

# **Reading Roots**

Alignment to  
The Common Core State Standards Initiative

College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards and  
English Language Arts Standards for Reading

**Section I: Alignment to the College and Career Readiness  
Anchor Standards for Reading**

<b>Grade 1</b>
<b>Key Ideas and Details</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.</b>
<p>The Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition curriculum focuses on student comprehension of a variety of texts, from basic information and details, to using the information gathered and background knowledge to formulate conclusions from and opinions on the text. Specific parts of daily lesson plans that call for students to process information for complete comprehension include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Stories—Students read complex, engaging, and interesting stories even when they know only a few letter sounds.</li> <li>• STaR stories—Students engage in a read-aloud experience designed to expand oral language and vocabulary and develop listening comprehension skills.</li> <li>• Adventures in Writing—allows students to extend their comprehension by responding creatively in writing to a prompt that relates to the theme or topic of the Shared Story and/or STaR story.</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.</b>
<p>Students utilize graphic organizers throughout Reading Roots 4th Edition to determine and organize ideas within a text.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In narrative lessons students use story stars (levels 1 and 2) or a story map (levels 3 and 4) to identify story elements.</li> <li>• In expository lessons students use an idea tree to identify main idea and supporting details.</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 3: Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.</b>
<p>The Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition teaches students to make connections over the course of the text to improve their comprehension.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Stories—Teacher text is provided for these stories (read over 3 days in levels 1-3 and four days in level 4) to present a context for the story and include predictive questions for students that allow them to make connections that improve comprehension.</li> <li>• STaR Stories—Lessons (two day) for these stories guide the students in previewing the book, expanding background knowledge, and making predictions. Teachers read the stories aloud to the students, engaging them in discussion about what is happening in the story.</li> </ul>
<b>Craft and Structure</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 4: Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.</b>
<p>The Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition expands students' vocabulary for stories they will read themselves and interactive read alouds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Stories—Students learn the meaning of green (easily decodable) and red (sight) words that they will encounter in these stories during word presentation in each lesson.</li> <li>• STaR Stories—Vocabulary words that the students will hear in the story are also introduced. The story is then read aloud to the students, with the teacher engaging them in discussion about what is happening in the story and how vocabulary words are used throughout. The students celebrate the new words they have learned by creating oral and written sentences with the vocabulary words.</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 5: Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.</b>
<p>The Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition teaches students to analyze story structure in each lesson as part of the STaR story review. On day 2 of each narrative lesson, students use the story star (levels 1 and 2) or story map (levels 3 and 4)</p>

to identify story elements and make connections within stories. In expository lessons, students use an idea tree to identify main idea and supporting details.

**Anchor Standard 6: Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.**

The Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition teaches point of view or purpose through interactive reading of STaR stories.

### Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

**Anchor Standard 7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.<sup>1</sup>**

Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition lessons encourage students to utilize all aspects of a story or text, in addition to supporting media, to aid in comprehension.

- In narrative lessons, teachers model and students learn to evaluate illustrations in order to aid in their comprehension of a story.
- In expository lessons, teachers model and students learn to include analysis of text features in their comprehension of the text.
- Content from the award-winning PBS television program *Between the Lions* is used to introduce and reinforce letter sounds, sound blending, chunking, and word-meaning strategies.
- Word Plays videos are lively skits that introduce the key vocabulary and story theme for each of the Shared Stories. Word Plays are essential for English language learners, but English-proficient students love them (and learn from them) as well.

**Anchor Standard 8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.**

**Anchor Standard 9: Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.**

Specific lessons in the Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition curriculum ask students to compare texts in one of several ways:

- Narrative to narrative: For example, compare plots or outcomes across two stories.
- Expository to expository: For example, comparing the text structures or two texts by the same author.
- Narrative to expository: For example, how does understanding an expository topic help the reader understand the plot of a story.

### Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity

**Anchor Standard 10: Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.**

The Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition is based on a progression of reading skills delivered through phonics instruction, Shared Stories and STaR stories. Students learn to decode using phonics skills, read phonetically regular stories with partners, and understand story structure and vocabulary, all of which helps them become independent readers.

