** at Grades K–2, and the Take-Home Stories in the Grades K–1 **Practice Book** blackline masters. **Decodable Passages** are also available online for all grades.

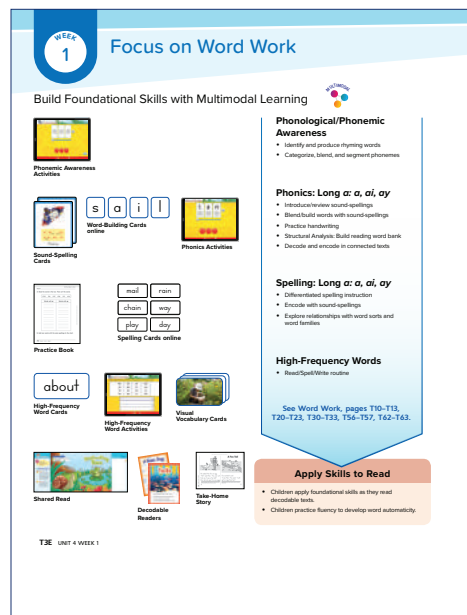


Wonders Grade 1, Unit 5, pp. 21–22

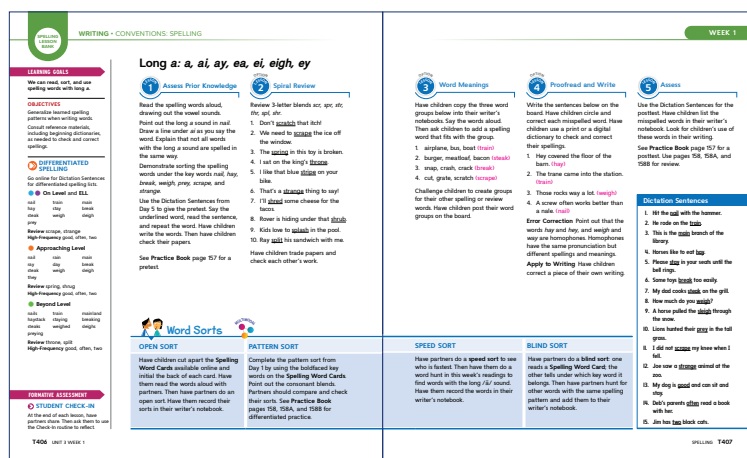


Decodable Passages Grade 3

Spelling instruction supports a deeper understanding of letter-sound correlations and improves decoding and spelling skills (Graham, Harris, & Chorzempa, 2002; Graham & Santangelo, 2014; Snow et al., 1998). **Wonders** spelling instruction is aligned to phonics instruction, emphasizing the relationship between decoding and encoding letter-sound correlations. Spelling skills are taught weekly and practiced in the **Practice Book**.

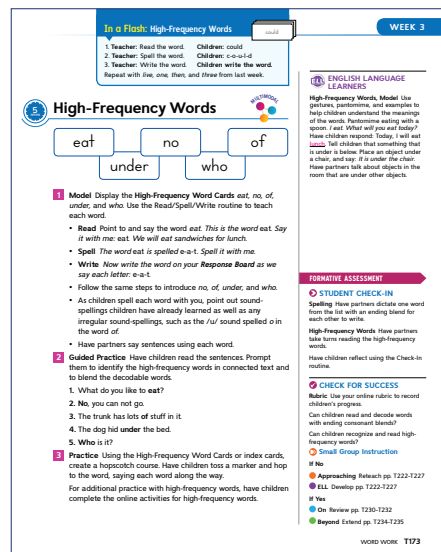


Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 4, p. T3E

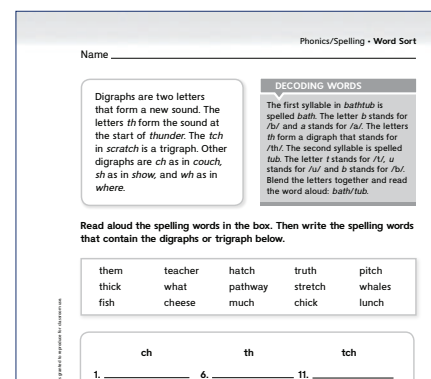


Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, pp. T406–T407

High-Frequency Words



Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T173



Wonders Practice Book, Grade 3, p. 115

In **Wonders**, high-frequency words are introduced using the Read-Spell-Write Routine that supports students in the orthographic mapping of words. This routine is included in the **Instructional Routines Handbook**.

Orthographic mapping is the mental process we use to store words for immediate retrieval and can be used for words with both regular and irregular sound-spellings. Words are anchored into permanent memory when the string of phonemes in word pronunciations is associated with the letter order in the written word (Ehri, 2013).

Text Reading Fluency

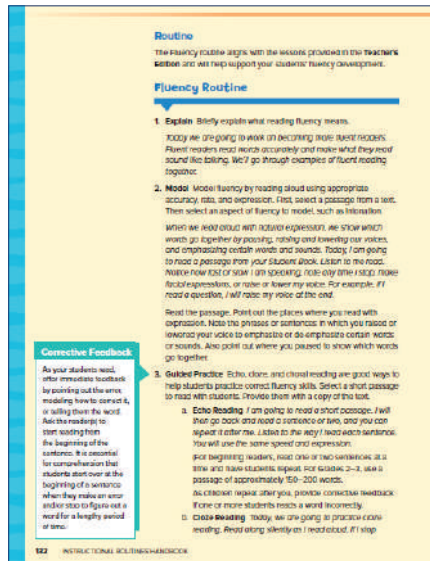
Research says that students can better allocate working memory resources for more complex reading tasks if they can read accurately and fluently. When words are read “automatically,” the brain isn’t occupied with the details of the task itself and can instead attend to the meaning of the text being read (Rasinski, Blachowicz, & Lems, 2012).

FOCUS ON FLUENCY



With partners, have children reread “The Best Spot” to develop fluency. Children should focus on their accuracy, trying to say each word correctly. Then have them read the story so it sounds like speech. Remind children the goal is to keep practicing until they can read the words automatically.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T175



Wonders Instructional Routines Handbook, p. 132



Ask children to use **Audio Recorder** to record themselves reading aloud the **Differentiated Genre Passage** “Helping Out in the Community.” Have them play back their recording and listen to their phrasing as they track print with a finger. Read a sentence with correct phrasing as an example, if needed. Tell children to ask questions as they listen, such as: *Did I group words together in phrases as I read? Did I look for commas and periods to know when to pause or stop?*

Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 3, p. T50

At K–2, students receive daily foundational skills instruction that is immediately applied to reading connected texts. Reading with automaticity enables students to read texts—as opposed to decoding them—to better focus on the meaning of the texts such as the Shared Read texts in the **Reading/Writing Companion** and the Anchor Text in the **Literature Anthology** at Grades 1–2.

In Grades 3–5, fluency is explicitly addressed throughout each text set, with comprehensive weekly lessons and daily practice activities to build automaticity included in the **Teacher's Edition**. Fluency lessons focus on accuracy, prosody, expression, and rate. Students can practice reading fluently with the Audio Recorder tool in the **digital course**.

Related Resources

- [Foundational Skills: Grades K–5](#) by Dr. Jan Hasbrouck
- [Foundational Literacy: What the Research Says About Phonological Awareness](#)
- [Foundational Literacy: What the Research Says about Speaking and Listening](#)

Reading Comprehension

Reading comprehension requires that students extract and construct meaning from text. To comprehend, students must learn to apply the prior knowledge they bring to the text to the information expressed through written language in the text. To accomplish this successfully, readers must do three things. They must:

- expand their knowledge through the reading of high-quality informative texts;
- learn to negotiate increasingly sophisticated and complex written language; and
- develop the cognitive abilities to manage and monitor these processes.

