

CURRICULUM PRIORITIES

Schedule the Skills, Strategies, and Content Your Students Need in a Developmental Sequence

The following pages present priorities for teachers to consider in planning quarter-by-quarter emphases.

The skills and strategies of reading and writing do not vary significantly after third grade—it is the complexity of the text that increases. For example, inferring the meaning of a word in context is the same skill at all grades, it is the reading level and background needed to comprehend the text that changes.

Pre-K and Kindergarten Learning Priorities

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
Reading Skills and Strategies to apply across the curriculum	Listen for information (ongoing) Retell stories Recognize location, sequence Make predictions	Locate information Retell story and answer questions Real/make-believe Compare/contrast	Classify information Read or listen independently and respond to questions Tell difference—reality/make believe	Read or listen independently and respond to questions
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ alphabet ▪ name ▪ environmental print (<i>all quarters</i>) ▪ sight words ▪ sounds/symbols 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ alphabet ▪ sight words ▪ number words ▪ sounds/symbols 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sight words ▪ number words ▪ classify words ▪ sounds/symbols 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sight words ▪ number words ▪ classify words ▪ sounds/symbols-
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ speak in sentences ▪ drawing ▪ Dictate stories ▪ environmental print ▪ writing through pictures ▪ punctuation (intro) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ speak in sentences ▪ sentence sense ▪ write sentences (2 or more) ▪ shared writing (ongoing) ▪ drawing and story dictation ▪ expository writing (intro) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sentence structure ▪ picture and word journal (ongoing) ▪ writing lists ▪ narrative writing (intro)—writing short stories with pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ build sentences ▪ persuasive writing (intro) ▪ increase proficiency with grammar and sentence structure
Content > read/listen > do/list/draw > graph/chart > diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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1st Grade Learning Priorities

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
Reading Skills and Strategies to apply across the curriculum	Follow words on page Listen for information Retell stories Sequence Make predictions	Locate and classify information Retell story and answer questions Read/make-believe Compare/contrast	Classify information Read or listen independently for a purpose; respond to questions fiction and nonfiction	Explain differences fiction, non-fiction Read or listen independently and respond to questions
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sight words ▪ number words ▪ phonics patterns ▪ nouns and pronouns ▪ Tier 2 words (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sight words ▪ number words ▪ phonics patterns ▪ nouns and verbs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sight words ▪ number words ▪ phonics patterns ▪ nouns, verbs, pronouns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sight words ▪ number words ▪ phonics patterns ▪ nouns, verbs, pronouns
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ speak in sentences ▪ picture sentences ▪ Write sentences ▪ Sentence "sense" ▪ expository writing (intro) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ speak in sentences ▪ write sentences (2 or more) ▪ picture stories ▪ narrative writing (intro) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ write sentences ▪ punctuation ▪ persuasive writing (intro) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ write sentences ▪ develop grammar and sentence structure ▪ continue introductory level expository and narrative e writing
Content > read/listen > do/list/draw > graph/chart > diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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2nd Grade Learning Priorities

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
Reading skills and strategies to apply across the curriculum	Draw conclusions from text: <i>stated and inferred traits; identify motive;</i> sequence Identify/explain cause-effect Make and explain predictions Fiction/nonfiction Parts of a non-fiction book Complete timeline	Identify/describe different kinds of stories; Identify, infer motives Complete a story map; Identify and classify information; Compare/contrast Relate information to main idea Complete chart	Analyze characters in a story Explain how to answer questions: literal, inferential Answer with evidence literal and inferential questions Paraphrase Make timeline Make "web" Infer main idea	Compare/contrast; Infer relationships; Analyze relationships; Combine information from different sources
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sight words ▪ Vowel-consonant patterns ▪ Silent consonants ▪ Word families ▪ Syllables ▪ DIBELS (ongoing as needed) ▪ Parts of speech ▪ Journal (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sight words ▪ Contractions ▪ Possessives ▪ Rhyming words ▪ Infer meaning of unfamiliar words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sight words ▪ Prefixes ▪ Compound words ▪ Syllables ▪ Infer meaning of unfamiliar words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sight words ▪ Decode unfamiliar words using context or roots or phonics
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sentences ▪ punctuation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sentences ▪ punctuation ▪ journal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ letter ▪ paragraph ▪ journal as extended response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ paragraph ▪ poem
Content > read/listen > experience > draw > graph > chart > diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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3rd Grade Learning Priorities

