

**New Fairfield Public Schools
Textbook Selection Information**

Title: Foundations

Author: Wilson Learning Center

Publisher: Wilson Language Corporation

Date: WRS 4th Edition, 2018

The following criteria were adopted and/or adapted from the American Library Association Workbook for Selection Policy Writing.

1. Learning resources shall support and be consistent with the general educational goals of the state and the district and the aims and objectives of individual schools and specific courses.

Foundations¹ is a multisensory and systematic phonics, spelling, and handwriting program that benefits all K-3 students. Foundations is designed as a whole-class, general education program used for prevention (Tier 1) purposes. It also can be taught in a small group or 1:1 setting for intervention (Tier 2).

Informed by an extensive [research base](#) and following [principles of instruction](#) demonstrating success for a wide variety of learners, key features include:

- Thoroughly teaches the foundational skills, and significantly supports the reading, writing, and language standards, found in [states' rigorous college- and career-ready standards](#).
- Presents the following concepts and skills in a cumulative manner from Unit to Unit and year to year:
 - Letter formation
 - Phonological and phonemic awareness
 - Sound mastery
 - Phonics, word study, and advanced word study
 - Irregular (trick) word instruction
 - Vocabulary
 - Fluency
 - Comprehension strategies
 - Written composition (spelling and handwriting)
- Integrates skill instruction so that a daily lesson teaches and then reinforces corresponding skills.
- Scaffolds learning while teaching all skills explicitly, sequentially, and systematically.
- Actively engages students in learning through the use of multisensory techniques, such as when teaching students sounds, their representative letters, and words with spelling options.
- Provides multiple opportunities for skills practice and application to build mastery.
- Monitors student learning through formative assessment tools built into the program.
- Includes comprehensive and teacher-friendly [materials](#) to facilitate teachers' use of the program and promote student motivation.
- Guides teachers on how to meet individual student needs by differentiating instruction.
- Supports teachers through the online Wilson Learning Community, offering clear demonstrations of each teaching activity type used in the program.

¹ Retrieved from URL: <https://www.wilsonlanguage.com/programs/foundations/overview/> (2019)

- Helps teachers achieve many of the requirements of state, local, and professional standards.
 - Encourages parental involvement through the use of the Foundations Home Support Packet.
- 2. Learning resources shall be chosen to enrich and support the curriculum and the personal needs of users.**

Teacher's Kits (by program Level) include a detailed, hardcover manual with day-to-day learning plans and extensive support materials to demonstrate the concepts using visual and kinesthetic strategies. Student materials, manipulatives, and workbooks allow for extensive practice in skills development. A Teacher's Kit contains all the instructional materials a teacher needs for the specific Level (K-3), including one set of student materials. Each student will need his or her own durable and consumable materials for that Level.

3. Learning resources shall meet high standards of quality in:

Foundations Teacher's Kit (Available by Level; for Levels K, 1, 2, or 3) include the following materials to make learning visible and explicit:

- Teacher's Manual (Level-specific):
 - Detailed, easy-to-follow daily learning plan and thorough activity procedures.
 - Scope and sequence of all skills learned in the program Level.
 - Activities sequenced by the day with a detailed, easy-to-use schedule.
 - "Getting Ready" boxes at the start of each Unit outline Materials, Home Support, and Learning Activities.
 - "Daily Plan" boxes outline both teacher and student materials needed for each lesson.
 - Suggestions for differentiated instruction for advanced, ELL, and struggling students.
 - A section on each Learning Activity, including Synopsis, Procedure, Differentiation, and Cue Sheet of teacher's actions and students' responses.
 - Unit Tests to determine student mastery.
 - Extensive resource of controlled text for each Unit.
- Activity Cue Cards: These laminated cards on a ring provide a quick reference for Level-specific learning activities. The compact size makes this a desirable teaching tool.
- Owl Puppets: A lovable addition to the classroom, Echo puppets are effective helpers for promoting student responses. Echo is a large snowy owl with a swivel head. Baby Echo fits on a ruler or pointer.
- Sentence & Syllable Frames: The Level K and Level 1 set includes 8 blue frames for sentence work (2 show the shape for a capital letter), 3 punctuation squares, 3 white syllable frames, 2 yellow suffix frames. Level 2 set includes 20 yellow suffix frames and 4 white syllable frames.
- Alphabet Wall Strip (For Levels K, 1, and 2): The Aa-Zz strip hangs on the classroom wall for a quick reference of alphabet order, letter formation, and keywords.
- Cursive Alphabet Wall Strip (For Level 3): The Aa-Zz strip hangs on the classroom wall for a quick reference of cursive letter formation, alphabet order, and keywords.
- Keyword Puzzles (Level K): A fun and effective way to associate letters (Aa-Zz), keywords, and sounds, each keyword picture piece is designed to match with the correct letter.
- Large Sound Cards: Level-specific, these cards present keyword pictures and letters for phonemes introduced and reviewed at each Level.