Wonders provides lessons built around a high-quality collection of complex literary and informational texts, focused on both the natural and social worlds. Teachers using **Wonders** will find explicit, research-based lessons in vocabulary and other language skills; guidance for high-level, high-quality discussions; and well-designed lessons aimed at building the executive processes that can shift reading comprehension into high gear, including:

- Building knowledge/using knowledge
- Vocabulary and other aspects of written language
- Text complexity
- Executive processes and comprehension strategies

See It in Action!

Building Knowledge

Reading comprehension requires readers to build connections between what they know (prior knowledge) and the text information. A reader's knowledge reduces memory load, supports inferencing, and increases the possibility of learning from text (Willingham, 2017).

Integrate
10 **Make Connections** DOK 4

Talk About It
Share and discuss children's responses to the "Amazing Animal Parents" Blast. Display the Build Knowledge anchor chart. Review the chart and have children read through their notes, annotations, and responses for each text. Then ask children to complete the Talk About It activity on **Reading/Writing Companion** page 34.

Cite Text Evidence
Guide children to use text evidence to make connections between *Baby Bears*, "Eagles and Eaglets," and the photograph on page 34. Remind children to read the photo caption and to use the Quick Tip.

Write
Children should use the chart as they respond to the writing prompt at the bottom of the page. After they finish, have groups share their responses.

Build Knowledge: Make Connections
Talk About the Text Have partners discuss how animals and their offspring are alike and what they've learned about how parents help their offspring.
Write About the Text Have children add their ideas to the Build Knowledge pages of their reader's notebooks.
Anchor Chart Record any new ideas on the Build Knowledge anchor chart.

Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T48

SHOW YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Make a Picture Book
Think about how the young animals you read about grow. Think about ways they are not like their parents. How do they change and become adults? Show how three young animals grow up to be like their parents.

- 1 Look at your Build Knowledge notes in your reader's notebook.
- 2 Create a picture book that shows how three young animals change. Illustrate your book with drawings or photographs. Write captions that describe how each offspring becomes an adult.
- 3 Include some of the new words you learned. Use examples from at least three texts you read.

My Goal I know about how offspring are like their parents.

Think about what you learned in this text set. Fill in the bars on page 33.

Wonders Grade 2 Reading/Writing Companion, Unit 2, p. 35

Build Knowledge

Essential Question
What do you do at your school?

Video At school, we can learn about dates and time. We can learn how to read. We can learn to do math.

Literature *Big Book* is a new school year, we can hope for many things. We might hope to make new friends or to do well at sports. We might hope to take a field trip or to win a prize.

Shared Read Friends can help each other at school. They can work together to finish a project.

Interactive Read Aloud All around the world, children go to school. Some children in Peru take a boat to school. In China, children learn to write calligraphy. In Vietnam, children play on special swings at recess.

Anchor Text At school, special friends can help us when we are nervous.

Paired Selection We have important rules at school. We raise our hand. We listen quietly. We cross the street safely.

Song At school, we can sing "The ABC Song." Singing songs can help us learn.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T3A

Build Knowledge

Essential Question
What do you do at your school?

Tell children that this week they will be talking and reading about things that happen at school. Discuss the Essential Question. Children can describe school activities they know.

Watch the Video Play the video without sound first and have partners narrate what they see. Then replay the video with sound and have children listen.

Talk About the Video Have partners share one thing they saw that reminded them of their school.

Add to the Anchor Chart Create a Build Knowledge anchor chart with the Essential Question and have volunteers share what they learned. Record their ideas on the chart.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T6

In **Wonders**, each text set is focused on building knowledge through investigation of an Essential Question. After an introduction to the Essential Question, students self-evaluate how much they already know about the topic. Students reflect on the knowledge they have gained after reading each key text using a Build Knowledge Routine. Then at the end of the text set students complete a Make Connections activity and culminating Show Your Knowledge task where they synthesize that knowledge.

Vocabulary

Researchers recommend that vocabulary should be taught both directly and indirectly—that is, using both explicit instruction in vocabulary and methods of decoding word meanings, on the one hand, and more contextual approaches to exposing students to vocabulary on the other (Harmon & Wood, 2018; NICHD, 2000, pp. 4–24).

Oral Vocabulary Words

Use the Define/Example/Ask routine on the print or digital **Visual Vocabulary Cards** to introduce the oral vocabulary words *immediately* and *schedule*. Children can use the words to discuss measuring time.

Oral Vocabulary Routine

Define: When you do something **immediately**, you do it right away, without waiting.

Example: When the mouse saw the hungry cat, it immediately ran into its hole.

Ask: What do you do immediately after you wake up?

Define: A **schedule** is a timetable showing when things will happen.

Example: According to the bus schedule, the last bus leaves at midnight.

Ask: According to our school schedule, what do we do after we eat lunch?

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 3, p. T6

LESSON 1

READING • SHARED READ

Academic Vocabulary

Use the routines on the **Visual Vocabulary Cards** to introduce each word.

If you **invented** something, you made something new.

Money is the dollars and cents that you use to buy things.

The **prices** of things are how much you have to pay to buy them.

If you **purchase** something, you pay money to buy it.

If you make a **record** of something, you write down information to save it.

A **system** is a plan or a set of rules for doing something.

The **value** of something is how much it is worth.

If something is **worth** a certain amount of money, it costs that much money to buy it.

Encourage children to use their newly acquired vocabulary in their discussions and written responses about the texts in this text set.

LEARNING GOALS

- We can use new vocabulary words to read and understand expository text.
- We can use paragraph clues to identify synonyms.

OBJECTIVES

Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

Use words and phrases acquired through conversations, reading and being read to, and responding to texts, including using adjectives and adverbs to describe. (e.g., When other kids are happy that makes me happy).

Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 6, p. T12

calendar

Oral Vocabulary Unit 3 Week 1

TEACHER TALK

One word in the expository text is **calendar**. Right with your students follow the vocabulary routine.

- Define:** A **calendar** is a chart that shows the days, weeks, and months in a year. In expository, calendar systems show "calendars" call upon response to the, someone system on an off".
- Example:** Each looks at the calendar to count the days and months.
- Ask:** How many days are there in a week?
- Ask:** How many days are there in a month?
- Ask:** How many days are there in a year?

calendar

Oral Vocabulary Unit 3 Week 1

PARTNER TALK

- With your partner, look at our calendar. calendar. Then compare. How many days are there in the days?
- Let's use our calendar. We will count the days and the end of the month. Then we will count the months until the end of the year.
- With your partner your favorite month. Find it on the calendar. Tell your partner why your favorite month is the day on the calendar. How many days are there in a month?
- Now let's use calendar together. How many months are there in a year? calendar, calendar, calendar.

Wonders Grade 1 Visual Vocabulary Card, Front and Back

Reread | SHARED READ

Vocabulary

Use the sentences to talk with a partner about each word. Then answer the questions.

invented
Thomas Edison **invented** the light bulb. What other useful things people invented?

money
A dollar bill is **money** made of paper. What other things are made of money?

prices
Martha looked at the **prices** of sweaters. Do you know the prices of any food items on the list?

purchase
Sam will **purchase** a snack. What is something you would like to purchase?

record
Our teacher keeps a **record** of who comes to school every day. What is something you would like to record?

Build Your Word List Choose an interesting word that you noted while reading. Look up and write its definition using a print or online dictionary.

REALISTIC FICTION

Paragraph Clues

Look for paragraph clues when you read a new word. These words and sentences in the paragraph can help you figure out the meaning of the word.

FIND TEXT EVIDENCE

I'll use paragraph clues to figure out what **shedding** means. In the first sentence, I see the old doll can't be used again. The last sentence says **shedding** means "to cut it into tiny pieces."

Your Turn Use paragraph clues to figure out the meaning of the words below:

change, page 14
money that is given back if you loan, page 14

Wonders Grade 2 Reading/Writing Companion, Unit 6, pp. 16–17

The vocabulary lessons in *Wonders* focus on high-frequency words for early elementary students and include direct instruction on lower-frequency words as students progress. At all grade levels, high value words are the focus of instruction. Vocabulary lessons introduce target words using the Define/Example/Ask routine, and students have multiple encounters with new words as well as spiral review. In Grades K, 1, and 2, there is direct instruction of oral vocabulary. Starting in the second half of Grade 1 and continuing through Grade 5, there are direct instructional written vocabulary minilessons.

