Curriculum Overview

Elementary Grades K-3



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English Language Arts Grades K-3

Course Setup

The K–3 Language Arts courses are broken down into two semester courses per grade level (for example, Language Arts KA and KB). Each semester course consists of 18 modules with five lessons per module. A student should spend no more than a week completing each module. Students should spend 60–75 minutes a day working on their English Language Arts course. In each module, there are common tasks in addition to the lessons that students must complete. Each K–3 grade level course has a synchronous assessment every six modules and a written benchmark assessment every nine modules. These assessments can be found in the Resources module in Buzz. Starting in first grade, other assessments can be found in each module such as spelling, reading comprehension, and vocabulary quizzes. The chart below shows the breakdown of what can be found in a typical Language Arts K–3 course.

Course Length: 1 semester

Modules: 18

Lessons per Module: 5

Common Module Tasks

- Lessons that include videos, reading, and interactive games.
- Independent Reading Assignment
- Reading Fluency/Story Retell Recording (K-2)
- Fluency Recording (Grade 3)
- Writing Audio Practice Recording (Grade 3)
- Weekly Assignments

Assessments

• Grades K-3

- Synchronous Assessments (Every six modules)
- Written Benchmark Assessments (Every nine modules)
- Reading Level Assessment

• Grades 1-3

- Weekly Spelling Test
- Weekly Reading Comprehension Quizzes

• Grades 2–3

- Weekly Vocabulary Quizzes
- Weekly Grammar Quizzes

English Language Arts Grades K-3 Page 1

Module Lessons

Each module in the K–3 Language arts courses has five lessons. A student should complete one lesson a day in order to complete the module in one week. Each lesson covers certain components for a balanced literacy program. The lesson components are described below

Lesson Com	ponent	Description
Spelling	Spelling	Weekly spelling words focus on a phonics pattern and sight words.
Sight Words		Each week students will be introduced to new sight words for their grade level. Sight word flashcards are included in the lessons for students to print and study or add to a word wall.
Vocabulary	Vocabulary	Vocabulary words are new words found in the weekly reading selection.
Reading	Reading	Weekly stories match the theme of the week. There are both fiction and non-fiction literature to practice reading comprehension and fluency.
Grammar	Grammar	A new grammar concept is introduced each week. Students may also practice finding grammatical errors in a paragraph.
Writing	Writing	A different type of writing is introduced each week using the writing process. Prewriting, drafting, editing, revising and publishing stages are all practiced.
Phonics	Phonics	There are weekly phonics activities incorporated in each lesson within each module.
Fluency	Fluency	Once a week students will be asked to record themselves reading the weekly story. They will submit the recording to their teacher for a fluency check.
Handwriting	H	Students will practice handwriting letters, words, and sentences in a variety of activities.

Lessons are structured to follow the format below:

Introduction	New concepts will be introduced in each module through text, video, and interactives.
Practice	Once introduced, new concepts will be practiced through interactives and worksheets.
Review	Previously learned concepts will be reviewed throughout the year to strengthen the students' understanding.

Sample Schedule

Some grade levels do not include all of these activities.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Spelling Word Intro	Spelling Practice Worksheet	Spelling Interactive	Spelling Practice Worksheet	Spelling Test
Vocabulary Intro	Vocabulary Interactive	Vocabulary Interactive	Vocabulary Interactive	Vocabulary Quiz
Reading Concept/ Skill Intro	Reading: Set a Purpose	Reading: First read of weekly story	Reading: Second read with comprehension review	Reading Comprehension Quiz
Grammar Intro	Grammar Interactive	Grammar Interactive	Grammar Quiz	Grammar Paragraph Edits
Writing Topic Intro	Writing: Brainstorming	Writing: Drafting	Writing: Editing and Revising	Writing: Publish
Journal Entry	Handwriting	Fluency	Handwriting	Independent Reading

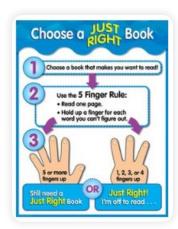
Below are some key features that can be found in a lesson.

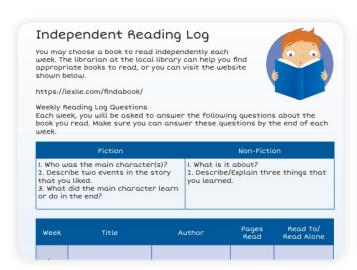
Interactives	Embedded interactives allow students to interact with newly learned concepts and receive immediate feedback.	
Videos	Videos are used to support the understanding of new concepts throughout the course.	
Worksheets	Worksheets are included as another method of practicing each concept throughout the year.	