- Standard Sound Cards: Level-specific, these cards are used to drill sounds and teach word structure. Letters are printed on one side; keywords and sounds are printed on the reverse for previously taught sounds and sounds introduced in the respective level.
- Trick Word Flashcards (Levels K, 1, and 2): Level-specific, these cards are used to develop automatic recognition of high frequency and irregular words. Words with irregular patterns or untaught word patterns according to the scope and sequence of the respective Level are taught as words to be memorized.
- Sound Alike Flashcards (Level 3): Homophones that are taught in each Unit are presented on flashcards and are used in an activity to help students develop vocabulary and spelling skills with homophones.
- Word of the Day Cards: Level-specific (for Levels 1, 2, and 3) cards are provided for each Unit in the respective Level, and are used to review word structure and meaning.
- Magnetic Strips: These strips affix to media for easy manipulation on ferrous surfaces. Precut adhesive pieces offer easy application.
- Manuscript Letter Formation Guides (Levels K, 1, and 2): Aa-Zz laminated cards on a ring provide step-by-step verbalizations for lowercase and uppercase manuscript letter formation on the Wilson grid. The compact size makes this a desirable teaching tool.
- Cursive Letter Formation Guides (Level 3): Easy to use Aa-Zz laminated cards on a ring provide step-by-step verbalizations for lowercase and uppercase cursive letter formation on the Wilson grid. The compact size makes this a desirable teaching tool.
- Foundations Large Writing Grid (2-pack): This two-sided grid is laminated for classroom dictation work with a dry erase marker. A grid for letter formation is on one side, and a grid for writing words is on the reverse.
- Fluency Kits (Levels 1 and 2): Each is Level-specific and matches the scope and sequence of the respective Teacher's Manual. Each Kit contains controlled sound drills, real and nonsense words, trick words, phrases, and controlled-text stories (phrased and unphrased) for each Unit on reproducible laminate stock. A recording form is included for time drills.
- Stories Set 1: Six beautifully illustrated readers written by Barbara Wilson are designed specifically for Level 1 students. This set provides highly-decodable, controlled text stories for reading practice.
- Books to Remember 2: Five decodable stories written by Laura Appleton-Smith provide additional practice with connected text for Level 2.
- Classroom Poster Sets: Each Level-specific Foundations Classroom Poster Set offers students a visual reminder of the concepts taught in the respective Level.
- Vowel Extension Poster (Levels K and 1): This poster can be cut into strips and used for the Vowel Extension Learning Activity.
- Wilson Cursive® Writing Kit (Level 3): The Wilson Cursive Writing Kit includes an instructor guide, multimedia CD with animated demonstrations for letter formations, laminated worksheets, a Large Writing Grid, Cursive Letter Formation Poster, and a Forward and Backward Slant workbook. Laminated reproducible worksheets (8.5" x 11") are geared for both right- and left-handed students to practice lowercase and uppercase letters and connectives to ensure mastery.

4. Learning resources shall be appropriate for the subject area and for the age, emotional development, ability level, learning styles, and social development of the students for whom the materials are selected.

Student durables are used by each student and will last from year to year. They include:



- Letter Board: Available in two versions: K-1 or 2-3. The Letter Board is used for arranging Magnetic Letter Tiles or for building words during dictation activities. In the K-1 version, alphabet and syllable frames are printed directly on the board.
- Magnetic Letter Tiles: These tiles are Level-specific and designed to be used with the Letter Board. Tiles are used for phonemic awareness activities and the development of sound-symbol correspondence and spelling. Depending on the Level, Letter Tiles include consonants, vowels (a, e, i, o, u), digraphs (wh, ch, sh, th, ck), blank vowel and consonant tiles, and other phonemes introduced in the Level.
- Dry Erase Writing Tablet: The Dry Erase Writing Tablet is two-sided with a large writing grid for letter formation on one side and grids for writing words, sentences, and multisyllabic word work on the other.
- Gel Word Board with Magic Pen (Level 2 only): The Gel Word Board and magnetic-tipped stylus provide a multisensory opportunity to write and finger-trace high frequency sight words.

5. Learning resources shall promote an appreciation of cultural diversity.

NA

6. **Learning resources shall be designed to provide a background of information that will motivate students and staff to examine their own attitudes and behavior; to comprehend their duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges as participating citizens in our society; and to make informed judgments in their daily lives**

Teachers report that students are very engaged by this program and motivated by their progress to take risks and read as soon as they are able.

7. **The publisher provides appropriate support materials and professional development**

- Wilson offers [professional learning](#) support to individual teachers, and to schools and districts as part of a customized COMPASS plan.
- [Level-specific workshops](#) provide the practice and guidance needed to effectively begin teaching the Foundations curriculum.
- Ongoing support is provided through our online Wilson Academy®. Foundations instructors access the [Prevention/Early Intervention Learning Community](#) (PLC) for printable materials, video demonstrations, expert tips, FAQs, discussion boards, and additional resources.

8. **Price per book and number needed**

See attached quote...