Beginning in Grade 1 Unit 4, instruction is also provided for key vocabulary strategies to help students learn words indirectly. These strategies include Context Clues; Prefixes, Suffixes, and Greek and Latin Roots; Base Words; Use a Dictionary; and Idioms, Synonyms, Antonyms, Homophones, and Homographs.

Text Complexity

Students should receive reading comprehension instruction with sufficiently complex and demanding texts. Students placed in such texts make the greatest reading gains (Brown, Mohr, Wilcox, & Barrett, 2017; Kuhn et al., 2006; Morgan, Wilcox, & Eldredge, 2000). Research evidence such as this has been accumulating, suggesting that at least under some circumstances, more challenging texts coupled with supportive teaching can improve reading achievement. Some early studies argued for setting instructional levels higher than in the past; these studies were finding greater amounts of reading progress when students were placed in relatively harder texts (e.g., Powell, 1968; Powell & Dunkeld, 1971).

"Wild Animal Families" Expository Text	"Eagles and Eagles" Shared Read pp. 12–17 Expository Text	Baby Bears Anchor Text pp. 128–129 Expository Text	"From Caterpillar to Butterfly" Paired Selection pp. 128–129 Expository Text
Qualitative			
Meaning/Purpose Moderate Complexity Structure Moderate Complexity Language High Complexity Knowledge Demands Moderate Complexity	Meaning/Purpose Low Complexity Structure Moderate Complexity Language Moderate Complexity Knowledge Demands Moderate Complexity	Meaning/Purpose Moderate Complexity Structure Moderate Complexity Language Moderate Complexity Knowledge Demands Moderate Complexity	Meaning/Purpose Moderate Complexity Structure Moderate Complexity Language Moderate Complexity Knowledge Demands Moderate Complexity
Quantitative			
Lexile 700L	Lexile 520L	Lexile 590L	Lexile 560L
Reader and Task Considerations			
Reader Children will understand the purpose for reading the text. Children might be inspired to read about how other baby animals are like their parents.	Reader Children will understand the purpose for reading the text. Children might be inspired to read about how other young birds are like their parents.	Reader The text describes how baby bears are like their parents. In addition, photos with captions and a diagram with labels clarify and add information to the text.	Reader The text describes how caterpillars are like their parents. In addition, photos with captions and a diagram with labels clarify and add information to the text.
Task The questions for the Interactive Read Aloud are supported by teacher modeling. The tasks provide a variety of ways for students to begin to build knowledge and vocabulary about the text set topic. The questions and tasks provided for the other texts are at various levels of complexity, ensuring that all students can interact with the texts in meaningful ways.			

Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T3C

Wonders offers extensive opportunities for every student at every grade to encounter text of appropriate complexity throughout the year. A Text Complexity Rubric rating for the texts in each text set is provided in the **Wonders Teacher's Editions**. This rubric includes Low, Moderate, and High Complexity ratings around Qualitative Measures, as well as Quantitative information and Reader and Task Considerations.

Another aspect of the role of text complexity has to do with the role of text in influencing student language development. The language that one is exposed to is an important factor in children's comprehension development. Children who listen to and read books with quality language are better able to interpret such language when they read on their own (Bus, van IJzendoorn, & Pellegrini, 1995; Hoffman, Sailors, Duffy, & Beretvas, 2004; Koskinen et al., 2000; Leinhardt, Zigmond, & Cooley, 1981; National Early Literacy Panel [NELP], 2008). More complex text is usually more sophisticated text, and thus improved language usually means improved reading comprehension (Dickinson, Griffith, Golinkoff, & Hirsh-Pasek, 2012; Fitzgerald, Elmore, et al., 2015; NELP, 2008).

15 mins

Oral Language

Essential Question

What jobs need to be done in a community?

Remind children that this week they have been learning about jobs in the community. Guide children to discuss the question using information from what they have read and discussed. Use the online or print **Visual Vocabulary Cards** and the Define/Example/Ask routine to review the oral vocabulary words *occupation*, *community*, *equipment*, *fortunately*, and *astonishing*.

Guide children to use each word as they talk about what they have read and learned about what jobs are done in the community. Prompt children by asking questions.

- What *occupations* have we read about?
- What is a job people do in your *community*?
- What special *equipment* do the construction workers use in "Good Job, Ben!"?
- Why is it *fortunate* to have firefighters in the community?
- What would be an *astonishing* occupation to have?



Review last week's oral vocabulary words *agree*, *difficult*, *exercise*, *exhausted*, and *physical*.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T46

Reading comprehension depends upon readers' abilities to negotiate written language. These written language abilities are, in turn, dependent on oral language proficiencies. This is especially the case during a reader's early years. The stronger the young readers' oral language skills, the more likely they will be able to understand and learn from written language.

Wonders provides considerable amounts of direct instruction and practice of oral language skills. Grades K and 1 feature explicit lessons in oral vocabulary and listening comprehension each week. These oral skills become an important basis for the reading comprehension lessons that students engage with in the program.

Exploring text ideas through language provides opportunities for extending students' vocabulary (Beck, McKeown, & Kucan, 2002), for engaging in decontextualized talk (Dickinson & Morse, 2019), and for using listening comprehension as a basis for developing an understanding of text (Williams, 2018). Across all grades of *Wonders*, **Interactive Read Aloud** lessons foster listening comprehension, and Collaborative Conversations instruction supports students in engaging in meaningful discussions about the texts that they listen to and read and the knowledge they are building.


 <h3>Build Knowledge</h3> <p>Review how to add new ideas using the Collaborative Conversations box. Then have children turn to pages 10-11 of their Reading/Writing Companion. Guide children to discuss the photo. Then ask:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Where do you think this man is? How do you know?</i> • <i>What is his job? Why is his job important?</i> Talk with a partner. <h3>Build Vocabulary</h3> <p>Talk Have children talk with a partner about community jobs.</p> <p>Write On page 11, have children write words about community jobs.</p> <p>Create a Word Bank Create a separate section of the Word Bank for words about community jobs. Children can suggest words to add.</p>	 <h3>COLLABORATIVE CONVERSATIONS</h3> <p>Add New Ideas As children engage in partner, small-group, and whole-group discussions, encourage them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stay on topic. • connect their own ideas to the comments of others. • respond to the comments and ideas of others.
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Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T46

Oral language development is influenced by the texts that students read and that are read to them (Dickinson et al., 2012; Dickinson & Morse, 2019; Fitzgerald, Amendum, Relyea, & Garcia, 2015; NELP, 2008). Dialogic reading is an effective and efficient way to develop students' oral language and comprehension skills (Shanahan & Lonigan, 2017; Kim & Pilcher, 2016; Mol, Bus, de Jong, & Smeets, 2008; Stahl & Nagy, 2006; Williams et al., 2005; Shanahan, 2022). Dialogic instruction includes generating questions, engaging in discussion, and listening carefully to the ideas of others (Fisher & Frey, 2020).

Dialogic reading centers on children and teachers having conversations about texts. The literature in *Wonders* facilitates many opportunities for teachers and students to engage in dialogic reading. **Interactive Read Alouds**, **Literature Big Books**, **Shared Reads**, and **Literature Anthology** anchor texts offer rich material for lively and instructive text-based conversations.

READING • LISTENING COMPREHENSION
WEEK 1



Read the Interactive Read Aloud

Connect to Concept

Tell children that you will be reading aloud a nonfiction text about the different jobs that people have in a community. Display the **Interactive Read Aloud Cards**. Read the title "Jobs Around Town."

Set Purpose Say: *Let's read to learn about different jobs in a community. Read the selection aloud as you display the cards. Remind children to listen carefully.*

Oral Vocabulary Use the Oral Vocabulary prompts as you read the selection to provide more practice with the words in context.

