Arkansas English Language Arts Standards (2023)









Founded in 2007, Great Minds PBC has evolved from an education advocacy start-up to a respected curriculum developer providing the highest-quality materials and professional development to schools and districts nationwide. In pursuit of its goal of raising expectations for every student, Great Minds© enlists educators to write curricula based on proven learning strategies to reward students' natural curiosity, build knowledge, and cultivate lifelong critical-thinking skills. Writing teams collaborate to ensure a consistent structure and vision for learning within and across all grade levels. We are pleased to bring you our newest kindergarten through grade level 8 English language arts (ELA) offering, *Arts & Letters™*.

Arts & Letters students engage with high-quality texts to explore science and social studies topics, literature, and fine art. By studying topics in depth, students build knowledge of the lived experiences of others and learn how a deeper knowledge of those experiences can change the world. The text-based lessons build strong readers, writers, and communicators through effective use of grammar and vocabulary. All students read and discuss gradelevel texts, and the curriculum provides guidance for supporting all learners at key moments in the lessons.

There are four topic-driven modules for each grade level in *Arts & Letters*. The modules last between six and eight weeks and contain approximately 40 lessons. The core of each module is a selection of literary works, informational texts, and visual art. All modules integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language instruction.

Arts & Letters was intentionally designed to be implemented alongside a high-quality, research-based foundational skills program. With strategic placement of supplemental materials, students can successfully achieve the proficiencies of Arkansas standards while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge-building of Arts & Letters. A detailed alignment analysis between Arkansas standards and Arts & Letters follows.

Foundational Reading Phonics Decoding (Word Reading)

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.FR.1.PD Decode words, using knowledge of Greek combining forms and connectives.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9 Level 5, Module 3, Lesson 9 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 11, 14

Foundational Reading
Phonics Encoding (Word Writing)

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.FR.2.PE Encode words, using knowledge of Greek combining forms with the use of connectives as needed.	Arts & Letters does not address this standard.

Foundational Reading

Handwriting

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.FR.3.H Write fluently and legibly in cursive, using correctly formed letters with appropriate slant, spacing, and line awareness with increasing stamina.	Arts & Letters does not address this standard.

Foundational Reading

Fluency

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.FR.4.F	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
Orally read texts with accuracy, automaticity, and expression, at an appropriate rate to support comprehension, self-correcting as necessary.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 39 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 25

Reading Comprehension Reading Fundamentals

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.RC.1.RF Ask questions about key details in a text.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 2, 5, 7, 11, 15, 23, 32, 36 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 2, 5, 7, 24, 32, 36 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 2, 5, 7, 17, 32, 36 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 2, 5, 8, 23, 26, 27, 39
5.RC.2.RF Answer explicit and inferential questions, using details from a text.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 39 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39
5.RC.3.RF Summarize multi-paragraph texts, providing details to demonstrate understanding of the central message or topic.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 16, 19, 20, 21, 26 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9, 13 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 3, 8, 14, 30 Level 5, Module 4, Lesson 3

5.RC.4.RF Build general and academic vocabulary and background knowledge of age and grade-appropriate topics through discussion, reading, and writing.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 18, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 34, 35, 39
5.RC.5.RF Use background knowledge and details, including illustrations, charts, and graphs, to make inferences about what happens in a text.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 16, 29, 30 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 8, 10, 13, 21 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 4, 8, 10, 12, 25, 31 Level 5, Module 4, Lesson 26
5.RC.6.RF Demonstrate reading comprehension of age and grade-appropriate texts by speaking or writing.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 39 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 39

Reading Comprehension Reading Literature

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.RC.7.RL	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 16, 17, 19, 20
Describe how a character's traits, motivations, and feelings contribute to	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 9, 12, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28
the sequence of events.	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 9, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 23

5.RC.8.RL	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 3, 16, 22, 26, 29
Analyze how one element of the plot was developed over the course of a text (e.g., how the problem was created, grew, changed, and was resolved).	Level 5, Module 2, Lesson 3
	Level 5, Module 3, Lesson 13
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 4, 9, 18, 20, 22
5.RC.9.RL	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 23, 32
Identify text evidence that supports the theme.	Level 5, Module 2, Lesson 5
	Level 5, Module 3, Lesson 32
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 5, 29
5.RC.10.RL	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 28
Compare and contrast similar themes of two or more texts of the same genre.	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 5, 7, 25, 29
5.RC.11.RL	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 16, 29, 30
Explain how multimedia elements (e.g., text, audio, images, animation, video) help determine meaning and tone.	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 4, 8, 10, 12, 25, 31
5.RC.12.RL	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 31
Explain how point of view and /or perspective influence how events are described.	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 4, 10, 12, 18, 22, 29
5.RC.13.RL	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 19, 20, 21, 22, 31
Explain how a series of chapters, scenes, or stanzas fit together to	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 13, 31
provide the overall structure of a particular story, drama, or poem.	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 3, 6, 21, 25, 26, 27