Section II: Alignment to English Language Arts Standards for

Reading: Literature

Grade 1
<b>Key Ideas and Details</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.</b>
Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Stories All lessons 4-48</li> <li>• STaR Stories All lessons 1-48</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.</b>
Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Day 2 of All lessons 1-48</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 3: Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.</b>
Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Stories All lessons 4-48</li> <li>• STaR Stories Days 1 and 2 All lessons 1-48</li> </ul>
<b>Craft and Structure</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 4: Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.</b>
Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Star Stories Lessons 2, 4, 18, 34</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 5: Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.</b>
Explain major differences between books that tell stories and books that give information, drawing on a wide reading of a range of text types.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 6: Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.</b>
Identify who is telling the story at various points in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories (e.g., Lesson 34)</li> </ul>
<b>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.</b>
Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Stories All lessons 4-48</li> <li>• STaR stories All lessons 1-48</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.</b>
(Not applicable to literature)
<b>Anchor Standard 9: Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.</b>
Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in stories.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared Stories All lessons 4-48</li> <li>• STaR Stories All lessons 1-48</li> </ul>
<b>Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity</b>

**Anchor Standard 10: Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently.**

With prompting and support, read prose and poetry of appropriate complexity for grade 1.

- Shared Stories All lessons 4-48

**Section III: Alignment to English Language Arts Standards for  
Reading: Informational Text**

<b>Grade 1</b>
<b>Key Ideas and Details</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.</b>
Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 2: Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.</b>
Identify the main topic and retell key details of a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 3: Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.</b>
Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Craft and Structure</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 4: Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.</b>
Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 5: Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.</b>
Know and use various text features (e.g., headings, tables of contents, glossaries, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 6: Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.</b>
Distinguish between information provided by pictures or other illustrations and information provided by the words in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.</b>
Use the illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 8: Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.</b>
Identify the reasons an author gives to support points in a text.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories Lessons 6, 7, 9, 17, 19, 23, 29, 30, 36, 38, 40, 44, 45, 47,</li> </ul>
<b>Anchor Standard 9: Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.</b>
Identify basic similarities in and differences between two texts on the same topic (e.g., in illustrations, descriptions, or procedures).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STaR Stories</li> </ul>
<b>Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity</b>
<b>Anchor Standard 10: Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and</b>

**proficiently.**

- With prompting and support, read informational texts appropriately complex for grade 1.
- Shared Stories in level 4 Lessons 38-48

**Section IV: Alignment to English Language Arts Standards for  
Reading: Foundational Skills**

**Grade 1**

**Print Concepts**

Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.

- Recognize the distinguishing features of a sentence (e.g., first word, capitalization, ending punctuation).

- Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition teaches students to recognize features of a sentence in all Shared Stories.
- Students apply this skill in to their writing during Adventures in Writing on Day 3 (levels 1-3) and on Days 3 and 4 (Level 4).

**Phonological Awareness**

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

- Distinguish long from short vowel sounds in spoken single-syllable words.
- Orally produce single-syllable words by blending sounds (phonemes), including consonant blends.
- Isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in spoken single-syllable words.
- Segment spoken single-syllable words into their complete sequence of individual sounds (phonemes).
- Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition teaches students phonological awareness through fun, fast-paced, systematic FastTrack Phonics lessons. In early lessons, a single letter grapheme or consonant combination (“ch,” “sh,” “th,” and “ng”) is introduced each day. Once a grapheme (letter or letter group) is introduced, it is revisited extensively in future lessons as a part of daily teacher instruction and student practice.
- Subcomponents of FastTrack Phonics Stretch and Read and Say-It-Fast, engage students in blending and segmenting practice.
- Beginning in lesson 13, a series of vowel digraphs are taught. Because these graphemes are more difficult for young children to remember, the letter groups are introduced over a period of two lessons.

**Phonics and Word Recognition**

Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

- Know the spelling-sound correspondences for common consonant digraphs (two letters that represent one sound).
- Decode regularly spelled one-syllable words.
- Know final -e and common vowel team conventions for representing long vowel sounds.
- Use knowledge that every syllable must have a vowel sound to determine the number of syllables in a printed word.



- Decode two-syllable words following basic patterns by breaking the words into syllables.
- Read words with inflectional endings.
- Recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.

- In Reading Roots 4<sup>th</sup> Edition the FastTrack Phonics lessons engage students in daily activities that address each of these phonics and word analysis skills.
- Students use decoding skills to read the phonetically regular Shared Stories.
- Shared Stories teach students to read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.

### Fluency

Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

- Read grade-level text with purpose and understanding.
- Read grade-level text orally with accuracy, appropriate rate, and expression.
- Use context to confirm or self-correct word recognition and understanding, rereading as necessary.

- Students learn to read fluently one step at a time within the Shared Story section of the lessons. In the beginning, students focus on accuracy of reading. As accuracy increases, the focus shifts toward reading smoothly, with attention to periods, commas, and other punctuation. Reading with rich expression, like a storyteller, becomes the next goal. Finally, reading rate is tracked, and increases are celebrated, with continuing attention to the quality of the reading. By the end of the first grade, it is expected that the students will be reading at a rate of 60 words per minute.
- STaR stories provide a model of fluent reading by teachers throughout the lessons.