Suffixes Tell children that as you read, they can use suffixes to help them understand the meaning of unfamiliar words. Model the strategy using a sentence on Card 1.

Teacher Think Aloud When I read "Still other workers put the wires..." I wondered what the word wires meant. If we are not sure what a word means, we can look at its parts. Wires has the suffix *-s*, which means "more than one." I know that a wire is a very thin piece of metal, so the word wires must mean many pieces of metal.

Continue reading the selection, stopping to ask children to use suffixes to figure out the meaning of unfamiliar words.


Student Think Aloud After you read Card 3, reread the sentence about bandages. Ask: *How can you figure out what bandages are?* I look at the word part it has the suffix *-s*, which means "more than one." So now I know that bandages means more than one bandage.

Build Knowledge: Make Connections

Talk About the Text Have partners discuss why the jobs in this text need to be done in a community.

Add to the Anchor Chart Record any new ideas on the Build Knowledge anchor chart.

Add to the Word Bank Then add words related to community jobs to a separate section of the Word Bank.



"Jobs Around Town"

LEARNING GOALS

We can listen actively to learn about different jobs in a town.


OBJECTIVES

Use frequently occurring affixes as a clue to the meaning of a word.

ELA ACADEMIC LANGUAGE

- affix
- Cognate: suffix

DIGITAL TOOLS



Interactive Read Aloud

SPOTLIGHT ON LANGUAGE

Cards 1 and 2 Operate can mean "to work something." What do workers operate? (a truck) If you crush something, you make it smaller. Talk to your partner about why garbage collectors crush garbage.

Card 4 If you decide something, you pick it. Librarians decide which books to have in libraries. You can decide where to go or what to eat.

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

STUDENT CHECK-IN

Have partners share one thing they learned about garbage collectors. Have children reflect using the Check-in routine.

BUILD THE CONCEPT/LISTENING COMPREHENSION T19

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T19

“Helping students work with syntax, which is the grammatical and structural basis of our written language, supports their comprehension of text” (Hennessy, 2021). “Studies have long shown that teaching students how to disentangle the grammar of some sentences, how to take advantage of the cohesive links across a passage, and how to identify and use a text’s organizational structure all can improve reading comprehension” (Shanahan, 2020, p. 17).

In each grade of **Wonders**, students read a variety of rich, engaging complex texts. The Access Complex Text feature (ACT) in the **Teacher’s Edition** delivers scaffolded instruction focused on difficult language structures and other particularly challenging aspects of texts. **Wonders** provides scaffolding for seven different elements that may make a literary or informational text complex: purpose, organization, connection of ideas, sentence structure, genre, specific vocabulary, and prior knowledge.

A

C

T

Access Complex Text

Sentence Structure

Children may need support in understanding sentences that have complex structures or that contain more than one idea.

- Reread the first sentence on page 15. Ask: *What two things does the sentence compare? (birds and mammals) What did you learn about birds and mammals? (Birds have feathers. Mammals have fur.)*

- Reread the second and third sentences on page 15. Focus on the third sentence: “It cannot fly . . .” Ask: *What cannot fly? (the eaglet) When can it fly? (It can fly when it grows dark feathers.)* Use similar questioning to help children understand the fourth sentence in the paragraph.

T10
UNIT 2 TEXT SET 1

Wonders Grade 2 Teacher’s Edition, Unit 2, p. T10

One of the most critical routines in **Wonders** is the Close Reading Routine, which is applied to a variety of texts in every unit. Students learn to close read by carefully examining complex texts, first by reading for the most important ideas and details, then by rereading with a focus on author’s craft and text structure, and finally by integrating ideas and making text-to-text connections, always citing evidence from the text. According to Dr. Douglas Fisher (2016), the “overarching goal of close reading is to cause students to engage in critical thinking with a text.” Close reading prompts and activities at increasing DOK levels appear throughout the **Reading/Writing Companions** and **Teacher’s Editions**.

The concept of close reading, though it has gained recent attention, is actually a relatively old idea (Adler & Van Doren, 1940; Brooks & Warren, 1938; Richards, 1925, 1942). Under this theoretical construct, meaning resides in a text. To gain access to this meaning, readers must read the text closely and repeatedly, weighing the author’s words and ideas, and relying heavily on evidence drawn from the text (rather than from the reader’s background knowledge or from external sources, such as the teacher). It is not a teaching technique per se, though its proponents believe that students should be engaged in this practice by their teachers regularly in order to establish it as a habit of mind.

Close reading is an active process that involves the deep, careful, and thorough analysis and evaluation of the key ideas and details of a text, along with a consideration of the text’s craft and structure (Newkirk, 2012; Piercy, 2011; Snow & O’Connor, 2016), and, perhaps, its connection with other texts (Adler & Van Doren, 1940). Close reading requires a deep, thorough, and critical analysis of the ideas in a text and the ways in which the text conveys those ideas. As such, readers—to engage in close reading successfully—must be able to paraphrase and summarize text information, to identify main points and key supporting details, and to evaluate both the meaning and tone of an author’s choices with regard to vocabulary, text structure, use of literary devices, and graphic elements, and consider a text’s clarity, precision, accuracy, relevance, significance, and logic (Fisher & Frey, 2014; Elder & Paul, 2004, p. 37). Analytical reading, deep reading, and critical reading are all at least partial synonyms for the ideas inherent in close reading.

Close Reading Routine

Read

DOK 1-2

- Identify important ideas and details.
- Take notes and retell.
- Use **ACT** prompts as needed.

Reread

DOK 2-3

- Analyze the text, craft, and structure.
- Use the **Reread minilessons and prompts**.

Integrate

DOK 3-4

- Integrate knowledge and ideas.
- Make text-to-text connections.
- Use the Integrate lesson.
- Complete the Show Your Knowledge task.
- Inspire action.

Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T8

Comprehension Strategies


Reading comprehension can be enhanced by strategies (NICHHD, 2000; Shanahan et al., 2010). Strategies are intentional actions readers use to increase attention to features of text or to think about that information in particular ways. Effective strategies include monitoring, graphic organizers, question generation, story structure analysis, summarization, inferencing (NICHHD, 2000); and activating prior knowledge or predicting, visualization, clarifying, retelling, and identifying text structure (Shanahan et al., 2010).

36 • Reading Workshop

Make Inferences

An inference is an idea based on clues in the text, the illustrations, and what you know.

- ✓ Find text evidence, or clues, in different parts of the text.
- ✓ Think about what you already know.
- ✓ Put the clues and what you know together.
- ✓ Make an inference.



Making inferences helps you understand ideas the author does not say directly.

My Goal I can make inferences when I read.

Make Inferences

Choose a book or story to read or reread. Then choose an activity.

Activity 1
Nonfiction Inferences

- Read a nonfiction text about an animal.
- Use text clues in the book and what you know to make inferences about the animal.
- Write a paragraph in your reader's notebook that tells what you inferred. Include the text clues and what you already knew that helped you make the inferences.

Activity 2
Use a Graphic Organizer

Text Clues	What You Know	Inferences

- Make a copy of the chart in your reader's notebook.
- Read a nonfiction text.
- Fill out the chart. Use clues from the text and what you know to make an inference about the topic.
- Talk about how making an inference about the topic helped you understand the text.

Activity 3
Make Inferences

CHALLENGE

- Write a story about a character who is brave, honest, kind, or another character trait.
- Include clues to describe the character. Clues might be what the character does or what others say about the character.
- Show your story with a partner. Ask them to make an inference about your character's trait.

Can you make inferences when you read? Write the number in your reader's notebook.

Check It 1 2 3 4

Wonders Grade 2 Center Activity Cards, Front and Back

WEEK 5



MAKE INFERENCES

Remind children that to make inferences, they use text evidence and what they already know. They connect details to make inferences.