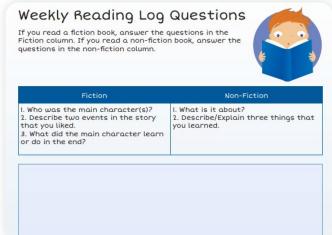
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Independent Reading

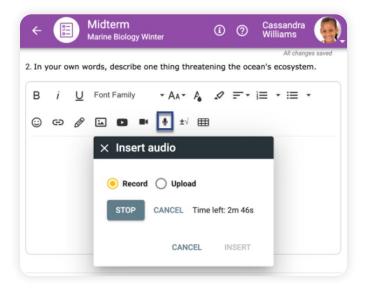
A weekly independent reading assignment is built in to each module. Students are expected to read books that they choose at their reading level daily for 30–40 minutes a day. Teachers will assess the student's reading level and review with them how to choose a just right book. The Learning Coach working with the student will help the student make choices. An excursion to the library is an excellent place to choose just right books.







Student Audio Recordings



As part of the standards, students are required to speak, and speak often. One of the ways this is addressed is through story retells and fluency checks. Within each module, there is an assignment that prompts students to record themselves retelling the story that was read during the module. The student is also asked to record themselves reading the story to practice fluency. In third grade, students will be asked to record themselves reading their writings out loud. Students are taught how to do a recording in the Resources module of the course.

Weekly Assignments

In each lesson, students will encounter activities for them to download, print and, complete. These activities are worksheets. They will be asked to scan and submit them in the weekly assignments section of the module. Please note: These activities are also available in a workbook for an additional cost.





Assessments

In grades K-3 English Language Arts students will encounter different assessments based on their grade level. In every course for Grades K-3 there will be three assessments given by the teacher. They are the following:

- Written benchmark assessments are a cumulative assessment covering content from nine modules. They are given in modules 9 and 18.
- Synchronous assessments are designed to be used during live session for immediate feedback. They cover phonics, sight word
 - recognition and other concepts. These are given in modules 6, 12 and 18.

Language Arts in addition to the assessments mentioned above.

• Reading level assessments: The teacher will be testing the reading level of students throughout the course.

The chart above shows the types of quizzes students will be given per module by grade level in English

Course	Module Quizzes
Language Arts 1	SpellingReading Comprehension
Language Arts 2	SpellingReading ComprehensionVocabularyGrammar
Language Arts 3	SpellingReading ComprehensionVocabularyGrammar

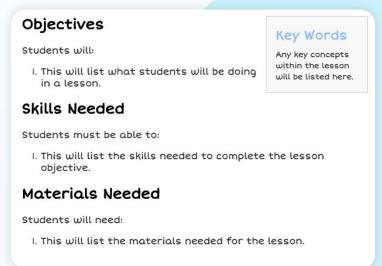
English Language Arts Grades K-3 Page 5

Materials Needed

Materials needed for each lesson will be listed prior to the lesson in the learning coach tab or a materials list for the course can be found in the resource module at the beginning of each course.

Students are expected to have typical school supplies such as: paper, pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, glue, etc. Students will also be expected to have access to books at their independent reading level.

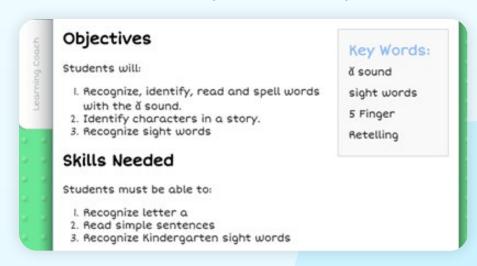




Learning Coach Tab

Each lesson has a learning coach tab. The learning coach tab is a tab that has information for the adult that is helping the child progress through the course at home. The learning coach could be a parent, a grandparent or any other designated adult in that household.

The learning coach tab is designed to help an adult who is at home with the student to guide them through a lesson. Learning objectives, prerequisite skills, and any materials needed to complete the lesson will be listed. Below, you can see a sample page of what the learning coach tab will look like in each lesson.



Math Grades K-3

Course Setup

The K–3 math courses are broken down into two semester courses per grade level (for example, Math KA and KB). Each semester course consists of 18 modules with lessons in each module. A student should spend no more than a week completing each module. Students should spend 45–60 minutes a day working on their math course. In each module, there are common tasks in addition to the lessons that students must complete. Each K–2 grade level course has a benchmark assessment every nine modules. In addition to the assessments mentioned grades K–3 have a quiz every module as well.

Course Length: 1 semester

Modules: 18

Common Module Tasks

- Lessons that include videos, reading, and interactive activities.
- Worksheets
- Lesson Notes

Assessments

- Grades K-3
 - Written Benchmark Assessments (Every nine modules)
 - o Module Quiz
- Grades 1-3
 - Module Quiz

Module Lessons

Below are some key features that can be found in a math lesson.

