

# Literacy Update

February 2023

**Nicole Gabany**  
Director of Teaching and Learning

# Curriculum Review Schedule

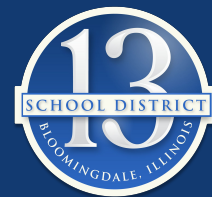


## Flexible Curriculum Review Cycle Calendar

Updated 3/17/2022

		2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2025-2026	2026-2027	2028-2029
YEAR 1	Committee work and Review of Resource	ELA K-5	Social Studies	Math K-5 & 6-8	Science K-8 & PE	PE, Fine Arts, Spanish	ELA K-5, ELA 6-8
YEAR 2	Review/Pilot and Select Resources: (Purchase Over Summer for Implementation in Fall)		ELA K-5, ELA 6-8	Social Studies, Fine Arts, Spanish	Math K-5 & 6-8	Science K-8 & PE	PE, Fine Arts, Spanish
YEAR 3	Prof. Development, Yr 1 Implementation			ELA K-5, ELA 6-8	Social Studies, Fine Arts, Spanish	Math K-5 & 6-8	Science K-8 & PE
YEAR 4	PD as needed, Year 2 of Implementation: Alignment to Standards and Vertical Alignment with New Curriculum				ELA K-5, ELA 6-8	Social Studies, Fine Arts, Spanish	Math K-5 & 6-8
YEAR 5	Year 3 Review Current Resources, identify Gaps					ELA K-5, ELA 6-8	Social Studies, Fine Arts, Spanish

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# Literacy Process



## Year 1: 2021-2022

- Convene Committee / Monthly Meetings
- Review Current Resource (ReadyGen)
- Review student needs
- Research and evaluate resources (*Reading League Evaluation Tool and edReports Reviews*)
- Curriculum Presentations
- Pilots: MyView/MyPerspectives

## Year 2: 2022-2023

- Pilots: HMH Into Reading / Into Literature, Amplify CKLA / ELA
- Discussion with area schools using products up for consideration
- Recommendation to the Board
- Summer Professional Development and Implementation year
- Professional Development planning

# Curriculum Review of ReadyGen: Findings



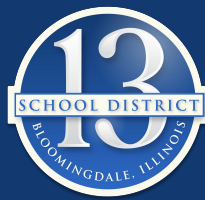
## ReadyGen Review / Assessment

- Staff needed to heavily rework the program
- Lacks phonics instruction
- Lacks writing
- Savvas does not have plans to update (2016)

## Future Needs in a Resource:

- Systematic Phonics Instruction
- Writing
- Rigorous, authentic texts
- 6-8 would like a resource to guide instruction, home-grown / curated items.

# Literacy Process



## Year 1: 2021-2022

- Convene Committee
- Review Current Resource(s)
- Review student achievement needs
- Research and Evaluate Resources for consideration (Reading League Evaluation tool and edReports Reviews)
- Pilots: MyView/MyPerspectives

## Year 2: 2022-2023

- Pilots: HMH Into Reading / Into Literature, Amplify CKLA / ELA
- Discussion with area schools using products up for consideration
- Site Visits (Itasca)
- Recommendation to the Board
- Summer Professional Development and Implementation year
- Professional Development planning

# Recommendation: Amplify CKLA and ELA

- CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts)
- Built on the Science of Reading (research based reading instruction, systematic phonics instruction)
- What's included:
  - [K-2](#)
  - [3-5](#)
  - [6-8](#)