Think Aloud On page 71, I read that the chorus members practice for three hours each week. This tells me that they are willing to work hard and dedicate a lot of time to be in the chorus. I can infer that being in the chorus is important to the students. In the last paragraph, when a student says, "We just want to give it our best," I can infer that the student is proud to be in the chorus and that the chorus is important to this student.

Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 3, p. T285

LESSON 2

READING • SHARED READ

10

Reread

Ask and Answer Questions

LEARNING GOALS

We can ask and answer questions to understand narrative nonfiction.

OBJECTIVES

Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

ELA ACADEMIC LANGUAGE

• monitor, comprehension, reread

• Cognates: monitor, comprehension

1 Explain

Explain to students that when they read, they can stop and ask themselves questions about a section to monitor their comprehension. They can also preview the selection before they read and ask questions based on their preview. After they've read the selection, they can ask additional questions about what they might want to learn further or to be sure they understood the most important information.

- To check their understanding of a section, students should stop and ask themselves a question, such as *Why did this event happen?* They can then reread the section to find the answer.
- To monitor their understanding of the whole selection, students might ask: *What are the central ideas in this selection?* Answering this question can help readers make inferences and determine how relevant details connect in the selection.

Point out that the strategy of rereading often goes hand-in-hand with the strategy of asking and answering questions.

Anchor Chart Begin an Ask and Answer Questions anchor chart. Have volunteers add points about the strategy to the chart.

2 Model

Model how asking and answering this question can help students better understand the text: *Why did Thoreau have to find a place of his own?* Reread the first paragraph of "A Life in the Woods" on Reading/Writing Companion page 13. Point out that relevant details in the text such as "chatter of guests in the next room" and "How would he write a book with such noise in his family's house?" show that Thoreau needed to find his own place because his family's house was too noisy for him to write there.

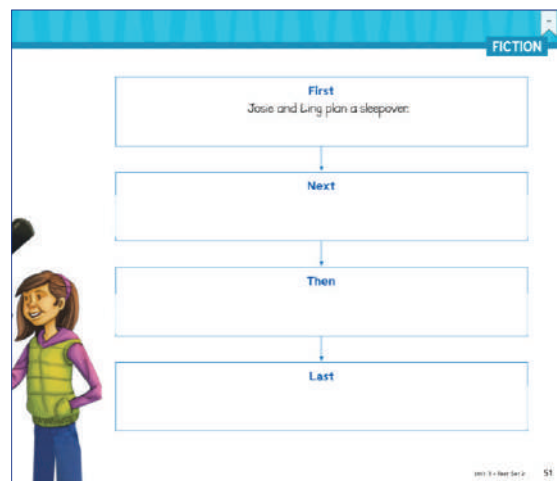
3 Guided Practice

Help students work in pairs to reread the section "Back to Concord" on page 15. Have partners ask and answer a question about this section. Possible questions might include: *What had Thoreau set out to do?* *What had the woods taught him?* Students can reread the selection to find answers to these questions. Have partners discuss other sections of "A Life in the Woods" that they could ask and answer questions about.

T14 UNIT 1 TEXT SET 1

Wonders Grade 5 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T14

Comprehension is a strategic process. Students must learn to monitor their comprehension and to make appropriate executive decisions about how best to read a text, to focus their attention, or to seek information outside of the text itself (e.g., looking a word up in a dictionary). **Wonders** teaches students to use a variety of research-based comprehension strategies including question generation, story structure analysis, summarizing, inferencing, visualizing, and rereading. Explicit instruction helps teachers focus student attention on the strategies while employing the gradual release of responsibility (I do, we do, you do) model. Teachers model strategies through read alouds and shared readings. Students then practice and apply strategies with anchor texts in the **Literature Anthology**.



Wonders Grade 2 Reading/Writing Companion, Unit 3, p. 51

Related Resources

- [Close Reading in Elementary Classrooms](#) by Dr. Douglas Fisher
- [Text Complexity](#) by Dr. Timothy Shanahan
- [The Essentials of Literacy Instruction: Text Quality and Text Complexity](#)
- [The Essentials of Literacy Instruction: Building Knowledge](#)

Writing

It is not enough to be able to read, understand, and learn from the writing of others. Being able to communicate one's own ideas logically and effectively is necessary, too. As with reading, writing includes foundational skills (like spelling and handwriting), as well as higher-order abilities (composition and communication) and the executive processes required to manage the accomplishment of successful writing.

Research shows that reading and writing strengthen one another. Focusing writing instruction in the following areas will help students improve their reading:

- Writing foundations (spelling, handwriting, sentences)
- Quality writing for multiple purposes
- The writing processes
- Writing to enhance reading

See It in Action!

Writing Foundations

Research highlights the importance of providing students with explicit instruction in the foundational skills of writing. Students who receive direct teaching of spelling, handwriting, and sentence and paragraph construction produce higher quality writing than those students who don't (Graham, Harris, & Adkins, 2018; Graham et al., 2012; Graham & Santangelo, 2014; Graham et al., 2019; Lavoie, Morin, Coalier, & Alamargot, 2020; Saddler & Graham, 2005; Santangelo & Graham, 2016).

Wonders provides explicit lessons in foundational writing skills along with practice opportunities for students. By building confidence and proficiency in spelling, handwriting, and sentence construction, students have greater cognitive resources available for focusing on the formulation and organization of their ideas—and on the purpose and audience for their writing.

Developmental Writing
Plan Writing Instruction

Writing in Kindergarten

Overview
Children in kindergarten begin the year drawing and hearing how to write letters. By the end of the year, they will have learned how to write cursive sentences. They reported to the teacher they were writing and they were to write information, narrative, and opinion texts as well. In kindergarten, children write every day. As they progress, children learn basic writing skills, such as writing from left to right and leaving spaces between words. They are also taught to apply grammar skills and writing. To help them understand and improve their skills, the instructional process is writing. They learn how to write simple sentences and begin to read about how their sentences can come together to tell a story. In the writer you will see how the process of writing that shows a progression of writing abilities across the year. Use the models to identify areas that children are progressing with their writing development and guide their growth. Meet with children regularly to discuss their growth and writing goals. Use this routine when you meet with children.

Supporting Emergent Writers

1. Identify Strengths
Choose a piece of student writing. Think about the writing skills and traits.
• What does the writer know about writing?
• What does he or she do well?
Share your observations with the child.

2. Choose an Area for Improvement
Think about what feedback the child would benefit from. Identify a Next Step writing skill to focus on.
Share the Next Step goal with the child. You may meet individually with a child or choose to have a small group conference with children that have the same instructional needs. You can choose from the following instructional focus on:
• Writing Skill Lesson Bank
• Writing Task Lesson Bank

In addition, use the Instructional Routines Handbook for more information on supporting children in writing about texts, the Writing Process, and Grammar skills.

Handwriting
All you receive children's writing look for signs that they need some support with their fine motor development. Notice when children are:
• Writing too tightly
• Writing too loosely
• Struggling to hold the pencil correctly
• Struggling to write the letters correctly
See the Handwriting Lessons for additional support.

Writing - Craft Mini-Lessons

Writing Model 1
Writing Model 2

Writing Model 1
A simple sentence tells what the paragraph or section of writing is about. Topic sentences often appear at the beginning of paragraphs.

Writing Model 2
A sentence is a statement, paragraph, or paragraph that gives the most important information about a piece of writing.

Model Text Read about page 10 of the *Friend Book* in the *Reading/Writing Comprehension*. Think about the information presented on that page. What might you say to support it?

Model Text Read about page 10 of the *Friend Book* in the *Reading/Writing Comprehension*. Think about the information presented on that page. What might you say to support it?

Model Text Read about page 10 of the *Friend Book* in the *Reading/Writing Comprehension*. Think about the information presented on that page. What might you say to support it?

Writing - Conventions, Spelling

Long e
Display and read the spelling words aloud, modeling the long e sound. Point out the spelling patterns in separate segments. Read the words aloud. Have students write the words with different spellings. The words are the same, but the spelling is different. The words are the same, but the spelling is different. The words are the same, but the spelling is different.

