

List of Criteria for the Common Core State Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy, Grades K–2

I. Key Criteria for Reading Foundations

1. Materials allow for flexibility in meeting the needs of a wide range of students.
2. Materials include effective instruction in all aspects of foundational reading (including distributed practice).
3. Fluency is a particular focus of instructional materials.
4. Materials focus on academic vocabulary prevalent in complex texts throughout reading, writing, listening, and speaking instruction.
5. Materials offer assessment opportunities that measure progress in the foundations of reading.

II. Key Criteria for Text Selections

1. Texts for each grade align with the requirements outlined in the standards.
2. Text selections are worth reading and re-reading.
3. Literacy programs shift the balance of texts and instructional time to include equal measures of literary and informational text.
4. Additional materials aim to increase regular independent reading of texts that appeal to students' interests while developing both their knowledge base and joy in reading.

III. Key Criteria for Questions and Tasks

1. Questions and tasks cultivate students' abilities to ask and answer questions based on the text.
2. Materials provide opportunities for students to build knowledge through close reading of specific texts (including read alouds).
3. Scaffolds and stimulant questions enable all students to experience rather than avoid the complexity of the text.
4. Reading strategies support comprehension of specific texts and the focus on building knowledge.
5. Reading passages are by design centrally located within materials.
6. Materials offer assessment opportunities that genuinely measure progress.
7. Writing opportunities for students are prominent and varied.

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