	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Reading/ THINKING skills and strategies to apply across the curriculum and in ISAT Prep	Locate and classify information identify/infer traits and motive Identify sequence Identify/diagram/explain cause-effect Map a story Summarize Infer main idea Relate information to main idea Parts of a non-fiction book	Identify problem/solution and central idea of text Draw conclusions from fiction and non-fiction texts Identify different kinds of stories Compare/contrast Relate new/prior information in extended response non-fiction and fiction	Clarify literal/figurative language Identify kinds of questions. Answer with evidence inferential, analytic, evaluative questions	Compare/contrast; Infer relationships; Analyze relationships; Combine information from different sources
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ assess sight words ▪ nouns—singular, plural, proper ▪ syllables ▪ contractions ▪ possessives ▪ rhyming words ▪ Infer meaning of unfamiliar words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rhyming words ▪ root, prefix, suffix ▪ contractions ▪ infer meaning of unfamiliar words 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ compound words ▪ syllables ▪ subject-verb agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Decode unfamiliar words using context or roots or phonics
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sentences ▪ punctuation ▪ paragraph ▪ journal ▪ extended response to fiction ▪ expository ▪ journals (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ paragraph ▪ outline, write essay ▪ history ▪ extended response to nonfiction ▪ expository 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ outline, write, edit essay ▪ biography ▪ extended response ▪ expository, narrative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ poem ▪ story ▪ outline, write essay--narrative ▪ extended response
Content Content > read/listen >experience >draw >graph >chart >diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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4th Grade Learning Priorities

	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter
Reading/ THINKING skills and strategies to apply across the curriculum and in ISAT Prep	Identify and infer traits, motive, sequence, cause-effect, main idea with evidence <i>Infer from context</i> Locate and classify information Paraphrase Summarize	Analyze author's choice of words; analyze author's techniques and purpose Identify/compare a theme Identify/answer analytic, inferential, and evaluative questions.	Explain skimming and scanning Explain how to answer questions: analytic, inferential, evaluative	Compare/contrast; Infer relationships; Analyze relationships; Combine information from different sources Synthesize
Vocabulary	Root word Prefix Suffix Dictionary glossary	Identify and give examples of parts of speech. Make explanation/guide to how to use structures to figure out word meaning when reading. (root, prefix, suffix)	Explain how to choose words in writing Analyze word structure	Adjectives Multiple-meaning words imagery
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paragraph with focus, support, organization, clarity • expository essay • extended response to fiction • journals (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrative essay • biography • extended response to non-fiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • persuasive essay • extended response to unfamiliar text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creative writing • extended response to a poem
Content > read/listen >experience >draw >graph >chart >diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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5th Grade Learning Priorities

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
Reading/ THINKING <i>skills and strategies to apply across the curriculum and in ISAT Prep</i>	Paraphrase Identify and infer traits, motive, sequence, cause-effect, main idea with evidence Infer from context Scan Locate and classify information <i>Summarize</i>	Analyze structure of text Analyze author's choice of words, style, techniques identify/compare a theme Identify/answer analytic, inferential, evaluative questions	Identify ways writer organizes text Compare/contrast; Infer relationships; Analyze relationships; Explain how to answer questions: analytic, inferential, evaluative	Combine information from different sources Synthesize
Vocabulary	Root word Prefix Suffix Compound word Dictionary homonym Synonym; Antonym Parts of speech thesaurus	figurative language explain how to use structures to figure out word meaning when reading. multiple meaning words Glossary	Paraphrase Explain how to choose words in writing Analyze word structure	imagery word origins words that add tone and mood to texts
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus, support, organization, clarity: • paragraphs • expository essay • extended response to fiction • journals (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expository and narrative essay or biography • extended response to nonfiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrative and persuasive essay • extended response to unfamiliar text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creative writing • extended response to poem
Content > read/listen >experience >draw >graph >chart >diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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6th Grade Learning Priorities