Long e
Display and read the spelling words aloud, modeling the long e sound. Point out the spelling patterns in separate segments. Read the words aloud. Have students write the words with different spellings. The words are the same, but the spelling is different. The words are the same, but the spelling is different. The words are the same, but the spelling is different.

Long e
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Wonders Grade K Teacher's Edition, Unit 4, pp. T500–T501

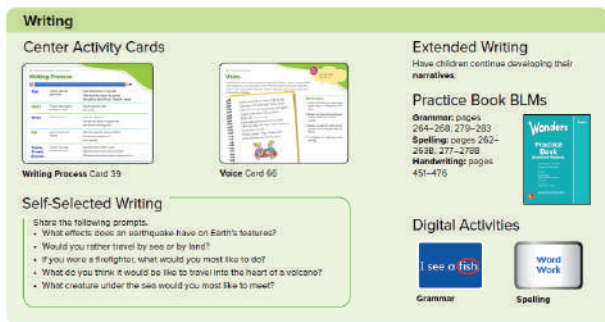
Wonders Grade 2 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T398

Wonders Grade 4 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T272

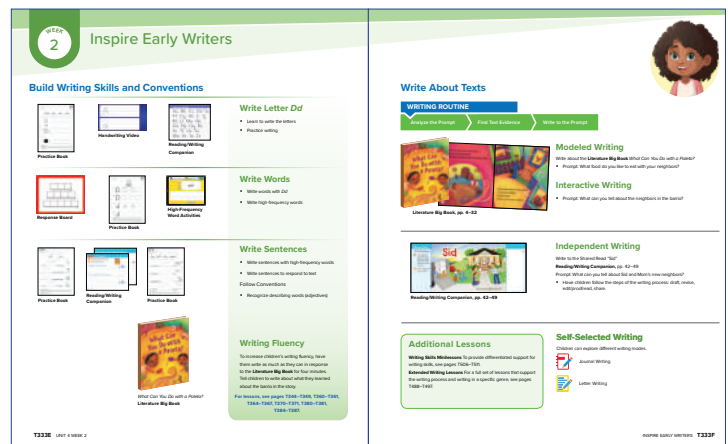
Quality Writing for Multiple Purposes

Correlational studies show that more writing is associated with better writing (Coker, Jennings, Farley-Ripple, & MacArthur, 2018; Graham & Santagelo, 2014; Moats, Foorman, & Taylor, 2006). Research also shows that knowledge about various genres of and schemas for writing, coupled with linguistic knowledge (spelling and sentence construction), also contribute to student variation in writing performance (Olinghouse & Graham, 2009).

In **Wonders**, writing and writing instruction are a regular and ongoing part of literacy instruction. The purposes and audiences for writing vary. Students write short pieces in response to the texts they read—writing summaries, taking notes, and responding to prompts. Self-selected writing options are provided, giving students choice in writing topics. At every grade, students develop longer writing pieces, working through the writing process to write a variety of narrative, expository, and opinion/argumentative texts. Rubrics and student models help students understand the elements of quality writing, and a bank of craft writing lessons allows for targeted instruction to meet the needs of all students.



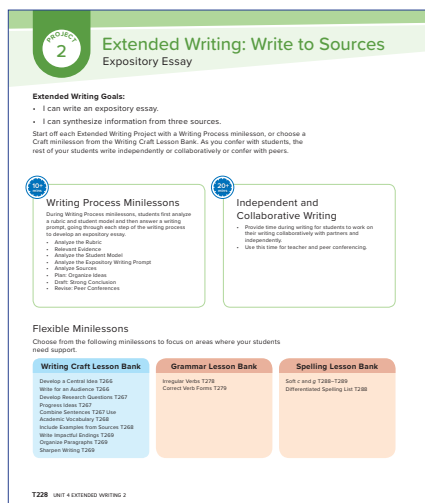
Wonders Grade 4 Teacher's Edition, Unit 4, p. T137J



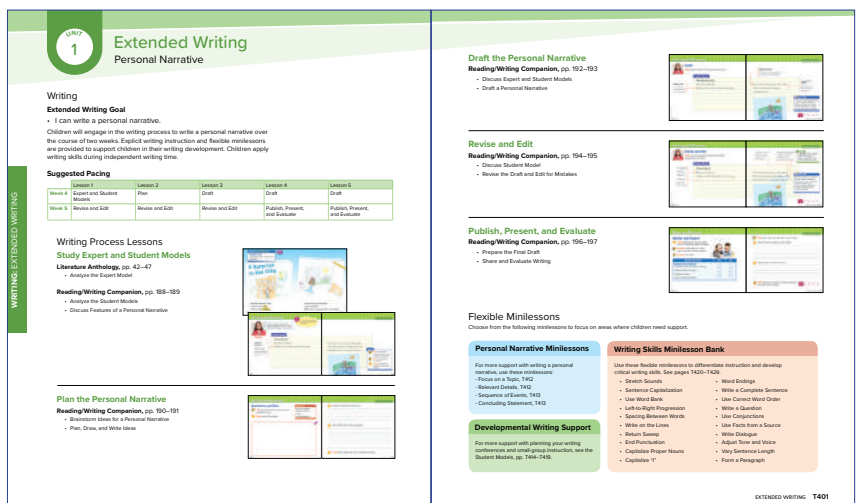
Wonders Grade K Teacher's Edition, Unit 4, pp. T333E–T333F

The Writing Process

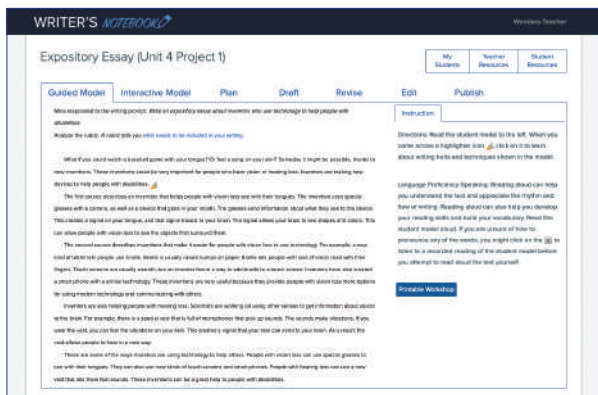
Graham and Perin's 2007 meta-analysis of research on writing recommended an integrated approach to writing that incorporates elements from direct-skill instruction and the process-oriented methodology including frequent opportunities to apply specific skills in a variety of writing activities.



Wonders Grade 3 Teacher's Edition, Unit 4, p. T228



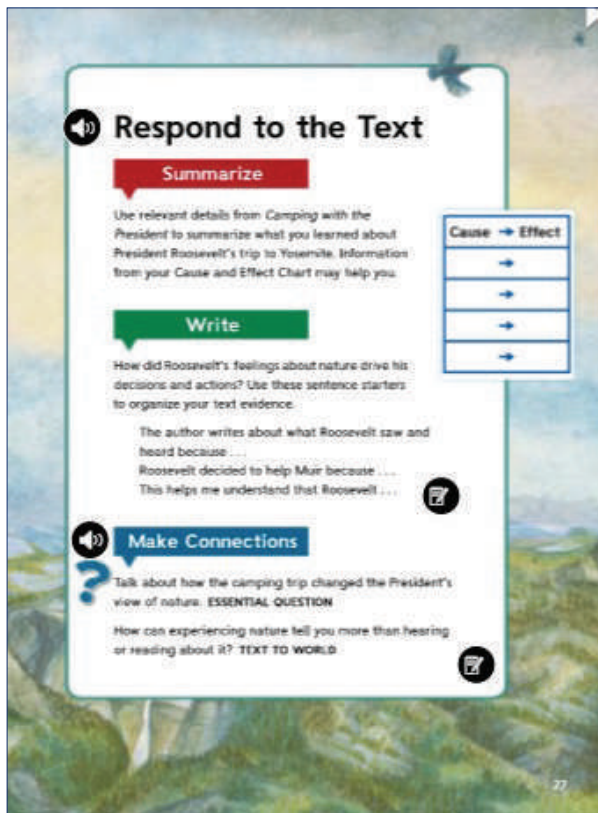
Wonders Grade 1, Unit 1, Teacher's Edition, pp. TAB2_B–T401



