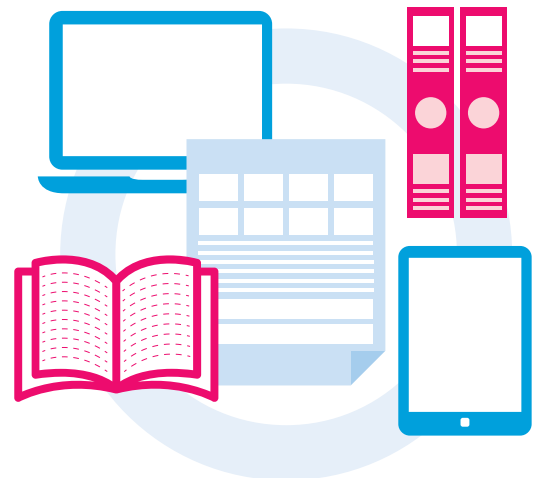# Early Literacy Needs Analysis

Early literacy education in America is crucial, yet faces significant challenges. Despite growing awareness, only about 35% of fourth graders are reading at or above proficiency, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Reading is of utmost importance; it lays the groundwork for success in all subjects and long-term academic achievement. Students who struggle with literacy often face difficulties in other areas, leading to lower graduation rates and limited career opportunities. Increased investment in early literacy programs and teacher training are essential to ensure that all children have the skills they need to thrive.

This analysis can help you evaluate your current literacy program(s) and identify any gaps in existing resources as well as understand the capacities and constraints of your school or district, so you know where to invest to build a successful program.

Evaluation

What state-mandated initiatives does my district need to accomplish in literacy assessment, curriculum, and professional development?

- Aligned to state standards
- Implement state selected dyslexia screener
- Adopt evidence-based, high-quality instructional materials aligned to the Science of Reading
- Adopt state mandated intervention solutions for students identified with reading difficulties
- Provide professional development for teachers
- Provide family and caregiver notification

In what setting are you currently serving your population in need of additional reading support?

- Classroom instruction
- Pull-out intervention programs
- Out of School Programs
- Summer programs
- Alternative schedules
- Community partners (Boys & Girls Club, etc.)
- Other

What level of research evidence supports your existing curriculum's program effectiveness on student outcomes?

Strong evidence from multiple randomized controlled trials (ESSA Tier 1)

Moderate evidence from quasi-experimental studies (ESSA Tier 2)

Promising evidence from correlational studies (ESSA Tier 3)

Limited or no research evidence available

Which literacy skills does your current program primarily target?

Phonemic awareness

Phonics

Fluency

Vocabulary

Comprehension

Writing

All the above

What are the school/district expectations of any adopted content?

Aligned to state standards

Aligned to a recognized literacy framework

Content-area literacy instruction

Research-based instructional strategies

Other

Does your current program meet these criteria?

Yes

No

What customizations would support a more effective program?

Option to rearrange curriculum to create custom resources

Ability to import instructor-created content (e.g., documents, links, presentations)

Flexible assignment options to meet student interests/needs

Accessibility options

Third-party assessment integration

Other

What type of assessment tools does the program provide?

Universal Screening

Formative/Classroom Assessments

EOC or Summative assessments

Performance Tasks Assessments

Teacher observation checklists

Other

Focus Question

If you could design an early literacy program without worry of funding or resource restraints, what would your ideal program look like?

Technology Constraints

What devices are available for students to use?

Computer lab/media center

Laptop/tablet carts

1:1 devices (i.e., devices students carry with them throughout the year)

Personal devices (BYOD)

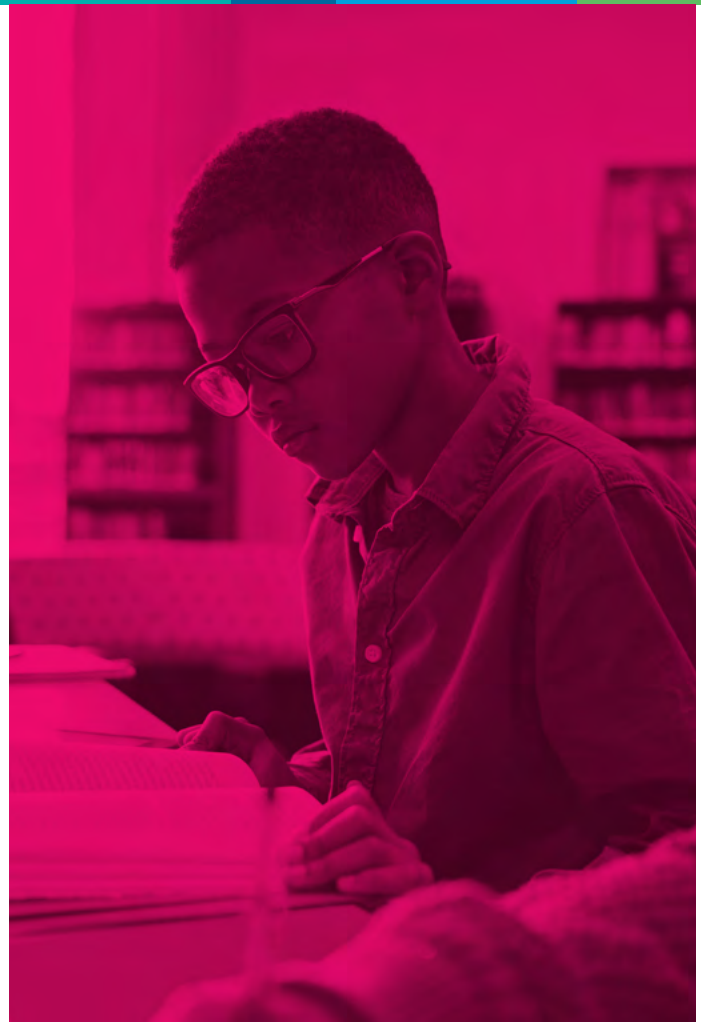**What procedures do teachers/staff need to learn to navigate the program?**