# K-5 Overview

## Year at a glance

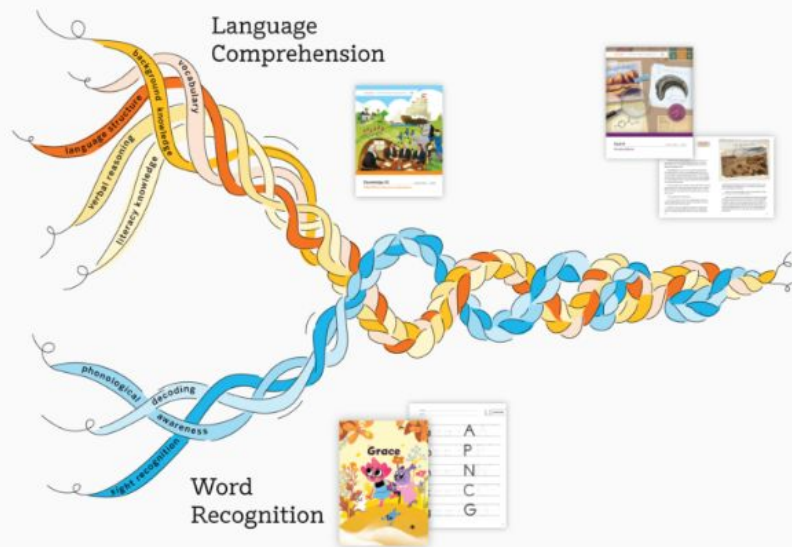
Grades K-2  
Learning to Read

Grades 3-5  
Reading to Learn

Grades 6-8  
Analyzing Complex Text

The **Amplify CKLA curriculum** is modeled after proven research in early literacy that supports a two-strand approach to literacy instruction in the early years. With this approach, students in Grades K–2 complete one full lesson per day that builds foundational reading skills in the Skills Strand, as well as one full lesson that builds background knowledge in the Knowledge Strand. The deep content knowledge is sequenced together with research-based foundational skills in Grades K–2 so that students develop the early literacy skills necessary to help them become confident readers, as well as build the context to understand what they’re reading.

In Grades 3–5, lessons combine skills and knowledge with increasingly complex texts, close reading, and a greater emphasis on writing. Students start to use their skills to go on their own independent reading adventures, further opening up their worlds.





# 2nd Grade Units



Knowledge Domain 5  
The War of 1812

Students are introduced to major figures and events in the War of 1812, sometimes called America's "second war for independence."

**Number of Lessons: 8**



Knowledge Domain 6  
Cycles in Nature

Students are introduced to natural cycles that make life on Earth possible, such as seasonal cycles, life cycles, and the water cycle.

**Number of Lessons: 9**



Knowledge Domain 7  
Westward Expansion

Students are introduced to an important period in the history of the United States—the time of westward expansion during the 1800s.

**Number of Lessons: 9**

## Grades K-2 Knowledge Strand



Knowledge Domain 8  
Insects

Students learn about the helpful and harmful characteristics of insects, insect life cycles, and social insects such as bees and ants.

**Number of Lessons: 8**

## Grades K-2 Skills Strand



Skills Unit 1

Sound-spellings with an emphasis on consonant sounds, one- and two-syllable words, and Tricky Words are reviewed. The beginning-of-year assessment is administered.

Skills Unit 2

The unit focus is on various sound-spellings and words with one- and two-syllables. Students begin the writing process, writing narratives and opinions.

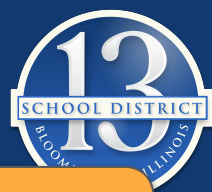
Skills Unit 3

Practice with spelling alternatives continues. Grammar focuses on capitalization, quotation marks, ending punctuation, and common and proper nouns. Students write personal narratives.

Skills Unit 4

Students practice a range of spelling alternatives. Students practice persuasive writing as part of a friendly letter. Students learn more about nouns and verbs.

# 4th Grade Units



## Grade 4 units



### Unit 1 Personal Narratives

This unit examines the genre of personal narratives, including nonfiction works written by a first-person narrator involved in the events being described.

**Number of Lessons: 15**



### Unit 2 Empires in the Middle Ages, Part I and II

This unit covers the history of various empires and geographical regions throughout the Middle Ages.

**Number of Lessons: 25**



### Unit 3 Poetry

Students explore poetry, training in methods and devices poets use and learning to read, write, and interpret formal and free verse poems.