Online Writer's Notebook

Writing to Enhance Reading

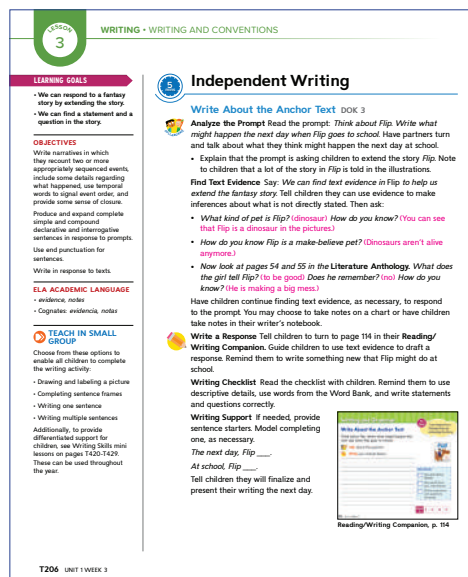
Writing about a text is a powerful way of improving student reading achievement. When students write about a text, are explicitly taught writing skills and processes, and increase the amount of time spent writing, they demonstrate greater text comprehension (Graham & Hebert, 2010).



Wonders Grade 5 Literature Anthology, p. 27

Wonders includes extended writing projects at each grade that take students through the writing process. Students consider their purpose and audience as they plan, draft, revise, and edit their writing. Support for teacher and peer conferencing and a bank of writing minilessons are also provided. In Grades 2-5, the **Online Writer's Notebook** provides additional resources, such as videos and models for students, and anchor papers for teachers.

In **Wonders**, students write about the texts they are reading. Prompts at the end of the Shared Reads and Anchor Texts invite students to reread a text with a purpose and develop a deeper comprehension of the text. An Analytical Writing Routine supports them in analyzing the prompt, stating a clear topic or opinion, citing text evidence, and adding a strong conclusion. As students learn to write more analytically about a text, they also improve their ability to write informational texts as well as opinion/argumentative texts.



Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T206

Quality of Instruction

The science of reading is dependent upon the sciences of teaching and learning, as well as on reading research. Reading research has identified specific best practices for teaching particular aspects of literacy. However, research has also revealed other important features of quality instruction that have implications for all learners and that may better support certain student populations. **Wonders** lessons reflect these quality issues in teaching:

- Lessons with explicit and appropriate purposes
- High challenge levels
- Appropriate opportunities for review
- Quality discussions promoted by high DOK-level questions
- Ongoing monitoring of learning
- Supports for English language learners

See It in Action!

Learning Goals and Student Agency

An important aspect of students' or readers' identity is a sense of agency. Individuals with a strong sense of agency have both a sense of being in control of and responsible for their own learning and understanding. Agency refers to intentions, decisions, actions, and persistence that students display when trying to learn. Research shows that it is closely aligned with literacy achievement in large-scale studies (Vaughn, Premo, Erickson, & McManus, 2020; Vaughn, Jang, Sotirovska, & Cooper-Novack, 2020).

The instructional routines in **Wonders** promote each student taking ownership of their learning. Clearly stated overarching goals at the start of each text set and extended writing project spell out for students what is expected of them. Each **Teacher's Edition** lesson begins with an explicit, purposeful learning goal that will help students build toward achieving those overarching goals. **Student Learning Goals reproducibles** and lesson Check-In Routines guide students to reflect on their learning and evaluate what they need to move forward, with the guidance of teacher conferencing and formative assessments. At the end of each unit, students are invited to set their own key learning goal for the next unit.

Wonders Grade 4 Reading/Writing Companion, Units 1–2, p. 10

Wonders Student Learning Goals, Grade 3, p. 25

High Challenge Levels

Compare Texts DOK 4

Model Compare the experiences of characters in two stories children read this week. Explain that when we compare, we think of how things are the same.

Think Aloud Let's think about how Nat's experience in school in *Nat and Sam* is the same as Jack's experience in "Jack Can." I will think about something important that happened to each of them. In "Jack Can," Jack can paint. In *Nat and Sam*, Nat can read. So something happened at school that is the same for Jack and Nat—they can both do something! Ask children to identify other ways Sam and Nat's experiences are the same. You can use a two-column chart to show the similarities.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T41



GIFTED AND TALENTED

Synthesize Ask children to think of the selections they've read and what might happen if the children in *Class Party* did not work together. Then challenge children to combine what they know and read. Have them come up with some new ideas about how this might affect the class and the party.

Extend Have children use examples from this week's selections or do additional research.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T6



Independent Writing

Write About the Anchor Text DOK 3



Analyze the Prompt Read aloud the prompt: *Why did Nat's feelings about school change?* Have partners turn and talk about how Nat feels about school after he loses Sam and at the end of the story.

- Explain that the prompt is asking them to tell why Nat's feelings about school change during the story. Tell children that the next step is to find text evidence and make inferences.

Find Text Evidence Say: *We need to find clues to help us write why Nat's feelings about school change. Let's look at page 12 in the Literature Anthology.* Then ask:

- *What happens to Sam? (The teacher takes Sam.) What clues tell you how Nat is feeling now? (The picture shows Nat looking sad.)*
- *Look at page 14. How does Pam help? (She gives Sam a book.)*
- *Look at pages 16-17. How does Nat feel now? How do you know? (He is happy now because his bear can read and so can he.)*

Have children continue finding text evidence, as necessary, to respond to the prompt. You may choose to take notes on a chart or have children take notes in their writer's notebook.



Write a Response Tell children to turn to page 46 in their *Reading/Writing Companion*. Guide children to use the text evidence to draft a response.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T42

The complex, high-quality literature at the heart of *Wonders* will engage and challenge students of all ability levels. Rich, high DOK-level questions, frequent opportunities for meaningful discussions, and rigorous tasks are provided for all key texts. Many of the texts in *Wonders* center on relevant issues, examples, and real-world problems, along with prompts and questions that encourage students to engage and think critically about how they would address a similar problem or issue.

The Essential Question for each text set introduces the topic that will be explored in the text set, asking students to reflect on important questions such as, "How can people help out their community?" and "How do people respond to natural disasters?" Extended writing tasks allow additional opportunities for flexible connections, elaboration of student thinking, and original expression. Research and inquiry projects and Show Your Knowledge tasks provide students with opportunities to create and present, to explore their own interests, and to collaborate with peers.

For teachers looking for even greater levels of challenge, the differentiated small group pages for Beyond Level students offer advanced opportunities for close reading, collaboration, integration of knowledge, and skills development. Gifted and Talented feature boxes highlight ways to synthesize knowledge and extend learning for students who read, write, speak, or listen above grade level. In addition, teachers may access the suggested **Classroom Library** books and online lesson plans. Further enrichment opportunities can be found in **Leveled Readers**, **Genre Passages**, and **Center Activity Cards**.

Monitoring Learning

TEXT SET 1

Progress Monitoring

Moving Toward Mastery

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT For ongoing formative assessment, use students' self-assessments at the end of each lesson along with your own observations.

STUDENT CHECK-IN

CHECK FOR SUCCESS

Assessing skills along the way . . .

SKILLS	HOW ASSESSED
Comprehension Vocabulary	Digital Activities, Rubrics
Text-Based Writing	Reading/Writing Companion: Respond to Reading
Grammar, Mechanics, Phonics, Spelling	Practice Book, Digital Activities including word sorts
Listening/Presenting/Research	Checklists
Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) Fluency Goal: 84–104 words correct per minute (WCPM) Accuracy Rate Goal: 95% or higher	Fluency Assessment

At the end of the text set . . .

