



NYC READS

Resources & Tools for Schools to
Use When Supporting Families

NYC
Public
Schools



NYC PUBLIC SCHOOLS
LITERACY COLLABORATIVE

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INTRODUCTION

NYC Reads is New York City Public School’s strategy for whole school literacy reform, including shifts in approach and practice around assessment systems, core curriculum and instruction and intervention. We are committed to supporting all students to become strong, thriving readers. The Literacy Collaborative team, along with the Division of Multilingual Learners and the Division of Special Education have developed a [guidance document](#) with resources to support initial implementation.

To ensure students’ success within NYC Reads, family engagement will play a crucial role. This document offers suggestions for districts and schools to engage and support families to be a part of this process.

What do families need to know about the **science of reading**?

- The science of reading is a broad collection of research focused on helping children become better readers and writers. It explores five important components of reading: understanding letter sounds, decoding words, building vocabulary, reading fluently and comprehending what you read. This approach involves teaching step-by-step in a clear and organized way, ensuring that all students receive the support they need to succeed.
- Science of reading isn’t just a passing trend or a one-size-fits-all approach. It’s not tied to a specific teaching program, and it’s not just about phonics. Instead, it’s a proven method based on science and research that benefits all types of learners.
- For more information refer to [Reading 101: A Guide for Parents](#).



INTRODUCTION

What do families need to know about the **curriculum** this year?

- For the 2023-2024 school year, the approved ELA Core Curricula your school may have adopted are:
 - **Foundational Skills**
 - [Wilson Foundations - K-2](#)
 - [Heggerty Phonemic Awareness - K-2](#)
 - [Really Great Reading - K-2](#)
 - **Reading and Writing**
 - [HMH Into Reading - K-5](#)
 - [EL Education 2.0 - K-5](#)
 - [Wit & Wisdom - K-5](#)
- For the 2023-2024 school year, the approved HLA Core Curricula your school may have adopted are:
 - **Foundational Skills**
 - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Spanish - K-2
 - Estrellita - K-1
 - **Reading and Writing**
 - HMH Arriba la Lectura - K-5



INTRODUCTION

What do families need to know about **assessments** this year?

- Our assessment framework focuses on remedying existing learning difficulties and preventing potential difficulties through data-based decision-making.
- All students will be administered a universal screener three times per year.
 - Acadience Reading is the required screener in K-2, available for K-5.
 - MAP Growth is approved for reading in 3-10; Spanish Reading K-8.
 - STAR Reading is approved for reading in 3-10; Spanish Reading K-10.
 - iReady is approved for reading in 3-10.
 - Degrees of Reading Power is approved for reading in 3-10.
- All core curriculum programs provide curriculum-based assessments. Formative and summative assessments are both included.
 - Formative assessments monitor student learning so teachers can identify students' needs.
 - Summative assessments evaluate student learning at the end of an instructional unit.
- For more information refer to [Guidance for Assessment](#).



Opportunities to Engage with & Support Families



Meet the Staff Night / Curriculum Night

- Elementary Schools: September 14, 2023
- Middle Schools and D75 Schools: September 21, 2023
- High Schools, K-12, and 6-12 Schools: September 28, 2023



Parent-Teacher Conferences

- Elementary Schools
 - November 2, 2023, March 7, 2024, May 9, 2024
- Middle Schools and D75 Schools
 - November 9, 2023, March 14, 2024, May 16, 2024
- High Schools, K-12, and 6-12 Schools
 - November 16 and 17, 2023, March 21 and 22, 2024, May 23, 2024



Opportunities for Schools to Support Families:

- Family Literacy Night
- Afterschool Workshops
- Saturday Sessions with Families
- Family Fridays
- Class Dojo or other communication platforms
- Pick-up and Drop-off
- Back-packing information home
- For more ideas refer to [FACE's Family Reads](#) and [FACE's NYC Reads Family Engagement Best Practices](#)



Bridging the Home-School Connection

Communicate with Families about the Curriculum

- Share unit topics for the school year:
 - [HMH](#)
 - [EL](#)
 - [Wit & Wisdom](#)
- Share upcoming learning standards and skills
- Provide log-in credentials to all learning platforms for easy access

Encourage Questions

- [Questions families can ask their child's school about assessment, curriculum and library support](#)

Curriculum Overview, Tips & Strategies



Fundations

- Curriculum Overview:
 - [NYC Core Curriculum Virtual Showcase](#)
 - [Wilson Foundations Home Support - Grade K](#)
 - [Foundations Home Support Level K Activities](#)
 - [Wilson Foundations Home Support - Grade 1](#)
 - [Foundations Home Support Level 1 Activities](#)
 - [Wilson Foundations Home Support - Grade 2](#)
 - [Foundations Home Support Level 2 Activities](#)
 - [Wilson Foundations Home Support - Grade 3](#)
 - [Foundations Home Support Level 3 Activities](#)
 - [Foundations and Your Core Reading Program Framework](#)
- Curriculum Tips and Strategies:
 - [Foundations Supports Reading Acquisition for Multilingual Learners](#)
 - [Getting Families Familiar with Foundations](#)
 - [Foundations: Expert Tip - Comprehension S.O.S. Sample](#)
- [Key Ideas and Things to Share with Families](#)