How to enter grades for assignments

How to communicate with students

New ways to deliver content (e.g., video, message board, etc.)

How to best collaborate with colleagues

How to differentiate instruction under the program

Other

What procedures do students need to utilize to navigate the program?

How to ask for help

How to log in and out of the program

How to navigate to assignments

How to monitor their own progress

Other

What are your "must-have" technology features?

Single sign-on support

24/7 technical support

Integration with the SIS

ADA compliance and accessibility features

Other

Focus Question

Did your last technology roll-out go as expected? How does that experience inform future initiatives?

Stay on Track

In what ways do instructors check in with students to discuss progress?

- Weekly progress meetings
- Regular emails/texts/phone calls
- Periodic reporting
- Parent-teacher meetings
- Other

How often are instructors required to check progress and touch base with students?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Each grading period
- Each semester
- Need vendor partner input

How will instructional quality be measured?

- Student data
- Student EOC success
- Formal observations by staff
- Survey data from students/parents
- Other

How is student work captured for future reference/portfolios?

- Cloud storage
- Binders/folders
- Need vendor input
- Not necessary

How do you gather feedback from students, parents, teachers, and other stakeholders?

- District phone lines/chat bots
- In-person events
- Phone surveys
- Online surveys
- Social media
- Other

How do you measure success for the program?

- Significant literacy growth
- Increased academic success
- Increased EOC/state testing success rate
- Stakeholder satisfaction
- Future grade readiness
- Engagement

What are some ways the program may need to grow/change in the future?

- Richer selection of content
- Ability to serve more students
- Ability to include other locations/schools
- More personalized content
- More advanced technology options (e.g., mobile use, BYOD, AI, etc.)
- Other

Focus Question

Project 1/5/10 years out—what do want your literacy services to look like?

Edmentum offers comprehensive reading and comprehension solutions designed to foster lifelong readers and enhance academic success. We base our approach on scientific reading research, which focuses on establishing solid foundations aligned with the principles of the Science of Reading.

Key Features

Accelerated Reading: Edmentum's programs aim to speed up reading proficiency by grade 3 and include universal screening for dyslexia risk factors. We employ explicit and systematic instruction to help students master phonics skills and build comprehension.

Comprehension Development: Mini-tutorials, think-alouds, and guiding questions introduce students to metacognitive strategies as they advance. Built-in glossaries and dictionaries support vocabulary development, while relevant text passages promote real-world connections.

Evidence-Based Curriculum: The Science of Reading underpins Edmentum's curriculum, aligning it to state standards. We offer systematic phonics instruction, phonological awareness, comprehension and text analysis tools, and assessment-driven learning.

Benefits and Features

- Systematic phonics instruction
- Phonological awareness
- Comprehension and text analysis tools
- Assessment-driven learning
- Reading intervention
- Concept and credit recovery options
- Test readiness programs
- Data and reporting, including Lexile® measures

Through a variety of tools and resources, Edmentum strives to aid educators in nurturing early literacy skills, bolstering reading comprehension, and attaining positive academic results for students with varying grade levels and learning styles.

Exact Path
Offers diagnostic-driven learning paths and a top-rated academic screener by the National Center on Intensive Intervention (NCII) for K-12 students in math, reading, and language arts

Courseware
Provides digital curricula for grades 6 through adult learners, focusing on credit recovery and expanded course access

Tutorials
Delivers pretest-driven concept recovery for grades 6-12

EdOptions Academy
Combines K-12 learning technology with state-certified teachers for virtual instruction

Virtual Tutoring
Offers intensive K-12 tutoring to close learning gaps

Apex Courses
Provides digital curricula for grades 6 through adult learners

Contact us today for more information.
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