Reading Comprehension Reading Information

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.RC.14.RI Identify which reasons and evidence an author uses to support which points.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 12, 15, 27
5.RC.15.RI Integrate information from several texts on the same topic when writing or speaking about the topic.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 10, 11 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 6, 7
5.RC.16.RI Compare and contrast the text structures of two or more texts (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, description, problem/solution).	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 8 Level 5, Module 2, Lesson 31 Level 5, Module 4, Lesson 11
5.RC.17.RI Explain how multimedia elements (e.g., text, audio, images, animation, video, interactive components) support the meaning and tone of a text.	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 8 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 10, 13, 21
5.RC.18.RI Compare and contrast multiple accounts of the same event or topic, noting the points of view and/or perspectives represented.	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 9 Level 5, Module 2, Lesson 31

Vocabulary

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.V.1	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 11, 14, 15, 22, 25, 31, 35
Determine or clarify the meaning of words and phrases in a text read	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 14, 18, 21, 26, 35
aloud or independently.	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 3, 8, 9, 10, 20, 22, 25, 28, 31, 35
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 5, 8, 10, 11, 17, 25, 27, 32

5.V.2 Use context clues to infer the meanings of words or phrases (e.g., cause/effect relationships and comparisons in text).	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 3 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 14, 26 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 8, 9
5.V.3 Consult reference materials to clarify pronunciation and/or precise meaning of words.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 15, 22 Level 5, Module 2, Lesson 2 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 8, 17, 27
5.V.4 Use the relationship between particular words (e.g., synonyms, antonyms, homographs, homophones, homonyms) to better understand each of the words.	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 36 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 9, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 22, 25, 26, 28, 29 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 26, 27
5.V.5 Identify the difference between the denotation and connotation of a word or phrase in context.	Arts & Letters does not address this standard.
5.V.6 Explain the meaning of figurative language in context, including similes, metaphors, idioms, proverbs, and personification.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 10, 22, 29, 32, 36 Level 5, Module 2, Lesson 27 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 21, 24, 36 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 3, 5, 20, 23, 27, 28
5.V.7 Use knowledge of Greek combining forms and Latin prefixes, bases, and suffixes as clues to meaning (e.g., biography, autobiographical, photograph, photosynthesis).	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 5, 11, 14, 25, 31, 35 Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 3, 18, 21, 35 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 3, 9, 10, 20, 22, 25, 28, 31, 35 Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 5, 10, 11, 17, 32

Writing

Style

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.W.1.S Write an argument to persuade the reader to take an action or adopt a position, stating a claim and supporting the claim with relevant evidence from sources.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 33, 36, 37, 38
5.W.2.S Write informative or explanatory pieces, using multiple sources to examine a topic.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39
5.W.3.S Write a narrative, incorporating literary elements (characters, plot, setting, conflict, and dialogue) and strong voice.	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38

Writing Production

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.W.4.P Produce clear and coherent writing, using precise language, relevant details, elaboration, and grade-appropriate conventions.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 7, 8, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38, 39
	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 36, 37, 38
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 8, 15, 18, 25, 33, 34, 35
5.W.5.P Organize writing logically, constructing an introduction, body, and conclusion.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 29, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39
	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 13, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24, 27, 29, 31, 33, 37, 38
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 14, 18, 22, 24, 26, 28, 32, 33, 37, 38

5.W.6.P	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 9, 17, 18, 32, 38, 39
Use transitional words, phrases, and clauses to connect ideas.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 20, 21, 29, 31, 37, 38
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 22, 28, 37, 38
5.W.7.P	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 31, 36, 38
Plan and revise writing by expanding or combining sentences for meaning, interest, and style.	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 33, 34, 35, 36
5.W.8.P	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 39
Edit writing to include K-5 language conventions for publishing.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 21, 29, 31, 38
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 23, 29, 30, 38
	Level 5, Module 4, Lesson 35
5.W.9.P	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 15, 16, 17, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38
Conduct short research, using quotations and summaries from relevant sources or experiences to produce a written product.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 32, 33, 36, 37
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38
5.W.10.P Take notes, sort evidence into categories, and include a list of sources.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37
	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 32, 36, 39
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 36, 39

