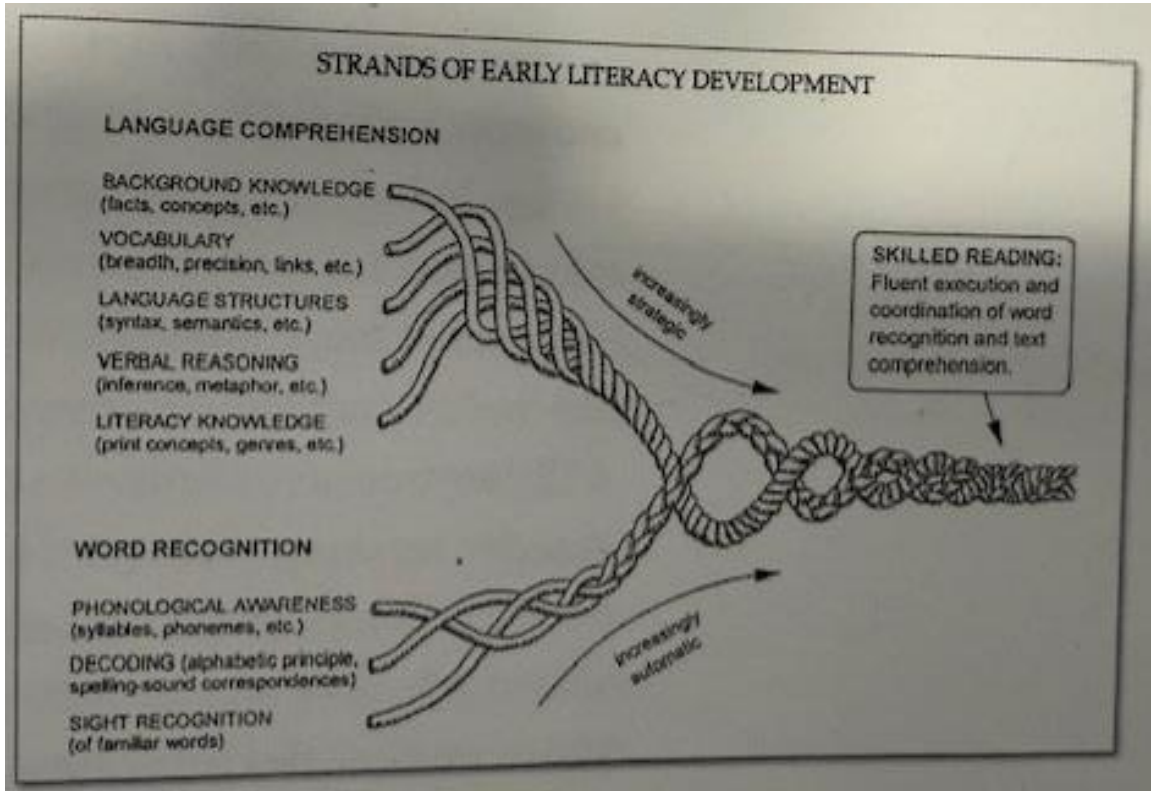
Units of Study in Reading

Maury Reading Curriculum

What is Units of Study in Reading?

- Students build a repertoire of skills and strategies that coherently build from lesson to lesson, unit to unit, and year to year. It strengthens both language comprehension and word recognition.
- "Rebalancing" literacy – updated curriculum includes science of reading while also giving students time to authentically engage in reading.
- Each unit and individual lesson is mapped out with Common Core Standards



K-2 Progression

(2023)

