

Steps to Implementing the K-3 Literacy Essentials:

1. Motivation and Engagement

Deliberate, research-informed efforts to foster literacy motivation and engagement within and across lessons

2. Read-Alouds

Read alouds of age-appropriate books and other materials, print or digital

3. Small Group and Individual Instruction

Small group and individual instruction, using a variety of grouping strategies, most often with flexible groups formed and instruction targeted to children's observed and assessed needs in specific aspects of literacy development

4. Phonological Awareness

Activities that build phonological awareness

5. Explicit Instruction in Phonics

Explicit instruction in letter-sound relationships

6. Writing Instruction

Research- and standards-aligned writing instruction

7. Vocabulary

Intentional and ambitious efforts to build vocabulary and content knowledge

8. Access to Materials

Abundant reading material and reading opportunities in the classroom

9. Assessment

Ongoing observation and assessment of children's language and literacy development that informs their education

10. Family

Collaboration with families in promoting literacy