## Elementary Reading Curriculum: Units of Study in Reading

## Grade 2

| Unit 1: Becoming a Big Kid Reader |  |  |  |
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| Overview | Students will be able to independently use their learning to: <br> - use phonics knowledge (vowel teams, inflected endings, r-controlled vowels, etc.) to independently decode unknown words <br> - apply strategies to reading longer books, such as using a bookmark and tracking story elements, to build comprehension across a longer text <br> - read fluently by reading in phrases, paying attention to punctuation, and making their voice match what is happening in the book <br> - have conversations about what they are reading with partners <br> Enduring Understandings <br> - Readers use all they know about phonics to solve words. <br> - Readers can use many different strategies to read fluently. <br> - Readers pay attention to story elements to understand a story. <br> - Readers of series books look for similarities across books in the same series. |  |  |
| Unit <br> Learning <br> Bends | Bend I: <br> Reading with Fluency | Across this bend, teachers will help students to become kids who read with Big Kid fluency. Kids will learn that whereas in first grade, fluency usually was the result of rereading to make things smooth, now, as Big Kid Readers, they can learn to read with fluency right from the start. Teachers will focus on reading in phrases and the idea that there are common phrases that become so familiar that kids can read them in a snap. Fluency also involves reading with accuracy, so teachers support fluency also by teaching kids how to tackle longer words. Teachers will teach them that they can cut off the endings such as -ing and -ed. Later in this bend teachers will help readers be more efficient by reading in parts rather than letter by letter. Punctuation plays a role in this bend as well. Teachers will help them notice that authors have left stage direction clues to help them read their writing with expression and intonation. The bend ends with children making a video to show their | Priority <br> Standards across the Unit that will be addressed: <br> RF 2.3 <br> RF 2.4 <br> RL 2.1 <br> RL 2.3 <br> RL 2.5 <br> RL 2.6 <br> SL 2.5 |


|  |  | first-grade teachers how they, as Big Kid Readers, <br> are reading. |
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|  | Bend II: <br> Reading <br> Series <br> Books | Across this bend, teachers will help students to <br> study story elements - characters, setting, <br> problem, events, and resolution. They'll use their <br> emerging understanding of how most stories go to <br> help them retell the whole story. Children will learn <br> that when reading a whole series of books, they <br> get to know the main character almost as well as <br> they get to know their best friend. Just as a friend <br> can say, "Yeah, yeah, she always does that!" or <br> "That's what he always says," readers can do the <br> same. Students' reading will become more <br> inferential as they think about how the characters <br> are feeling and why they might feel that way. <br> In the share of the last session of Bend II, teachers <br> will establish permanent partners and channel kids <br> to shop together for their own mix of series, <br> fiction, and nonfiction books. |

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\begin{array}{|l|l|l|}\hline & \begin{array}{l}\text { Lesson 8: Story Elements Can Help Readers Understand a Story } \\
\text { Lesson 9: Story Elements Help Readers Retell } \\
\text { Lesson 10: Learning about the Character } \\
\text { Lesson 11: Seeing Patterns across Series Books } \\
\text { Lesson 12: Growing Ideas about the Characters } \\
\text { Lesson 13: Envisioning } \\
\text { Lesson 14: Being Flexible Word Solvers } \\
\text { Lesson 15: Some Vowel Teams Make a Whole New Sound } \\
\text { Lesson 16: Readers Watch Out for Vowels with } R\end{array}
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Lesson 17: Learning from Words We've Solved\end{array}\right]\)| Unit 2: Becoming Experts |
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|  | Bend II: Learning from Nonfiction Text Sets | Across this bend, teachers will help students to "snowball" ideas using cross-text synthesis. They'll take what they learned about a subtopic from one text and read a new book on that topic, picking more information and vocabulary around their initial learning. Teachers will help children learn to notice the types of text structures they'll encounter in nonfiction books, including cause and effect and sequence. As they become experts in their topics, they'll prepare for a celebration where they present their new knowledge and ideas to visiting first-graders. |  |
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|  | Bend III: <br> Reading <br> Nonfiction <br> Texts of All <br> Kinds | Across this bend, teachers will help students to read browsable and how-to texts. Expert readers of browsable books first explore the terrain, getting the lay of the land, then zoom in on parts that are especially interesting or relevant. Children wrestle with how the different parts of a text fit together. They also ask and answer questions and make theories about the information they are learning. <br> Soon, students switch to how-to texts. Students will use cookbooks, written instructions, and video instructions to practice reading procedural texts. They'll learn to skim the text asking, "What will I need?" then to shift between reading, pausing, and doing as they read along. <br> The celebration at the end of the unit provides an opportunity for students to share their knowledge with family visitors. To prepare, children will select three or four books to highlight, reviewing the books to recall what they've learned. Partners will share information from their curated selection of books with classroom visitors. |  |
| Unit Resources | Suggested K <br> - Mae <br> - Nation <br> - Your <br> - Erup <br> - Jellyfish <br> - Gian <br> - Gian | y Texts for Read Aloud and for Minilessons: <br> Among the Stars by Roda Ahmed <br> nal Geographic Readers: Planets by Elizabeth Carney Place in the Universe by Jason Chin <br> ion! The Story of Volcanoes by Anita Ganeri <br> ish: Mysterious Creatures from the Sea by Michele Du <br> Pandas 101 from National Geographic Wild <br> Squid by Candace Fleming | esne |