K

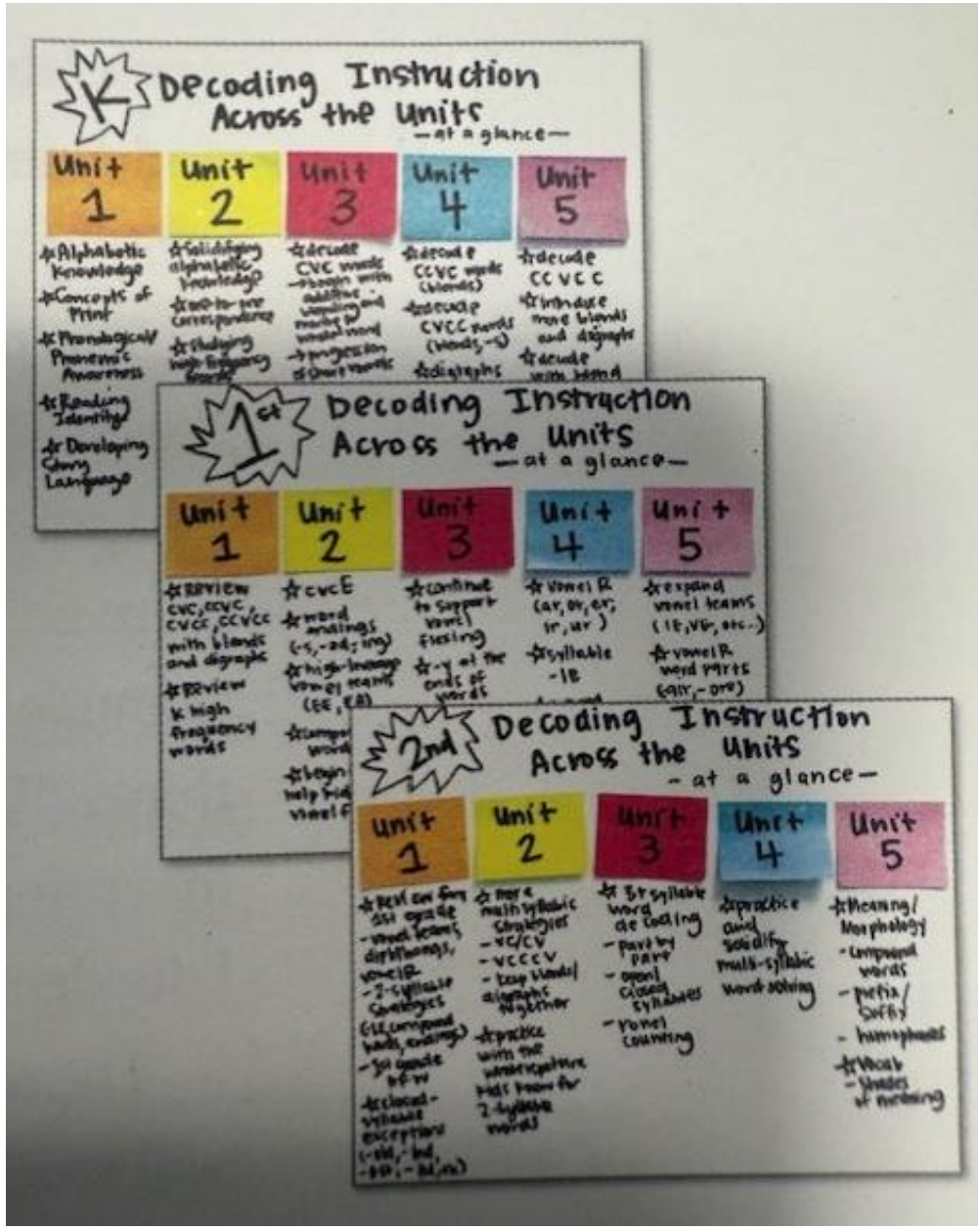
Reading
We Are Readers (Book 1)
Sharing Reading (Book 2)
Super Powers: Reading with Phonics and Sight Word Power (Book 3)
Boosting Reading Power (Book 4)
Becoming Avid Readers (Book 5)

1

Reading
Building Good Reading Habits (Book 1)
Word Detectives (Book 2)
Learning About the World (Book 3)
Readers Have Big Jobs To Do (Book 4)
Meeting Characters and Learning Lessons (Book 5)

2

Reading
Becoming a Big Kid Reader (Book 1)
Becoming Experts (Book 2)
Tackling Longer Words and Longer Books (Book 3)
Stepping into the World of Story (Book 4)
Growing Knowledge Together (Book 5) OR *United We Learn* (Out of the Box Unit)



3-5 Progression

2025-2026 (current pilot)

3

Reading
Reading Series Fiction (Book 1, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Building a Reading Life* (Book 1, Published 2015)
Reading Nonfiction Text Sets: Plants and Their Adaptations (Book 2, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Reading to Learn: Grasping Main Idea and Text Structure* (Book 2, Published 2015)
The Elements of Story (Book 3, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Character Studies* (Book 3, Published 2015)
Animal Research Groups (Book 4, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Research Clubs: Elephants, Penguins, and Frogs, Oh My!* (Book 4, Published 2015)
Test Preparation
Mystery Reading (Book 5, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Mystery: Foundational Skills in Disguise* (Stand-Alone Book, Published 2016)

