



STATE OF ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Education

July 2, 2021

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** City and County Superintendents of Education

**FROM:** Eric G. Mackey *EGM*  
State Superintendent of Education

**RE:** Alabama Literacy Task Force (LTF) Recommendations for K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs

The *Alabama Literacy Act* states each local education agency (LEA) shall offer a comprehensive core reading program to all students based on the science of reading, which develops foundational reading skills.<sup>1</sup> In addition, LEAs may not use any curriculum for public K-3 students that does not have instructional time included.

In addition to Assessment Systems and Intervention Programs, the Literacy Task Force (LTF) is also charged with providing recommendations for Comprehensive Core Reading Programs.<sup>2</sup> Multiple K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs were submitted for consideration as part of a [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) process by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and were reviewed by a subcommittee of the LTF in order to assess their alignment with the science of reading.

After thorough review of the K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs, the LTF recommended two K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs.

As part of their review process, the LTF considered, among other factors, the following:

- Alignment to specific early literacy requirements as outlined in the *Alabama Literacy Act*.
- Alignment to the Science of Reading

These recommendations should help guide and support your utilization of available funding to purchase high-quality instructional materials as soon as this year. The standard ELA textbook adoption process will continue and will result in a full ELA textbook list for both primary and supplemental resources to be presented to the State Board of Education prior to the 2022-2023 school year.

If you need further assistance from the ALSDE with K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs recommendations, please contact Mrs. Bonnie Short with the Alabama Reading Initiative by telephone at (334) 694-4632 or by email at [bonnie.short@alsde.edu](mailto:bonnie.short@alsde.edu).

EGM/BS

cc: Chief School Financial Officers  
Alabama Literacy Task Force  
Dr. Elisabeth Davis  
Mrs. Bonnie Short

Grades K-3 Elementary Principals  
Mrs. Angela Martin  
Mr. Andy Craig

**FY21-2093**

<sup>1</sup>Ala. Code Section 16-6G-5(a).

<sup>2</sup>Ala. Code Section 16-6G-3(a).

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