Heggerty



- [Curriculum Overview](#)
- [Curriculum Tips and Strategies](#)
- [Key Ideas and Things to Share with Families](#)



Curriculum Overview, Tips & Strategies, continued



Really Great Reading

- [Curriculum Overview](#)
- Curriculum Tips and Strategies:
 - [Really Great Reading - Family Guidance K-2](#)
 - [Really Great Reading Countdown Parent Letter - English](#)
 - [Really Great Reading Countdown Parent Letter - Spanish](#)
 - [Really Great Reading BLAST Parent Letter - English](#)
 - [Really Great Reading BLAST Parent Letter - Spanish](#)
 - [Really Great Reading HD Word Parent Letter - English](#)
 - [Really Great Reading HD Word Parent Letter - Spanish](#)
- [Key Ideas and Things to Share with Families](#)



HMH

- Curriculum Overview:
 - [HMH Into Reading NYC Parent Letter](#)
- Curriculum Tips and Strategies:
 - [Introduction to the Family Room on the HMH platform](#) (captioning in other languages available)
 - [HMH Go App for Families](#)
- Send the Home Letter at the beginning of the school year and when you kick off each unit. The letter describes the focus of the unit, the Performance Expectations for students, and additional activities that families can do at home to reinforce their child's learning. (10 home languages available)
- [Key Ideas and Things to Share with Families](#)



Curriculum Overview, Tips & Strategies, continued



EL

- [Family Support Flyer](#)
- [Key Ideas and Things to Share with Families](#)

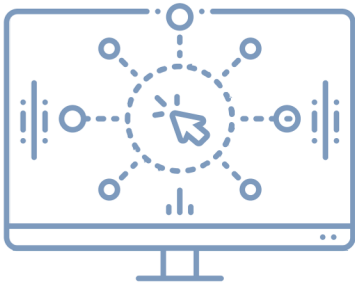


Wit & Wisdom

- Curriculum Overview:
 - [Family Welcome Letter - English](#) (available in multiple home languages)
- Curriculum Tips and Strategies:
 - Send a **Home Letter** at the beginning of the school year and when you kick off each unit. The letter describes the focus of the unit, the Performance Expectations for students, and additional activities that families can do at home to reinforce their child's learning. [See an example here](#). There are several home languages available.
 - [Wit & Wisdom Family Night Art Activity](#)
 - [Wit & Wisdom - Fluency Practice Tips](#)
 - [Wit & Wisdom - Family Night Fluency Practice Letter for Families and Caregivers](#)
 - [Wit & Wisdom - Building Knowledge for Families](#)
- [Key Ideas and Things to Share with Families](#)



Literacy Resources & Activities to Support Families



• Interactive Resources

- [Consonants Interactive Flashcards](#)
- [Digraphs Interactive Flashcards](#)
- [Vowel Sounds Interactive Flashcards](#)
- [Vowel Teams Interactive Flashcards](#)
- [Welded Sounds Interactive Flashcards](#)
- [Family Fluency Workbook - Grade 3](#)
- [Family Fluency Workbook - Grades 4 and 5](#)



• Printable Resources

- [Consonants Flashcards](#)
- [Digraphs Flashcards](#)
- [Vowel Sounds Flashcards](#)
- [Vowel Teams Flashcards](#)
- [Monosyllabic Word Memory](#)
- [Short Vowels Word Search Puzzles](#)
- [Vowel Teams Word Search Puzzles](#)
- [Building Words with 2-4 Syllables](#)
- [Building Words with Affixes \(Grade 3\)](#)
- [Building Words with Affixes \(Grade 4+\)](#)



Resources to Share with Families

- [Decoding and Phonics Collection](#) on SORA
- [Collection of Books](#) on SORA (available in multiple home languages)
- [Digital Resources](#) available on NOVELny
- [Teaching Books](#): Explore over 335,000 resources about children's and young adult books.
- [Between the Lions: Get Wild about Reading](#): Companion site for the PBS television series that includes more than 70 illustrated online stories, activities, interactive games, printable text, and much more.
- [Boys Read](#): An organization of parents, educators, and librarians whose mission is to transform boys into lifelong readers.
- [Brooklyn Public Library](#): All NYC residents can access free e-books and other resources using a library card. Students and families can apply for a free card through bklynlibrary.org website. You can also access books and other resources through [Cloud Library](#).
- [Center for Parenting Education](#): Offers parenting support by building off of families' strengths so that children thrive academically, socially, and behaviorally.
- [FCRR Student Center Activities](#): Activities to practice, demonstrate, and extend learning of what has already been taught, sometimes with assistance and sometimes independently.
- [Institute of Education Sciences](#): Provides family activities with easy-to-follow instructions to help practice foundational reading skills. With featured short Family Videos for tips on how to use the activities.
- [New York Public Library Digital Collection](#): Includes a database of more than 600,000 images from art, humanities, sciences, performing arts, and more. The collection includes podcasts, videos, animated talking books, and much more.
- [Queens Public Library](#): All NYC residents can access free e-books and other resources using a library card. Students and families can apply for a free card through the queenslibrary.org website. You can also access books and other content through [Cloud Library](#).





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