4

Reading
Close Reading of Fiction: Character and Theme (Book 1, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Interpreting Characters: The Heart of the Story* (Book 1, Published 2016)
Digging into Nonfiction: Rocks and Volcanoes (Book 2, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Reading the Weather, Reading the World* (Book 2, Published 2016)
Drama-Ready Reading: Bringing Characters to Life (Book 3, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Detail and Synthesis* (Curricular Calendar)
Biography Reading (Book 4, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Reading History* (Book 3, Published 2016)
Test Preparation
Historical Fiction Reading (Book 5, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Historical Fiction Book Clubs* (Book 4, Published 2016)

5

Reading
Interpretation Partnerships and Clubs (Book 1, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Interpretation Books Clubs: Analyzing Themes* (Book 1, Published 2016)
Researching the Universe (Book 2, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Tackling Complexity* (Book 2, Published 2016)
Reading About Debatable Topics (Book 3, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Argument and Advocacy: Researching Debatable Issues* (Book 3, Published 2016)
Fantasy Book Clubs (Book 4, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Fantasy Book Clubs* (Book 4, Published 2016)
Test Preparation
Building Research Skills (Book 5, Pilot 2025-26) OR *Reading in the Content Area* (Curricular Calendar)

Units and Pacing

- About 20 sessions per unit
- About 6 weeks per module
  - Gives teachers the flexibility to respond to class data, it's not a day-by-day lesson structure
- 2-3 bends per unit
  - Each bend supports gradual skill development
  - Each bend builds off the other
  - Natural pausing points for informal assessments
- Writing units align with reading units





Session Structure

Mini Lesson	Intervals for explicit, brief instruction in skills and strategies that then become part of a reader's ongoing repertoire	
Independent Reading	Students read independently guided by their mini lesson objective, trying on new reading strategies in a variety of texts	
Conferring and Small Groups	Teachers meet with students independently or in small groups to support individual student need	K-2 Phonological awareness K-3 Phonics K-5 Vocabulary, word solving strategies, comprehension strategies, book clubs
Mid-Lesson Workshop	Teacher shares misconceptions	
Share	Students reflect on their daily objective as a class, with peers, or independently	

Workshop and Common Core

Focus Standards

- Use text features and search tools (e.g., key words, sidebars, hyperlinks) to locate information relevant to a given topic efficiently. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.5
- Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photograph) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur). CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.3.7

Focus Standards

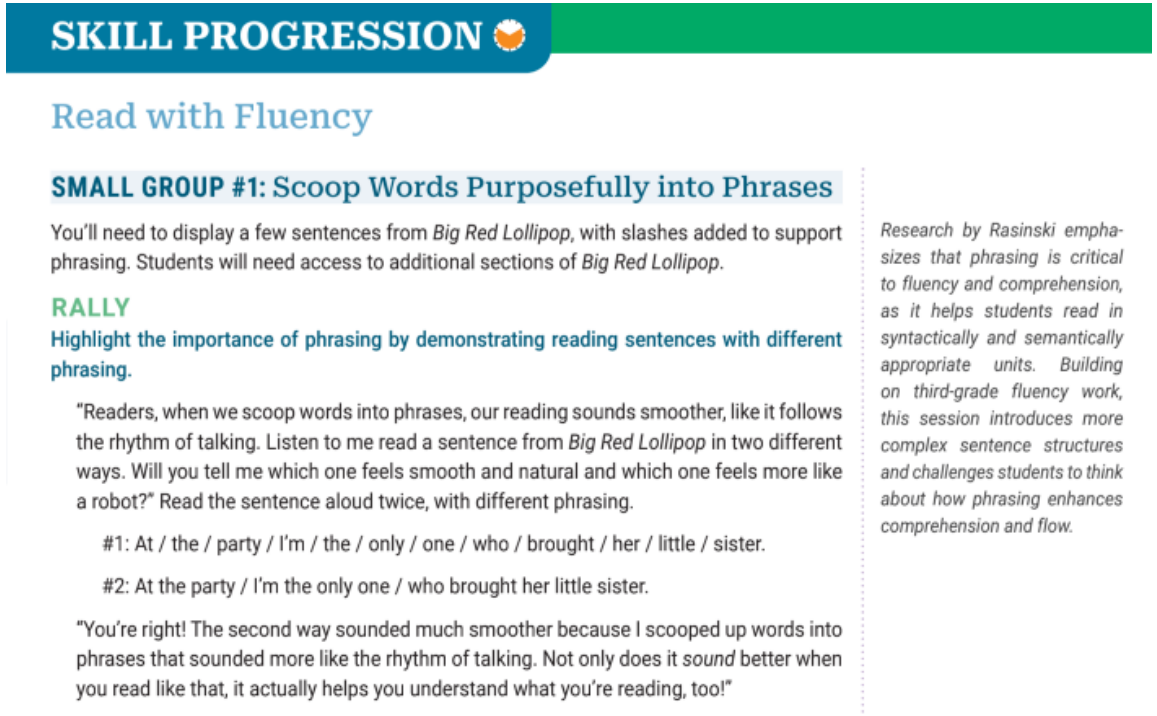
- Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1
- Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions). CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4.3
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean). CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.4

