



Every Child Ready

New York State Literacy and Writing Instructional Best Practices

Literacy Pillars	NYS PreK-3rd Grade Instructional Best Practices (PreK)	Every Child Ready Alignment
Phonemic Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop awareness of segments of sound in speech.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Super Sounds component of Morning Meeting (Super Sounds Overview).• Flexible Small Groups: Literacy lessons (compound words, syllables, rhyming words, isolating sounds, onset-rime, phonemes).• Centers activities that reinforce phonemic awareness.
Phonics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teach students letter-sound relations.• Introduce letters (graphemes) with the sounds (phonemes) they make.• Provide opportunities to practice letter identification and sounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Meeting: Super Sounds component (Super Sounds Overview). Two letters are introduced each week, beginning in week 3 of Unit 2.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letter and letter sound introduction for upper and lowercase letters. Children practice using letter bodies, letter stories, a letter hunt, and letter chants and review.• Flexible Small Groups: Alphabet knowledge lessons• Centers: Activities that reinforce phonics.
Fluency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Model fluent reading on a daily basis.• Provide daily opportunities for students to practice reading fluency.• Model fluent reading for students by reading with expression, gestures and facial expressions, and intonation in voice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read Aloud. Occurs twice per day. Lessons include guidance for teachers on supporting fluency.• Library Center includes opportunities for children to explore books independently, with peers, and with teacher guidance.• Centers: Include thematic books related to activities when appropriate.• Flexible Small Groups: Narrative comprehension and accelerated literacy lessons.

Literacy Pillars**NYS PreK-3rd Grade Instructional
Best Practices (PreK)****Every Child Ready Alignment****Vocabulary**

- Plan activities to expand and practice vocabulary.
 - Introduce words and their meanings.
 - Engage students in activities to enhance vocabulary and language skills.
 - Teach vocabulary in the context of other reading activities.
- Daily in all lessons: Vocabulary is listed in each lesson plan. The ECR Platform includes child-friendly definitions and visuals.
 - Thematic units: Children see words in the context of a broader theme and vocabulary is reinforced through all components and the classroom environment.
 - Read Aloud: Twice daily, introduce vocabulary and review through repeated reads of each book.
 - Morning Meeting: Introduce thematic unit vocabulary.
 - Centers: Reinforce thematic vocabulary using activities and thematic picture word cards, books, and visuals. Facilitations include prompts to practice vocabulary with children in authentic ways.
 - Flexible Small Groups: Receptive and expressive language lessons.
 - Teacher resources: [Vocabulary Protocol](#)

Comprehension

- Teach students to activate background knowledge prior to reading.
 - Engage in high-quality shared book reading and ensure students connect to texts daily.
 - Ask questions and engage students in conversations surrounding text daily.
 - Model and explicitly teach comprehension strategies.
- Read Aloud: Occurs twice per day. Lessons include guidance for teachers on supporting comprehension.
 - Morning Meeting: Includes opportunities for children to share their thoughts, ideas, and perspectives.
 - Centers: Library facilitation includes guidance for shared reading with children.
 - Flexible Small Groups: Narrative comprehension, book knowledge, and accelerated literacy lessons.

Literacy Pillars**NYS PreK-3rd Grade Instructional
Best Practices (PreK)****Every Child Ready Alignment****Oral Language**

- Plan activities to expand and practice language skills.
 - Engage students in conversations.
 - Intentionally plan activities to build children's language skills.
 - Create a language-rich environment in which students engage in meaningful conversations.
- Daily lessons:
 - Language support strategies are included in lesson scripting (think alouds, self-talk, parallel-talk, repetition, recasting, and extension).
 - Conversation starters and activities such as turn-and-talks are embedded in lessons to support adult-child and child-child oral language.
 - Centers: Facilitation includes scripted prompts to support oral language.
 - Flexible Small Groups: Expressive language lessons.
 - Teacher resources:
 - Guidance for teachers on creating a [Print-Rich Learning Environment](#).
 - Language Support Strategies handout for all daily components (example: [Question of the Day](#)).

Writing

- Teach students to use the writing process for a variety of purposes.
- Teacher resources:
 - [States of Writing Development Handout](#)
 - [Stages of Writing Development Planning Sheet](#)
 - Journaling: Learn purposes of writing, engage in shared writing activities, practice emergent writing and conventions.
 - Centers:
 - Writing Center
 - All Centers include authentic writing opportunities
 - Flexible Small Groups: Name writing lessons.
 - Learning Lab: Opportunities for writing related to the scientific process.