



K-5 Language Arts

Open Up Resources is grateful for the positive review awarded by EdReports for the *EL Education K–5 Language Arts* curriculum.

We would like to congratulate EL Education, authors of the curriculum, on the standout review. It has been a pleasure collaborating with the EL Education team in the development of these superb materials.

We would also like to publicly thank the 652 teachers in our beta release, who provided feedback on these materials during their development. We are certain that educator feedback was instrumental in fostering the quality and usability of the materials.

Lastly, we would like to thank our partners for their important contributions to the materials. Student Achievement Partners and UnboundEd provided valuable input into our approach to standards alignment and quality assurance. The structured phonics component of the program is grounded in the Phase Theory of Dr. Linnea Ehri, Distinguished Professor at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York.

Regarding the EdReports review, we would like to highlight one area in which the curriculum’s pedagogical philosophy may not align fully with the EdReports review philosophy. In grades 3–5, the *EL Education K–5 Language Arts* curriculum takes a contextual, rather than an explicit, approach to the development of foundational skills. Students apply and practice foundational skills within the core lessons themselves, as opposed to having a standalone component with explicit instruction. Noting that grades K–2 of the curriculum, which have an explicit foundational skills component, have received a higher score than grades 3–5 in some foundational skills categories, it appears that EdReports’ scoring methodologies reward a more explicit approach. That said, we feel confident, based on student outcomes while using the curriculum, that the curriculum capably supports foundational skills development in these later grades, and we would be delighted to discuss our approach to foundational skills with any district considering the curriculum.

EL Education is renowned for its successful approach to literacy: Mathematica Policy Research found that students in EL Education schools [gained an extra seven months of learning growth](#) in reading after three years. We are delighted to be giving schools across the country the opportunity to benefit from EL Education’s approach by offering this curriculum as a free open educational resource.