

EdReports Clarification on Jolly Phonics Materials Reviewed

March 5, 2020

*EdReports believes providing publishers a space to respond to our educator review is an essential component to informing the field. While EdReports reserves the right to not publish something in a response due to factual inaccuracies, we have **never** edited or censored a publisher response. In this case, given statements in the response and questions from the field on our choice to review Jolly Phonics in the sequence we did, we wanted to clarify our own approach*

EdReports values a collaborative and transparent relationship with publishers when conducting a review. We upheld this value with Jolly Learning when we embarked on reviewing the Jolly Phonics Foundational Skills product. In July 2018, we contacted Jolly Learning staff and requested a list of Jolly Phonics materials to be reviewed. After receiving the list of materials, **we took care to confirm this list with an additional Jolly Learning staff member who verified the materials list we received as “for US schools the most common route through the program.”**

The review of Jolly Phonics took seven months and approximately 540 reviewer hours. Over the course of the review Jolly Learning staff was aware that the review was in process as we exchanged emails no fewer than 50 times to provide updates, communicate, and bring reviewer questions forward as needed. When our educator reviewers completed the review, EdReports' standard protocol called for us to send a draft of the review to the publisher so that they have an opportunity to provide counter evidence if they disagree with any aspect of our review. At that time, Jolly Learning raised concerns about the sequence of the materials reviewed. In considering Jolly Learning's feedback we noted that the review was complete and concerns were not raised during the many months of the review process. After deliberation, we decided to publish the review based on the original sequencing provided.

We stand by our decision to review the materials as we did. **We provided Jolly Learning email documentation of correspondence with its staff as well as a document proffered by the publisher detailing the same structure of materials for use as were reviewed.** We then provided the opportunity for Jolly Learning to provide a Publisher's Response and additional Background Information to be posted alongside the review as is standard for all materials reviewed by EdReports.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with Jolly Learning throughout the review process. Our goal is to provide high-quality evidence to empower districts as they assess instructional materials. We believe our report, the Jolly Learning response, and this clarification helps support that goal.

Additional questions regarding the review process for Jolly Phonics can be directed to communications@edreports.org.