|  | - Volcanoes by Anita Ganeri <br> - Insects by the Numbers by Steve Jenkins |
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| Lepsics <br> across <br> the Unit | Lesson 1: Reading Nonfiction to Be Fascinated <br> Lesson 2: Orienting and Recalling Relevant Background Knowledge <br> Lesson 3: Learning from All the Parts of the Page <br> Lesson 4: Using Background Knowledge to Help You Think More as You Read <br> Lesson 5: Learning from Reading <br> Lesson 6: Determining Importance in Nonfiction <br> Lesson 7: Collecting Expert Vocabulary <br> Lesson 8: Building Knowledge on a Topic <br> Lesson 9: Learning More <br> Lesson 10: Noticing Kinds of Connections in Nonfiction: Sequence, Cause/Effect <br> Lesson 11: Solving Words Takes Strategic and Flexible Thinking <br> Lesson 12: Categorizing Vocabulary to Review Knowledge and Get Ready to <br> Learn <br> Lesson 13: Studying Vocabulary to Learn More about How Words Work <br> Lesson 14: Nonfiction Readers Celebrate by Sharing Their Knowledge <br> Lesson 15: Learning How to Read Browsable Books <br> Lesson 16: Using White Space in Books to Do Brainy Work <br> Lesson 17: Learning from How-To Texts <br> Lesson 18: Using All the Parts of How-To Texts to Learn More |
| Unit 3: Tackling Longer Words and Longer Books |  |


|  |  | strategies they have learned during phonics time, <br> they will also learn how to divide a longer word <br> into syllables based on the number of vowels, and <br> how the placement of the vowel within a syllable <br> impacts the sound it makes. | Unit that will <br> be <br> addressed: |
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|  | Bend II: <br> Tackling <br> Longer <br> Books | Across this bend, teachers will help students to <br> boost their comprehension strategies to match the <br> demands of books that are getting longer and <br> more complex. Students will be reminded of the <br> importance of previewing a book before getting <br> started, this time with the main character and <br> problem/solution in mind. They'll discuss familiar <br> story elements as they learn to make inferences, <br> use evidence from the text to support their <br> inferences, stop at points of confusion to reread <br> and fix up, and focus their retelling on the most <br> important details, which happen to be mainly <br> around problem and resolution. The bend <br> culminates with the final strategy for tackling <br> longer books—considering the problem and <br> resolution, and then thinking about the life lesson <br> that can be learned. | RI |


|  | - Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson |
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| Lesson <br> Topics <br> across <br> the Unit | Lesson 1: Readers Spiff Up the Library with Wish Bins <br> Lesson 2: Building Supportive Partnerships <br> Lesson 3: Using Self-Talk to Tackle the Schwa <br> Lesson 4: Brainstorming Tips that Partners Can Give to Readers—and to <br> Themselves <br> Lesson 5: Turn to an Expert <br> Lesson 6: Tackling Longer Words: Where's That Vowel? <br> Lesson 7: Tackling-Longer-Words Celebration <br> Lesson 8: Previewing a Reading with Story Structure in Mind <br> Lesson 9: Readers Ask and Answer Why Questions <br> Lesson 10: Monitoring Comprehension When Reading Longer Books <br> Lesson 11: Determining Importance to Retell Longer Stories <br> Lesson 12: Characters Learn Lessons <br> Lesson 13: Rehearsing Reading Voices <br> Lesson 14: Scooping Words into Phrases <br> Lesson 15: Noticing Dialogue Tags <br> Lesson 16: Understanding Dialogue <br> Lesson 17: Reading at a Just-Right Pace |
| Unit 4: Stepping into the World of the Story |  |