Collaborative Communication

Oral Language

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.CC.1.OL Participate in collaborative conversations, following class-created discussion guidelines to expand upon conversations.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 31, 32, 33, 36
	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 39
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 37
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 36, 38, 39
5.CC.2.OL	Level 5, Module 1, Lesson 27
Orally summarize the points a speaker makes, explaining how each claim is supported by reasons and evidence.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 12, 23, 26, 39 Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 5, 32, 36

Collaborative Communication

Presentation

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.CC.3.P	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 3, 5, 11, 12, 17, 19, 22, 23, 30, 31, 32, 33, 36, 37, 38
Use relevant, descriptive details to orally report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 5, 6, 15, 16, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 32, 36, 37, 38, 39
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 5, 6, 13, 14, 17, 21, 29, 32, 36, 37
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 5, 23, 29, 37, 38, 39
5.CC.4.P	Level 5, Module 3, Lesson 39
Use visual displays and/or audio appropriately to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details when presenting.	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 33, 36, 37, 38
5.CC.5.P	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 5, 11, 23, 32, 36
Speak audibly, using standard English as appropriate to the task and/or situation.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 5, 24, 30, 32, 36
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 5, 17, 32, 36
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 5, 23, 29, 37, 38, 39

Language Structures

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.L.1.S	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 4.
Use relative pronouns (e.g., who, which, that, whose, whom).	Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 22, 23, 25, 27, 28, 29, 33, 37, 38, 39
	Level 4, Module 4, Lesson 10

Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 1.
Level 1, Module 2, Lesson 21
Level 5, Module 3, Lesson 7
Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 14, 24, 30
Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 17, 22, 31, 32, 38
Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 20, 21, 27, 28, 37
Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 14, 22, 28, 37
Level 5, Module 4, Lesson 34
Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 3.
Level 3, Module 4, Lessons 24, 29, 31, 33
Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 3.
Level 3, Module 3, Lessons 22, 34, 35
Level 3, Module 4, Lesson 25
Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 24, 25, 33
Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 25, 33
Level 5, Module 3, Lesson 6
Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 25, 27, 28, 29, 31, 33, 37, 38
Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 4.
Level 4, Module 2, Lesson 34
Level 4, Module 4, Lesson 21

5.L.10.S	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 6, 12, 24, 25, 28, 33
Produce a variety of simple, compound, and complex sentences.	Level 5, Module 2, Lessons 6, 16, 25, 33
	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 6, 18, 33
	Level 5, Module 4, Lessons 7, 14, 23, 24, 30, 34, 35

Language Conventions

Arkansas Standards	Aligned Components of Arts & Letters
5.L.11.C	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 4.
Use correct capitalization.	Level 4, Module 1, Lessons 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 27, 28, 29, 37, 38, 39
	Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 13, 14, 15, 18, 26, 33, 35, 36, 38
	Level 4, Module 4, Lessons 26, 27
5.L.12.C	Arts & Letters does not address this standard.
Capitalize dialogue.	
5.L.13.C	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 3.
Use end marks in dialogue.	Level 3, Module 3, Lessons 23, 24, 26, 33, 37, 38
5.L.14.C	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 4.
Use end marks in quotations.	Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 18, 25, 26, 33, 35, 36, 38
	Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 10, 12, 13, 14, 37, 38, 39
5.L.15.C	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 3.
Use commas in dialogue.	Level 3, Module 3, Lessons 23, 24, 26, 33, 37, 38
5.L.16.C	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 4.
Use commas in quotations from a text.	Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 18, 25, 26, 33, 35, 36, 38
	Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 10, 12, 13, 14, 37, 38, 39

5.L.17.C Use commas to separate an introductory element.	Level 5, Module 1, Lessons 9, 18, 22, 23, 31, 32, 38, 39
5.L.18.C Use commas with words "yes" and "no."	Level 5, Module 3, Lessons 8, 14, 15, 22, 28, 37, 38
5.L.19.C Use quotation marks in dialogue.	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 3. Level 3, Module 3, Lessons 23, 24, 26, 33, 37, 38
5.L.20.C Use quotation marks in quotations from a text.	Arts & Letters addresses this standard in grade level 4. Level 4, Module 2, Lessons 18, 25, 26, 33, 35, 36, 38 Level 4, Module 3, Lessons 10, 12, 13, 14, 37, 38, 39