SKILLS	HOW ASSESSED
Text Structure: Compare and Contrast Text Features: Diagrams and Headings Author's Perspective	Progress Monitoring
Context Clues: Multiple-Meaning Words	

Wonders Grade 4 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T3K

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

STUDENT CHECK-IN

Ask partners to share their graphic organizers on page 21. Have them use the Check-In routine to reflect and fill in the bars.

CHECK FOR SUCCESS

Rubric Use your online rubric to record student progress.

As students complete the Venn diagram about volcanoes and landslides, are they able to identify similarities and differences?

Small Group Instruction

If No:

- Approaching Reteach p. T61

If Yes:

- On Review p. T67
- Beyond Extend p. T73

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T19

Formative assessment data can have a positive effect on student academic achievement (Klute, Apthorp, Harlacher, & Reale, 2017). According to the National Research Council (NRC), regular classroom assessment allows for timely, effective instructional response to difficulties in conceptual knowledge and comprehension strategies (Snow et al., 1998).

Wonders Teacher's Edition lessons include frequent Formative Assessment features offering diagnostic Check for Success questions and differentiation recommendations. **Wonders** formative **Progress Monitoring Assessments** and summative **Unit Assessments** are designed to be administered at regular intervals to provide ongoing data to inform instructional decisions. Progress Monitoring and Unit Assessments include literature and informational texts. Questions provided include a mix of cognitive-level tasks in a variety of formats, including multiple-choice, technology-enhanced, and constructed-response items.

UNIT 1

Summative Assessment

Unit 1 Tested Skills

COMPREHENSION	PHONEMIC AWARENESS	PHONICS STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS HIGH-FREQUENCY WORDS	GRAMMAR
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character Character, Setting, Events Rhyme Topic and Relevant Details Text Features: Photographs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phoneme Categorization Phoneme Blending Phoneme Segmentation Phoneme Deletion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short o Short i Consonant Blends: / Blends Consonant Blends: / Blends Consonant Blends: / Blends Alphabetical Order Inflectional Ending: s Double Final Consonants High-Frequency Words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sentences Word Order Statements and Questions Exclamations and Interjections Writing Sentences

Additional Assessment Options

Fluency
Access fluency using the Letter Naming Fluency (LNF), Phoneme Segmentation Fluency (PSF), and Sight Word Fluency (SWF) assessments in **Fluency Assessment**.

ELL Assessment
Assess English Language Learner proficiency and track children's progress using the **English Language Development Assessment**. This resource provides unit assessments and rubrics to evaluate children's progress in the areas of listening and reading comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, speaking, and writing. These assessments can also be used to determine the language proficiency levels for a subsequent set of instructions.

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 1, p. T448

TIER 2

Reteaching Opportunities with Intervention Online PDFs

IF CHILDREN . . .	THEN RETEACH . . .
answer 0–7 comprehension items correctly	tested skills using the Comprehension PDF .
answer 0–3 phonemic awareness items correctly	tested skills using the Phonemic Awareness PDF .
answer 0–8 phonics/structural analysis/HFW items correctly	tested skills using the Phonics/Word Study PDF and the Fluency PDF .
score below the benchmark score on the constructed-response items	tested skills using the Write About Reading lessons in the Comprehension PDF .
name 0–33 letters correctly in LNF or have 0–22 phonemes correct in PSF or have an accuracy rate less than 50% in SWF	tested skills using the Phonemic Awareness PDF and/or the Phonics/Word Study PDF .

GIFTED and TALENTED

Enrichment Opportunities

Beyond Level small-group lessons include suggestions for additional activities in the following areas to extend learning opportunities for gifted and talented children:

- Leveled Readers**
- Vocabulary**
- Comprehension**
- Leveled Reader Library Online**
- Center Activity Cards**

Wonders Grade 1 Teacher's Edition, Unit 2, p. T443

Supports for English Language Learners

ELL English Language Learners

Use the following scaffolds with **Guided Practice**. For additional support, see the **ELL Small Group Guide**.

Beginning

Help students find details to figure out the theme. On pages 152 and 153, point out “In no time at all, you’ll be joining me” and “A year later.” *What does this tell the reader?* Da goes to America a year **before** the family goes. *Why?* He has to **save money** to bring the family. *Which words describe the trip across the ocean?* (*rough, dirty socks, seasick*) How does Nora feel when she finally sees Da? She is **happy**. She thinks dreams really do **come true**. Help students write the theme: Immigration is **difficult**, but it can make **your dreams come true**.

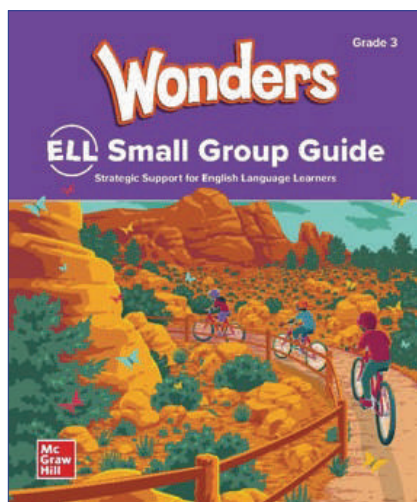
Intermediate

Guide students: *What do we learn from the phrases “In no time at all you’ll be joining me” and “a year later?”* Da goes to **America a year, before the family**. He has to **work and save money to pay for their trip**. *What is Nora’s trip across the ocean like?* It is **rough/uncomfortable/difficult**. *How do you know how Nora feels at the end?* She thinks **dreams really do come true**. Help partners figure out the theme.

Advanced/Advanced High

Ask partners to find details about the characters and events that can help them figure out the theme. Point out text evidence, as necessary. Have students complete page 161 with details and the theme.

Wonders Grade 3 Teacher’s Edition, Unit 2, p. T109




Wonders ELL Small Group Guide, Grade 3

Literacy programs that provide support in oral language development in English, aligned with high-quality literacy instruction, are the most successful for English Language Learners (August & Shanahan, 2006).

Support for English Language Learners is integral to **Wonders**. Key elements include additional scaffolding appropriate to children’s language acquisition levels for whole-group lessons, allowing all students access to the grade-level instruction; small-group instruction in core ELA skills and standards; and a separate **ELL Small Group Guide** dedicated to strategic supports at all proficiency levels that incorporate Interactive Question-Response routines, text deconstruction, and text reconstruction as well as meaningfully scaffolded writing instruction.

START SMART Scaffolding the Shared Read



Wonders provides differentiated instruction for the **Shared Read**.

- Linguistically accommodated instruction for Intermediate, Advanced and Advanced High students offers access to the grade-level text.
- Prereading strategies enhance comprehension for students from different cultural backgrounds.
- Interactive Question-Response Routine with leveled prompts focuses on the meaning of the text.
- Oral language is developed through peer interaction.
- Digital recording of the selection to listen along.

More focused instruction for Beginning and Early-Intermediate students can be found online in the **Scaffolded Shared Read**.

- Explicit instruction builds language and literacy skills by having students engage in peer and independent work.
- Integrated instruction is provided in listening, speaking, reading, and writing.
- Working with smaller chunks of text helps English Language Learners respond to Guiding and Supplementary questions.
- The Scaffolded Shared Read is a path for Beginning and Early-Intermediate students to successfully level up.

Wonders ELL Small Group Guide, Grade 3, p. S2

Related Resources

- [Guiding Principles for Supporting English Language Learners](#)
- [Leveling Up for English Learners](#) by Dr. Diane August
- [Improving Literacy for English Learners: What Teachers Need to Know](#) by Dr. Jana Echevarria

More Information

For more information on the research that guides our **Wonders** program design, please refer to the following resources:

- [Wonders Research Evidence Compendium](#)
- **Wonders** Research Base Alignment (in the **Wonders** digital course)
- **Wonders** Instructional Routines Handbook (in the **Wonders** digital course)

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