**Number of Lessons: 15**

**Grades 3-5  
Knowledge and Skills  
strands combine**



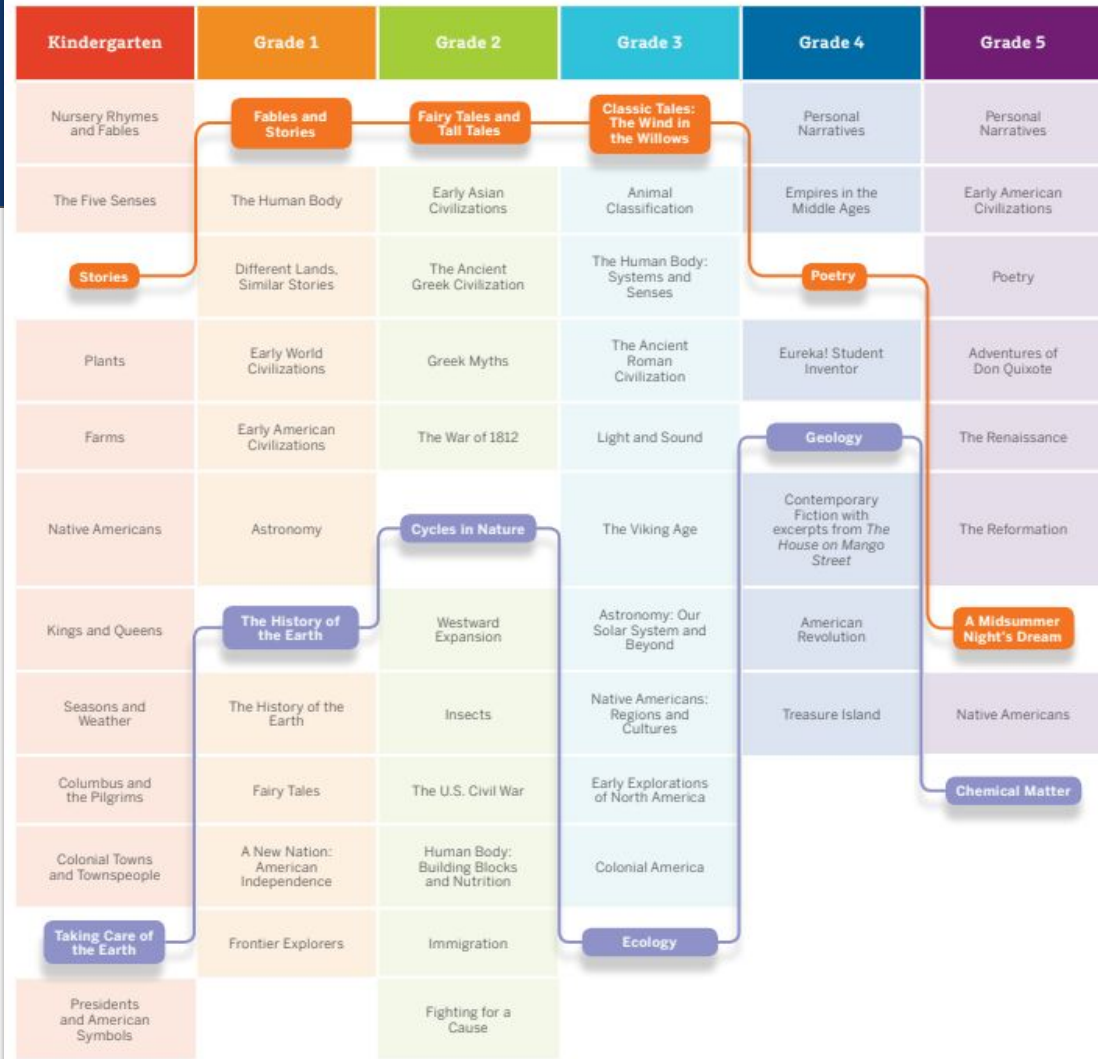
### Unit 4 Eureka! Student Inventor (Core Quest)

This Core Quest, a narrative-driven unit, immerses students in close-reading adventures and scientific and historical content about inventions. Students write and read opinion, informational, and narrative texts.

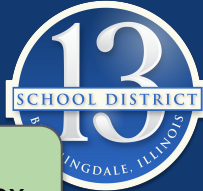
**Number of Lessons: 10**

# Knowledge Sequence

## K-5 Knowledge Sequencing



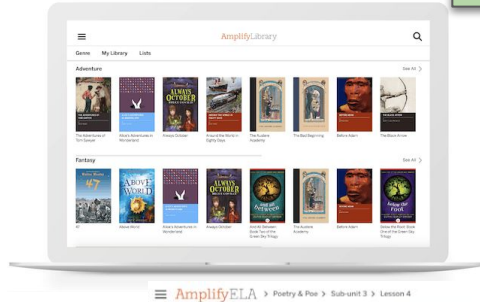
# 6-8 Amplify ELA



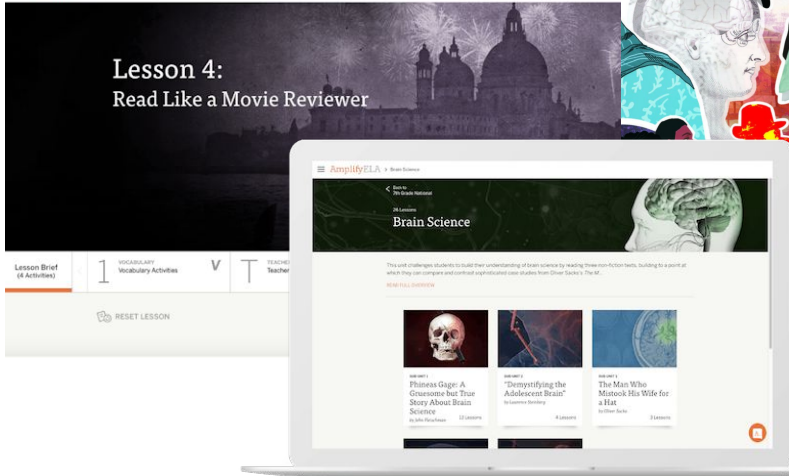
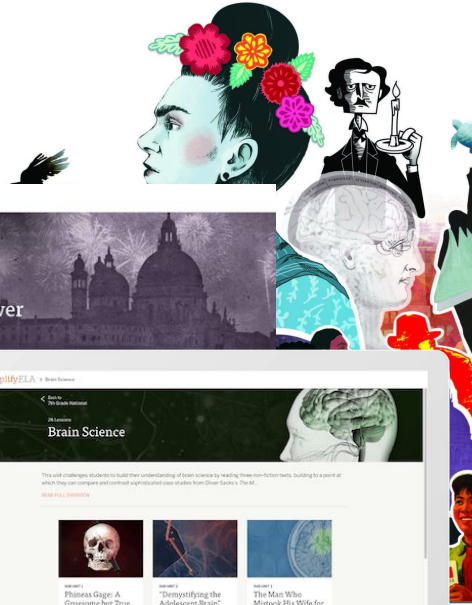
**Grades 6-8**  
**Analyzing Complex Text**

