

MKS Elementary ELA Curriculum

The MKS Elementary English Language Arts curriculum is framed around the American AERO standards. Within these standards, American curriculum schools work towards internationally recognized standards to ensure that the critical areas of the curriculum are targeted in depth with students over the course of the year.

Each grade level is focused on Critical Areas and supporting areas that allow teachers to target core standards. Successful mastery of these critical areas ensure students are ready for the coming grade, and develop the necessary skills to achieve their next steps in learning.

This guide is intended to help parents develop an understanding of the critical standards students are expected to grasp by the end of the school year.

Grade 1

Reading

1. Distinguish long from short vowel sounds in spoken single-syllable words.
2. Orally produce single-syllable words by blending sounds (phonemes), including consonant blends.
3. Isolate and pronounce initial, medial vowel, and final sounds (phonemes) in spoken single syllable words.
4. Segment spoken single-syllable words into their complete sequence of individual sounds (phonemes).
5. Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
6. Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message, lesson or main topic.
7. Describe the connection between two individuals, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text.
8. Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.
9. Identify words and phrases that relate to emotions and the senses.
10. Ask and answer questions to help determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text.
11. Read texts aloud at an appropriate speed and with expression to support comprehension and fluency.

Writing

1. Recognize the features of a sentence (for example: first words, capitalization, and ending punctuation).
2. Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic/ name the book, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide closure.
3. Write informative/explanatory texts in which they name a topic, supply some facts about the topic, and provide closure.
4. Write narratives in which they recount two or more appropriately sequenced events, include some details regarding what happened, use temporal transition words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.
5. Gather information, with support, to answer a question or create a shared research or writing project.

Grade **2**

Reading

1. Distinguish long and short vowels when reading regularly spelled one-syllable words.
2. Know spelling sound correspondences for additional common vowel teams.
3. Decode regularly spelled two-syllable words with long vowels.
4. Decode words with common prefixes and suffixes.
5. Identify words with inconsistent but common spelling sound correspondences.
6. Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.
7. Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures.
8. Identify the main topic of a multiparagraph text as well as the focus of specific paragraphs within the text.
9. Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.
10. Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges.
11. Describe how words and phrases (e.g., regular beats, alliteration, rhymes, repeated lines) supply rhythm and meaning in a story, poem, or song.
12. Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.
13. Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts, with scaffolding as needed.

Writing

1. Writes opinion pieces that: introduces book/ topic; states opinions and provides more than one reason to support, uses linking words; and provides closing.
2. Writes informative/ explanatory texts that: introduces a topic, and uses facts and definitions to develop points
3. Writes narratives that: recounts a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events; uses details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings; uses temporal transition words to signal event order; and provides a sense of closure.
4. With guidance and support from adults, recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

Reading

1. Identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and derivational suffixes.
2. Decode words with common Latin suffixes and decode multisyllable words.
3. Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
4. Recount stories, including fables, folktales, and myths from diverse cultures.
5. Describe the relationship between: a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text; using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect; the main idea of a text; and recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.
6. Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events.
7. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.
8. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text.
9. Read and comprehend grade level informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts independently and proficiently.

Writing

1. Writes opinion pieces that: introduces a topic; states an opinion, and structure reasons as a list; uses reasons that support the opinion; and provides a conclusion.
2. Writes informative/ explanatory texts that: introduces a topic and group related information together; uses definitions, and details; and provides a conclusion.
3. Writes narratives that: establishes situation/ event and introduces a narrator and/or characters; organizes in natural order; uses dialogue and descriptions of actions, thoughts, and feelings; and provides a sense of closure.
4. Recall information from experiences or gather information from print and digital sources with brief notes on sources, and sorts evidence into provided categories.

Reading

1. Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
2. Determines the theme of a story, drama, or poem, from details in the text.
3. Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details.
4. Describes in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific detail in the text. (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).
5. Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text, including what happened and why, based on specific information in the text.
6. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in stories, myths, and traditional literature from different cultures.
7. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text.
8. Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts independently and proficiently.
9. Read independently and proficiently and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry.
10. Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
11. Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Writing

1. Writes opinion pieces on topics that: support a point of view with reasons and information; have a clear introduction; create an organizational structure with ideas grouped to support the writer's purpose; provide reasons that are supported by facts and details; and provide a concluding statement.
2. Writes informative/ explanatory texts that: introduces a topic; groups related information in paragraphs and sections; develops topic with facts, concrete details, and quotes; uses precise language and vocabulary to inform; provides conclusion related to information.
3. Writes narratives that: orient the reader by establishing a situation and introducing a narrator, and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally; uses dialogue, description and sensory to develop events or show responses of characters; uses a variety of transitional words and phrases to sequence events; and provides a conclusion.
4. Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources, take notes and categorize information, and provide a list of sources.

Reading

1. Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.
2. Determines the theme of a story, drama, or poem, from details in the text.
3. Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details.
4. Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).
5. Explain the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts in a historical, scientific, or technical text based on specific information in the text.
6. Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.
7. Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text.
8. Read and comprehend informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts independently and proficiently.
9. Read independently and proficiently and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry.
10. Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
11. Reads with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

Writing

1. Writes opinion pieces that: introduce a topic or text clearly; provide logically ordered reasons supported by facts and details; link opinion and reasons using words, phrases, and clauses; and provide a conclusion related to opinion.
2. Writes informative /explanatory texts that: introduces a topic clearly; develop a topic with facts, definitions, and examples; link ideas within and across paragraphs using words, phrases, and clauses; use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform or explain; and provide a conclusion related to information.
3. Writes narratives that: establish a situation; introduce a narrator, and/or characters; organize event sequence in a logical way; uses dialogue, thoughts, emotion, description, and pacing to develop events or show responses of characters; uses variety of transitional words, phrases, and clauses to sequence of events; and provide a conclusion.
4. Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources, summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.