Interactives	Embedded interactives allow students to interact with newly learned concepts and receive immediate feedback.
Videos	Videos are used to support the understanding of new concepts throughout the course.
Worksheets	Worksheets are included as another method of practicing each concept throughout the year.

Below is a list of the key math components focused on throughout each math course.

- Operations and Algebraic Thinking
- Numbers and Counting
- Measurement and Data
- Geometry and Fractions
- Time and Money

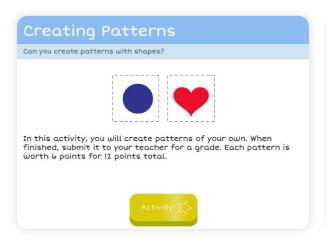
Math Grades K-3 Page 7

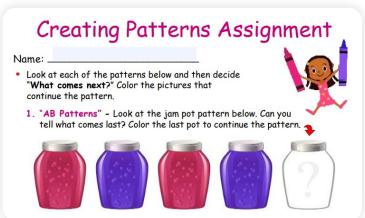
Lessons are structured to follow the format below:

Introduction	New concepts will be introduced in each module through text, video, and interactives.
Practice	Once introduced, new concepts will be practiced through interactives and worksheets.
Review	Previously learned concepts will be reviewed throughout the year to strengthen the students' understanding.

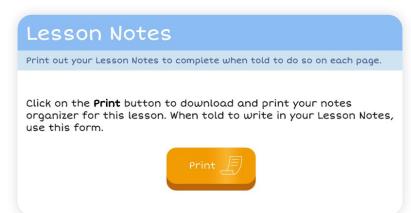
Math Assigments

In each lesson, students will encounter activities for them to download, print and complete. These activities are worksheets. They will be asked to scan and submit them after the lesson. There are also times when a student will be asked to print a worksheet for them to complete while watching a video. They will be asked to submit these as well in the course.





Lesson Notes

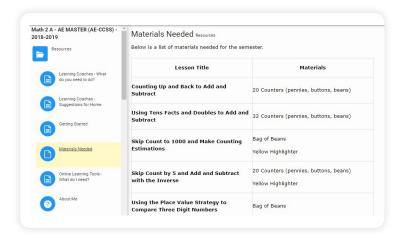


2nd and 3rd grade math students will be asked to download and print lesson notes. They will fill out these notes when directedthroughout each lesson. Students will be asked to turn in their notes.

Assessments

In grades K–3, math students will encounter different assessments based on their grade level. In grades K–3, students will meet with their teacher every six modules to complete a benchmark assessment. There is also a module quiz for students to complete in every module. Below is a chart that shows the breakdown of assessments by grade level in each Math course.

Course	Module Quizzes	
Math K	 Module Quiz Synchronous Benchmarks (Every six Modules) Written Benchmark Assessment in Module 9 and 18 	
Math 1	 Module Quiz Synchronous Benchmarks (Every six Modules) Benchmark Assessment in Module 9 and 18 	
Math 2	 Module Quiz Synchronous Benchmarks (Every six Modules) Benchmark Assessment in Module 9 and 18 	
Math 3	 Module Quiz Synchronous Benchmarks (Every six Modules)	



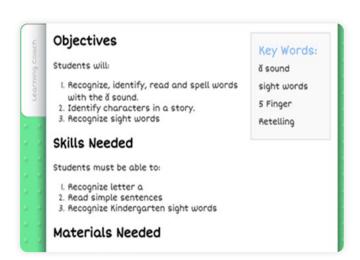
Materials Needed

Materials needed for each lesson will be listed prior to the lesson in the learning coach tab. The materials list for the course can also be found in the resource module at the beginning of each course.

Students are expected to have typical school supplies such as: paper, pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, glue, etc.

Learning Coach Tab

Each lesson has a learning coach tab. The learning coach tab is a tab that has information for the adult that is helping the child progress through the course at home, it could be a parent, a grandparent or any other designated adult in that household. The learning coach tab is designed to help guide you through a lesson. Learning objectives, prerequisite skills, and any materials needed to complete the lesson will be listed. Look below to see a sample page of what the learning coach tab will look like under each lesson tab.



Math Grades K-3 Page 9

Science Grades K-3

Course Overview

K–3 Science uses a mixture of exploring the world around them combined with hands-on experiences using nature or common household items. Science courses are aligned to Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Each grade has two semester courses. Each course has six modules in it. The pacing per module should be three weeks so that the student can finish the course in one semester, which is 18 weeks. The chart below summarizes the overarching science topics covered in each grade level.

