

About Open Up Resources

Open Up Resources is a nonprofit developing the highest quality core curricula available to districts, provided for free to promote instructional equity.

We partner with the country's foremost materials experts to develop exceptional curriculum and deliver essential implementation support, from printing to professional development. Our mission is to provide students and educators with equal access to superb, standards-aligned core programs, regardless of district resources.

Foundations of the Curriculum

EL Education, author of the curriculum, is fiercely focused on equity for all children. They believe that all children deserve schools that foster their unique abilities, give them the real opportunity to achieve high academic standards, and help them take their full place in a society for which they are well prepared when they leave school. Equity is the foundation on which the entire curriculum rests. From this foundation of equity comes the Dimensions of Student Achievement.

- **Mastery of knowledge and skills.** Students demonstrate proficiency and deeper understanding, apply their learning, think critically, and communicate clearly.
- **Character.** Students work to become effective learners, to become ethical people, and to contribute to a better world.
- **High-quality work.** Students create complex work, demonstrate craftsmanship, and create authentic work.

These three dimensions are the aspirational outcomes for the entire curriculum. Achievement is more than mastery of knowledge and skills, or students' scores on a test. Habits of character and high-quality work are also taught and prized.

At the heart of the curriculum, at all grade levels, are the hour-long Module Lessons. The modules fully teach and assess the literacy standards as students build important content knowledge based on a compelling topic related to science, social studies, or literature. Each module uses rich, authentic text throughout.

In K–2, two hours of content-based literacy instruction are offered per day (Module Lessons and Labs), plus one hour of structured phonics (Skills Block). All together, these three hours of curriculum are considered comprehensive, meaning they explicitly teach and formally assess all strands and standards of the Common Core English language arts standards for each grade level. Primary students learn through play and predictable routines. The K–2 instruction promotes a joyful, active learning environment by incorporating music, movement,



stories, and use of multiple modalities. The comprehensive 3–5 curriculum offers two hours of rich, content-based literacy instruction per day (Module Lessons and the ALL Block), and honors students' growing capacity to read complex text, write at length with depth, and explore pressing issues in the world around them.

The materials include tools and scaffolding that support all learners; and flexibility in the ways information is presented, the ways students respond, and in the ways students are engaged (based on Universal Design for Learning). ELLs and language minority students bring a wealth of diverse experience and wisdom to the classroom. These language learners are presumed to be fully participating members of a diverse and heterogeneous classroom structure, and at the same time, the curriculum honors the fact that language learners need targeted instruction within each lesson and additional supports if they are to be successful. Specific scaffolds, for example deep dives into the syntax of sentences called Language Dives, have been integrated into each module lesson so that the classroom teacher can provide myriad supports for these students.

Protocols are an important feature of the curriculum because they engage all students in discussion, inquiry, critical thinking, and sophisticated communication. Importantly, protocols allow students to talk to each other, not just the teacher.

Professional Learning Support

The *EL Education K–5 Language Arts* program is designed to elevate literacy practice, and success starts with supporting teachers with necessary practice shifts.

Research reinforces the value of professional learning: a 2017 [study by Mathematica Policy Research](#) found that novice teachers who received professional development while using the *EL Education K–5 Language Arts* curriculum were more effective than their peers.

Our team of former educators helps districts to tailor professional development plans around district needs and capacity.

Implementation Support

We provide the following implementation services and support:

Flexible Classroom Deployment

We offer the curriculum in identical digital and print versions, which allows districts flexibility in implementation: fully digital, fully print, or a mix of print and digital.



Affordable Print Materials

We offer full-color print materials that are delivered to schools in convenient class sets. Because we negotiate deeply discounted print rates, districts find our print materials offer significant savings versus self-printing options, though we also provide free print-ready files via our website.

Classroom Kits

We offer conveniently bundled materials kits containing required and recommended trade books, teacher guides, and student workbooks.

Trade Books

We provide trade books at competitively discounted prices. Books come kitted for the curriculum by module, by grade, and by classroom for each teacher.

Multiple Digital Access Options

For 1:1 classrooms, we provide many ways to access to the curriculum:

- Via our website
- Within a district LMS, using our free Common Cartridge files
- Via the free Microsoft OneNote app

Classroom Kits

We offer trade book kits for the curriculum. The books come kitted by classroom so teachers can immediately open and teach the curriculum.