The English language arts program designed to prepare middle schoolers for high school and beyond.

Amplify ELA is a blended English language arts curriculum designed specifically to support students in grades 6–8 and prepare them for high school and beyond. With Amplify ELA, students learn to tackle any complex text and make observations, grapple with interesting ideas, and find relevance for themselves.



Amplify ELA



# 6-8 Core Units

## Grade 6 core units



6A: Dahl & Narrative  
[i](#)



6B: Mysteries & Investigations  
[i](#) [L](#)



6C: The Chocolate Collection  
[i](#) [L](#)



6D: The Greeks  
[L](#)



6E: Summer of the Mariposas  
[L](#)



6F: The *Titanic* Collection  
[i](#) [L](#)

## Grade 7 core units



7A: *Red Scarf Girl* & Narrative  
[i](#)



7B: Character & Conflict  
[i](#) [L](#)



7C: Brain Science  
[i](#)



7D: Poetry & Poe  
[L](#)



7E: The Frida & Diego Collection  
[i](#) [L](#)



7F: The Gold Rush Collection  
[i](#) [L](#)

## Grade 8 core units



8A: Perspectives & Narrative  
[i](#)



8B: Liberty & Equality  
[i](#) [L](#)



8C: Science & Science Fiction  
[i](#) [L](#)



8D: Shakespeare's  
*Romeo & Juliet*  
[L](#)

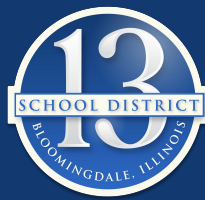


8E: Holocaust:  
Memory & Meaning  
[i](#) [L](#)



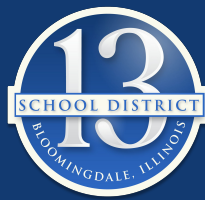
8F: The Space Race Collection  
[i](#) [L](#)

# Professional Development Base Plan: 2023-2024



Topics	K-2	3-5	6-8
Program Overview	½ Day	½ Day	½ Day
Initial Training	2 Days (1 Skills/ 1 Knowledge)	1 Day	1 Day
Enhancing Practice	½ Day	½ Day	2 - ½ Day Sessions
Coaching	1 Day		½ Day
Training for Leaders	½ Day		½ Day

# Investment & Future Planning



**Total Cost for 6 years:** \$351,288.28 for all resources digital and print 2023 - 2031

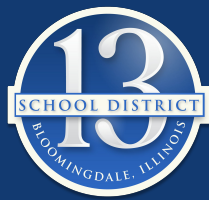
**Elementary:** \$283,841.28 for 6 years (\$55/student/year)

**Middle School:** \$67,447 for 6 years (\$23/student/year)

**2023-2024 Professional Development Package:** \$42,200.00

**Previous Curriculum (ReadyGen):** \$270,000 (K-5 only) for 6 years in 2016/2017 to 2022/2023 (\$53/student/year)

# Thank You Literacy Committee!



**Thank you to the Literacy committee for 2 years of tireless work, learning and conversations in order to make the best selection for our students:**

**Teri Burritt**, Reading Specialist DuJardin

**Angela Foley**, 7th Grade ELA

**Katie Hayes**, 5th Grade Erickson

**Aaron Jura**, Reading Specialist Erickson

**Tina Kolzow**, Reading Specialist Westfield

**Kathryn McGrane**, 4th Grade DuJardin

**Gina Pecoraro**, 2nd Grade DuJardin

**Mark Stamatakos**, 8th Grade ELA

**Karen Taylor**, 6th Grade ELA

**Dana Thomas**, Wilson Language Specialist

**Janeen Volkman**, Kindergarten Erickson