Course	Life Science	Earth and Space Science	Physical Science	Science/Engineering Practice
Science KA and B	 Animal Behavior Animal Habitats Animal Camouflage Plant Growth Animals and their Offspring Earth Worms and Soil 	The SeasonsWeatherStars and ConstellationsEcosystems	Force and MotionMagnetsStates of Matter	• Using Five Senses
Science 1A and B	 Classifying Leaves Seeds Animal Tracks Animal Needs Animal Habitats Animal Hibernation Nocturnal and Diurnal Animals Life Cycle of a Plant Pollination 	 Moon Phases Seasons Weather Constellations Erosion Pond, forest Ecosystems Cloud Formation 	• States of Matter	Scientific Inquiry Reading a Thermometer
Science 2A and B	Animal Behavior Animal Characteristics Animal Habitats Animal Needs Trees and Leaves Vertebrates and Invertebrates Warm- and Cold-Blooded Animals Food Chains Frog Life Cycle	• Earthquakes and Volcanoes • Biomes	 Properties of Matter Heat and Temperature States of Matter 	• The Five Senses
Science 3A and B	 Plant Respiration Trees Photosynthesis Roots of a Plant Plants and Water Absorption Life Cycles Heredity and Genetics Characteristics of Vertebrates Animals and Camouflage Plant Stems Biodiversity and Extinction 	• Earth and Sun • Moon Phases • Water Cycle • Weather • Global Climate Zones • History of Life on Earth • Landforms • Seasons • Interdependence of Man and Nature • Natural Resources • Caves • Rock Cycle	• Gravity • Electricity • Forces and Movement • Magnetism	

Lesson Structure

While the overall structure is consistent from lesson to lesson, lessons will vary in the order and frequency with which they use or offer activity types. Each module contains several lessons. All lessons begin with a lesson intro page which is written and presented to the learning coach. Each lesson ends with an assignment. The number of pages in each lesson, and the types of activities students do for each lesson, may vary widely.

In general, each lesson consists of the following:

Lesson Component	Description
A Lesson Intro Page (This is on the Learning Coach Tab)	It includes objectives, prerequisites, materials, and key words. As such, it can be a useful guide for the teacher.
Video Presentations	Students will view at least one video per lesson; some lessons will contain many more videos, and some will have fewer, depending on the topics covered.
Questions and Show Me Activities	Often, lesson pages ask students to think about the answer to a question before clicking a button to see the answer. Encourage students to make sure they have a clear response in mind for each question before clicking to see the answer. The general idea of these activities is to encourage student engagement with the content.
Practice Activities	Students will encounter many chances to practice and get feedback on their progress during a lesson. Practice activities for this course may be online drag-and-drop exercises, multiple-choice questions, slideshows, or downloadable worksheets that students will fill out and send to the teacher for feedback. In some cases, practice worksheets will be provided along with an answer key. These are intended for additional practice for students as a self-check.
Summative Assignment	As students complete each module, students will turn in the lesson assignment into the drop box which will be in your teacher gradebook.

Science Grades K-3 Page 11

Social Studies Grades K-3

Course Overview

K–3 Social Studies will cover a variety of topics. Each grade has two semester courses. Each semester last 18 weeks. In grades K–1, there are 18 modules in each course. Each module is meant to be completed in one week. In grades 2–3, there are six modules in each course. Each module is meant to be completed in three weeks. The chart below summarizes the overarching social studies topics covered in each grade level.

Social Studies KA and B	 All About Me Rules and Consequences Family Past, Present, Future Life in the Past Historical Americans 	 American Holidays Everyday Heroes Conflict Resolution Map Skills My Neighborhood My State 	U.S. SymbolsCurrencyWants and NeedsCommunityVoting
Social Studies 1A and B	Map SkillsClimate and WeatherCharacter Education/Conflict ResolutionGovernment	 U.S. Symbols and Landmarks Celebrations World Cultures Past, Present and Future 	Historical AmericansFolkloreNative AmericansEconomics
Social Studies 2A and B	 Ancient Chinese Folklore and Culture Ancient Celtic Cultures, Movement and Traditions Geography of Africa and the British Isles 	 Locating Oceans and Continents Economics Women's Suffrage Movement Ancient African Culture and Fables Map Skills 	 Environmental Regions Human, Capital and Natural Resources Laws and Voting Community
Social Studies 3A and B	 Cultural Diversity in Ancient Civilizations Importance of Native American Tribes Importance of Exploration in Relation to the US Geography and Map Making Skills 	 Identifying Important Land Features Understanding Important Economic Fundamentals Specialization and Interdependence Production of Goods and Importance of Trade 	 Development of Government and Laws Important Documents that Shaped the United States Principles of a Republican Government

Lesson Structure

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In general, each lesson consists of the following:

Lesson Component	Description
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Questions and Show Me Activities	Often, lesson pages ask students to think about the answer to a question before clicking a button to see the answer. Encourage students to make sure they have a clear response in mind for each question before clicking to see the answer. The general idea of these activities is to encourage student engagement with the content.
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Summative Assignment	As students complete each module, students will turn in the lesson assignment into the drop box which will be in your teacher gradebook.

Social Studies Grades K-3 Page 13