|  |  | envisioning with detail-picturing characters' faces and actions, as well as envisioning and keeping track of setting. Teachers will also support students in being active readers, helping them understand that stepping into the world of the story means making predictions and noticing one's own reactions to the text. If the setting of a story is new to readers, teachers will encourage them to do tiny digital searches to learn more about that setting. Teachers will teach them that once they've got a prediction, they read on, seeing if their prediction is correct. They'll remind students of the importance of having strong reactions while reading and talking about those reactions as a way to dig deeper into the story. | be <br> addressed: <br> RI 2.1 <br> RI 2.2 <br> RI 2.3 <br> RI 2.5 <br> SL 2.1 <br> SL 2.2 <br> SL 2.3 <br> SL 2.6 |
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|  | Bend II: <br> Studying <br> Characters <br> Closely | Across this bend, teachers will help students to study the characters in their texts. Teachers will zoom in especially on studying character feelings, thinking about the ways characters might feel more than one way, and the reasons for characters' feelings, and how their feelings change. They'll also support students' growing vocabularies. They'll use word thermometers to support students in thinking about words that describe how characters are feeling and acting. Teachers will channel students to think about the intensity of a character's feelings as a way to select precise words, and they'll help them learn new vocabulary as they do so. The bend ends with a celebratory session that invites students to share favorite books and characters with one another, and sets the class up to begin book clubs in Bend III. |  |
|  | Bend III: <br> Fiction <br> Book <br> Clubs- <br> Reading <br> Together, <br> Imagining <br> Together | Across this bend, teachers will help students to read, think, prepare, and talk when they are reading their books. They'll then read independently and, at the end of the workshop, gather to talk. The unit ends with a celebration that invites students to reflect on their reading lives and the books that have mattered to them, and ultimately, a whole-group discussion about why reading matters. |  |


| Unit Resources | Suggested Key Texts for Read Aloud and Minilessons: <br> - Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott (chapter book) for Bends I and II <br> - Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong by Julie Leung |  |  |
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| Lesson Topics across the Unit | Lesson 1: Reading Can Take You Places <br> Lesson 2: Readers Enter the World of a Story <br> Lesson 3: Bringing Characters to Life <br> Lesson 4: Making Predictions <br> Lesson 5: Picturing the Place <br> Lesson 6: Readers React to Stories <br> Lesson 7: Creating a Reading Scrapbook <br> Lesson 8: Noticing Clues about Character Feelings <br> Lesson 9: Characters Feel More Than One Thing <br> Lesson 10: Finding Precise Words for Feelings <br> Lesson 11: Examining What Causes Character Feelings <br> Lesson 12: Thinking about How Characters Are Acting <br> Lesson 13: Characters' Feelings Change <br> Lesson 14: Readers Share Books and Characters with One Another <br> Lesson 15: Reading in the Company of Others <br> Lesson 16: Talking about Our Books <br> Lesson 17: Readers Think and Talk as They Compare Themselves to Characters <br> Lesson 18: Books Can Teach about Life Topics |  |  |
| Unit 5: Growing Knowledge Together |  |  |  |
| Overview | Students will be able to independently use their learning to... <br> - learn information from nonfiction texts <br> - determine the meaning of unknown words <br> - grow knowledge across texts on a similar topic <br> - have collaborative conversations with peers on a given topic <br> Enduring Understandings <br> - Readers use a variety of strategies to learn from nonfiction text. <br> - When readers read a second or third book on the same topic, they bring what they have learned with them to add to their knowledge. <br> - Readers use conversation to grow new ideas, clarify misunderstandings, and learn more about what they are reading. |  |  |
| Unit <br> Learning Bends | Bend I: <br> Partners <br> Talk to <br> Grow <br> Knowledge | Across this bend, teachers will help students to talk about texts with each other in ways that help them learn more and come to new ideas by focusing in on a passage or an idea and to talk as long as they can before moving on to a new one. Teachers will help them transfer all the strategies they learned in Becoming Experts to the new challenge of | Priority <br> Standards across the Unit that will |



|  |  | add, change, or remove ideas. As readers learn <br> more about a topic, they often revise their beliefs <br> as well. Teachers will then teach children that it's <br> important to check in with their ideas, thinking <br> critically about those ideas. <br> To celebrate, teachers will once again suggest that <br> students teach to make an impact. This time, <br> they'll invite families, caregivers, other classes, and <br> other visitors from the community, creating some <br> fanfare and providing an audience for clubs so that <br> they can teach all they've learned about the topics <br> they are passionate or curious about. |
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- Dragons in a Bag by Zetta Elliott
- Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson
- Evelyn Del Rey is Moving Away by Meg Medina
- Insects are Awesome by Michael Rae-Grant
- Lon Po Po by Ed Young
- Mae Among the Stars by Roda Ahmed
- My First Day by Phung Nguyen Quang and Huynh Kim Lien
- My Papi Has a Motorcycle by Isabel Quintero
- Planets by Elizabeth Carney
- Read, Read, Read by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater
- Sadiq and the Perfect Play by Siman Nuurali
- The Arabic Quilt: An Immigrant Story by Aya Khalil
- Thunder Cake by Patricia Polacco
- Your Place in the Universe by Jason Chin