Focus Standards

- Analyze multiple accounts of the same event or topic, noting important similarities and differences in the point of view they represent. CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.6
- Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support particular points in a text, identifying which reasons and evidence support which point(s). CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.5.8

Other Workshop Components

- Small Groups
  - A guide to supporting small group through targeted, skill driven lessons
- Shared Reading
  - An opportunity for students to get repeated practice with essential comprehension work (taking a sneak peek, monitor for meaning, retelling, inferring)
  - Lifts the word recognition part of the reading rope
  - Read together (students see the words and follow along)
- Read Aloud (Let's Gather Curriculum K-2)
  - Emphasizes how and why we read
  - Support the most foundational skills: envisioning, predicting, synthesizing, and monitoring for sense
  - Teacher reads to students
- Vocabulary and Read Aloud (3-5)
  - Focus on close reading
- Word Study



SKILL PROGRESSION

Read with Fluency

SMALL GROUP #1: Scoop Words Purposefully into Phrases

You'll need to display a few sentences from *Big Red Lollipop*, with slashes added to support phrasing. Students will need access to additional sections of *Big Red Lollipop*.

RALLY

Highlight the importance of phrasing by demonstrating reading sentences with different phrasing.

"Readers, when we scoop words into phrases, our reading sounds smoother, like it follows the rhythm of talking. Listen to me read a sentence from *Big Red Lollipop* in two different ways. Will you tell me which one feels smooth and natural and which one feels more like a robot?" Read the sentence aloud twice, with different phrasing.

#1: At / the / party / I'm / the / only / one / who / brought / her / little / sister.

#2: At the party / I'm the only one / who brought her little sister.

"You're right! The second way sounded much smoother because I scooped up words into phrases that sounded more like the rhythm of talking. Not only does it *sound* better when you read like that, it actually helps you understand what you're reading, too!"

Research by Rasinski emphasizes that phrasing is critical to fluency and comprehension, as it helps students read in syntactically and semantically appropriate units. Building on third-grade fluency work, this session introduces more complex sentence structures and challenges students to think about how phrasing enhances comprehension and flow.

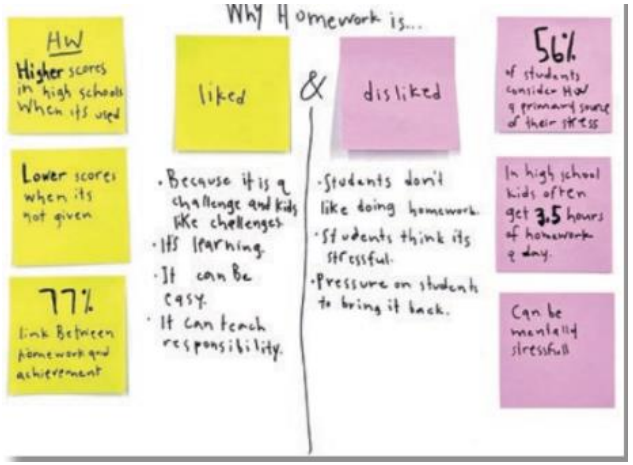
Other ELA Components

- Heggerty (PreK-1) – Phonological awareness instruction
- Fundations (K-3) – Phonics instruction
- Morphology (4-5) - Structure and meaning of words
- Units of Study in Writing (2024)– dedicated block for writing
  - Includes grammar and conventions
  - Small groups for writing
  - Vocabulary