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
Reading/ THINKING skills and strategies to apply across the curriculum and in ISAT Prep	Paraphrase Identify and infer traits, motive, sequence, cause-effect, main idea with evidence Infer from context Scan Locate and classify information Summarize	Analyze author's choice of words and use of techniques; analyze mood, tone; identify/compare a theme Skim Identify/answer analytic, inferential, and evaluative questions.	Compare/contrast; Infer relationships; Analyze relationships; Explain how to answer questions: literal, inferential	Combine information from different sources Synthesize
Vocabulary	Root word Prefix Suffix Compound word Dictionary, Glossary	thesaurus Multiple meaning words Structure Context Parts of Speech	Explain how to choose words in writing Analyze word use by authors	imagery
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • paragraph with focus, support, organization, clarity • expository and narrative essay • extended response to fiction • journals (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrative essay • narrative history • extended response to nonfiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • persuasive essay • extended response to persuasive text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • creative writing • extended response to poem
Content > read/listen >experience >draw >graph >chart >diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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7th Grade Learning Priorities

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
Reading/ THINKING skills and strategies to apply across the curriculum	Paraphrase Identify and infer traits, motive, sequence, cause-effect, main idea Identify/answer questions: literal, analytic, inferential <i>Locate and classify</i> <i>Compare, contrast</i> <i>Infer from context</i> <i>Take notes (ongoing)</i> <i>Summarize</i>	Analyze author's choice of words and use of techniques; analyze mood, tone; identify/compare a theme; Identify/answer analytic, inferential, and evaluative questions.	Compare/contrast; Infer relationships; Analyze relationships;	Combine information from different sources. Synthesize.
Vocabulary	Root word Prefix, Suffix Compound word Dictionary Glossary thesaurus parts of speech	Multiple meaning words use structure and context to figure out word meaning when reading.	Explain how to choose words in writing Analyze word use by authors of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry	imagery
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organization, clarity, support • expository essay • extended response • memoir • journals (ongoing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrative essay • extended response to nonfiction • edit for grammar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • persuasive essay • extended response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing repertoire: expository, narrative, persuasive • creative writing • extended response to poem
Content > read/listen >experience >draw >graph >chart >diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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8th Grade Learning Priorities

	<i>1st Quarter</i>	<i>2nd Quarter</i>	<i>3rd Quarter</i>	<i>4th Quarter</i>
Reading/ THINKING skills and strategies to apply across the curriculum and in ISAT Prep	Paraphrase Identify and infer traits, motive, sequence, cause- effect, main idea Identify/answer questions: literal, analytic, inferential <i>Locate and classify</i> <i>Compare, contrast</i> <i>Infer from context</i> <i>Take notes (ongoing)</i> <i>Summarize</i>	Analyze author's choice of words and use of techniques; analyze mood, tone; identify/compare a theme; Identify/answer analytic, inferential, and evaluative questions.	Compare/contrast; Infer relationships; Analyze relationships;	Combine information from different sources. Synthesize.
Vocabulary	Root word Prefix Suffix Compound word Dictionary Glossary Thesaurus	Identify and give examples of parts of speech. Multiple meaning words Make use structures and context to figure out word meaning.	Explain how to choose words in writing Analyze word use by authors of fiction, non-fiction, and poetry	imagery
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus, support, organization, clarity • expository and narrative essay • extended response to fiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • narrative essay • persuasive essay • extended response to nonfiction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • persuasive essay • extended response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative writing • Extended response to poem
Content > read/listen >experience >draw >graph >chart >diagram > write > present	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>	<i>Science Topic</i> <i>Social Studies Topic</i>
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Departmentalized Learning Priorities

Graphic Organizers and writing can be used to assess student learning.

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
<i>Content</i>	Main Topics:	Main Topics:	Main Topics:	Main Topics:
Reading/ Learning Strategies Goals 1, 5	Locate, collect, organize, information Take notes (ongoing)	Use graphic organizers to analyze and communicate Make up and analyze questions.	Use graphic organizers to analyze and communicate	Use graphic organizers to analyze and communicate
<i>Writing to Clarify and Expand Learning</i> Goals 3, 5	Paragraph Extended Response	Summary Extended Response	Synthesize	Present information in a variety of ways for different audiences.