



## Sample Literacy Learning Targets for Students in Grades 3-5

This collection of literacy targets represents a set of skills that children are working on during this grade span. It is important to remember that these are learning and instructional targets that should serve as reference points. Each learner is unique and acquires skills in different ways and at different times. Use the targets in this document to communicate with caregivers and educators and to support literacy at home and in the community.

### LANGUAGE TARGETS

**In the area of language, students are learning to...**

- recognize when the tense of a word, phrase, or sentence changes and correct it if needed.
- use commas correctly.
- use underlining, quotes, or italics to show a title of a text or other work.
- use dictionaries to check and correct spelling.
- spell grade level words correctly.
- use words and punctuation for effect.
- determine when to use formal English.
- use reference materials (dictionaries, glossaries, and thesauruses) to determine the meaning of new words and phrases.
- interpret figurative language, like similes and metaphors.
- explain the meaning of common sayings and proverbs.
- learn and use grade level vocabulary in all content areas.

### SPEAKING AND LISTENING TARGETS

**When speaking and listening, students are learning to...**

- engage in discussions in various groups.
- prepare for discussions to effectively contribute to the topic, ask and answer questions, and review key ideas.

- summarize information from presentations, media, or texts read aloud.
- summarize the main points made by a speaker and explain how they support their opinions.
- orally report on a topic using appropriate facts and details.
- use a variety of media to support the development of ideas or themes.
- determine when to use formal and informal English.

## **READING TARGETS**

### **While practicing foundational literacy skills, students are learning to...**

- decode words with multiple syllables and ones with Latin suffixes (e.g., -able, -tion).
- recognize irregularly spelled words.
- use context and appropriate tools and knowledge to determine meaning of an unfamiliar word.

### **When reading various texts, students are learning to...**

- identify and summarize a theme or main idea.
- use a text to answer questions and find evidence to support those answers.
- figure out the meaning of unknown words.
- tell how the parts of a text fit together to develop a main idea or theme.
- read several texts describing the same event, idea, or topic. Explain how each author presents that topic.
- describe characters in a story and explain how they add to the actions or events.
- explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support their main ideas.
- answer questions about a text using the features of the text (pictures, bold print, digital sources etc.).
- use many texts to gather information about a topic.
- read grade appropriate texts fluently, with expression and purpose.
- become accurate and fluent in order to comprehend what is being read.

<h2><b>WRITING TARGETS</b></h2>
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### **When writing, students are learning to...**

- write about a clear topic, ordered reasons to support it, linking words, and a clear conclusion.
- use relevant information, headings, and pictures to develop topic in writing.
- use clear language and organization to communicate a written message to the intended audience.
- revise and edit writing with support from peers or an adult.
- include sources to support written information.
- use technology and develop keyboarding skills to write, to publish/share writing with others, and to collaborate with peers.
- use precise vocabulary and words to tell a story or communicate information.
- develop a sense of closure that relates to the written ideas presented.