Preparing for Middle School

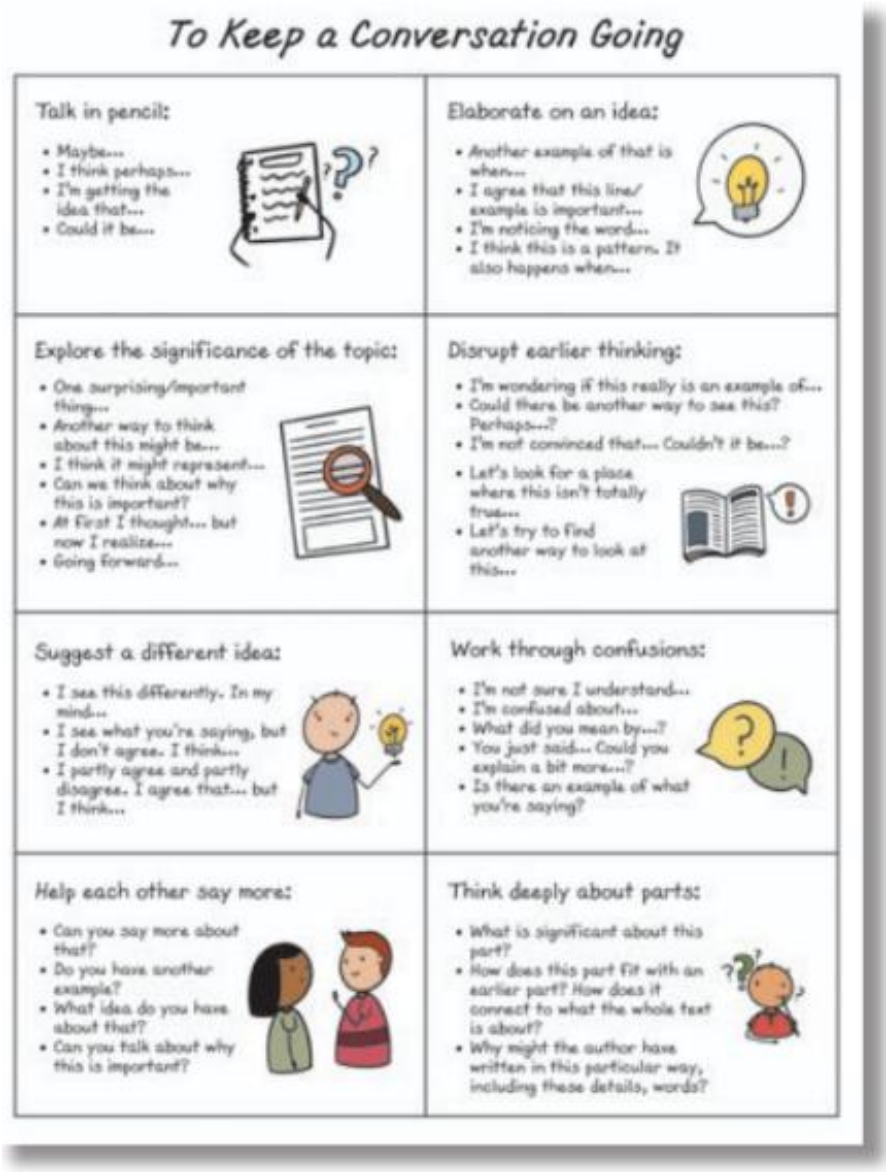
- Builds strong foundational skills in K-2
- Emphasis on independence and stamina
- Exposure to many genres and complex texts
- Writing about reading (3-5 notebooks)
- 3-5 "Test Prep" unit
    - Analyzing texts, literary analysis, essay writing, anchoring comprehension in text evidence





Preparing for Middle School

- Collaborative discussion skills
  - Book clubs, accountable talk, partner talks, class discussions, debates
- 3-5 "Test Prep" unit
  - Analyzing texts, literary analysis, essay writing, anchoring comprehension in text evidence



Resources



Weekly emails from teachers



Resources | Mossflower