

Oregon's Early Literacy Framework

A Strong Foundation for Readers and Writers

(Kindergarten - Grade 5)

Overview

Vision

Children must have access to consistent, culturally responsive, and research-aligned literacy instruction that guarantees reading and writing proficiency in at least one language. Parents and caregivers must be supported as full partners in their children's literacy development.

Elementary teachers must be prepared and supported to identify individual student strengths and needs, and to teach reading and writing in research-aligned ways. This includes creating the conditions for students to effectively learn.

Current Reality

Oregon is not meeting this vision. We have low English Language Arts proficiency rates across the board for all student groups and **persistent opportunity gaps** that were worsened by the pandemic.

We must take a long-term approach to improve how we support our students' literacy development inside and outside the classroom.

Guiding Principles

- Literacy begins at birth.
- Families and communities strengthen school-based learning.
- Every child is full of literary promise.
- Foundational skills matter.
- Every student can be taught to read and write.
- Multilingualism benefits everyone.
- Educator knowledge and classroom practices are essential.

Roadmap for Educators

Oregon's Early Literacy Framework provides a research-based vision for how we teach reading and writing. It also provides a practical roadmap for elementary educators and school leaders to grow every student's literacy skill using consistent, research-based approaches.

But even research-based instruction paired with the best teachers are not sufficient to support a child's literacy development. Students must feel like they belong and feel safe at school in order to develop reading and writing proficiency, along with any other academic learning.

Core Purpose of Framework

- Build statewide coherence, clarity, and common ground.
- Fuel action and improvement.
- Support districts and schools in implementation of a comprehensive literacy vision and plan.
- Serve as a shared north star for educators, leaders, community, in alignment with the Governor's vision for improving student literacy outcomes.

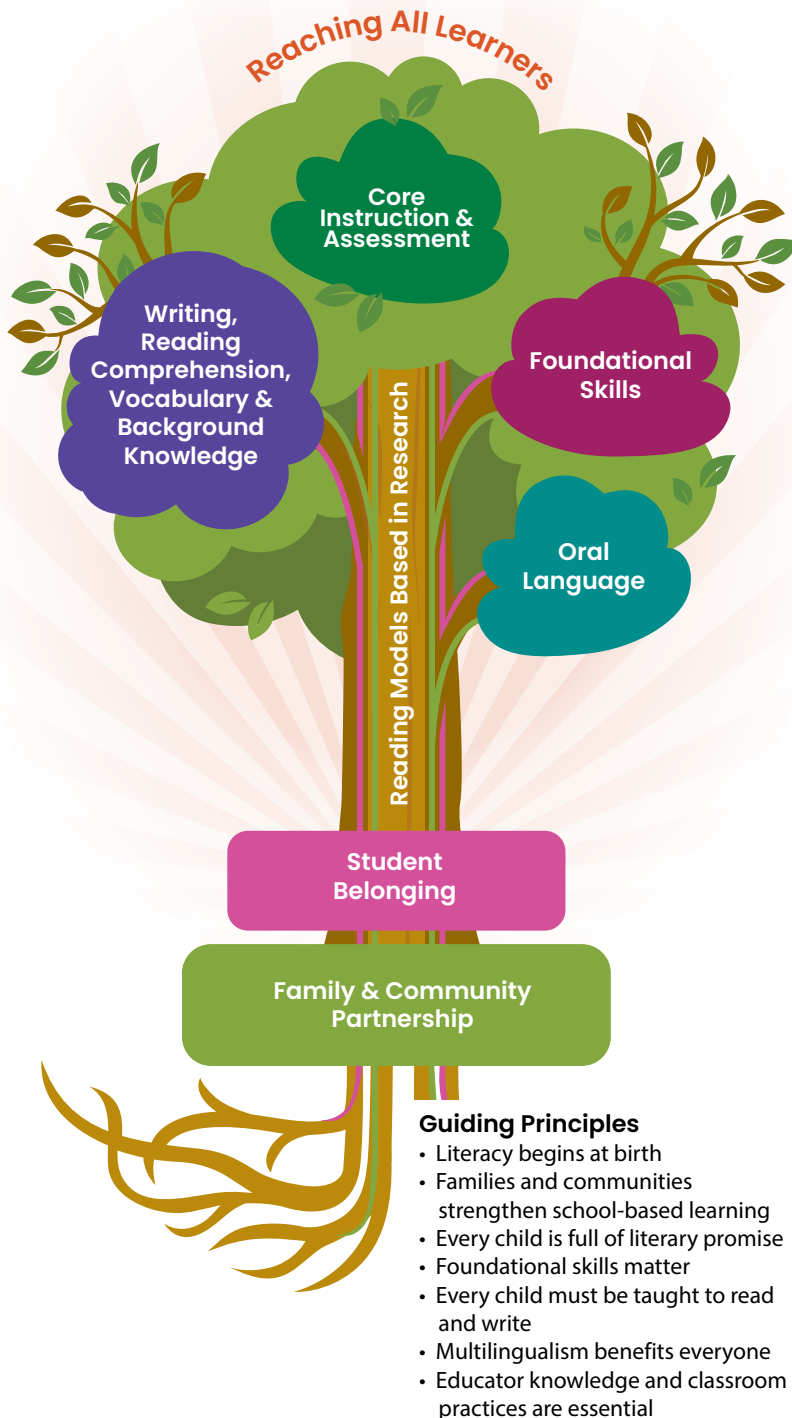
This document provides an overview of Oregon's Early Literacy Framework. The full framework with more detail, intended for school leaders and educators, is available [here](#).



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Framework Overview



Oregon's Early Literacy Framework includes eight sections that work in reciprocity with one another to help reinforce culturally responsive practice and reading science as fundamental to children's literacy and multilingual development.

- ▶ **Section 1: Student Belonging – A Necessary Condition for Literacy Learning**
- ▶ **Section 2: Family & Community Partnerships**
- ▶ **Section 3: Oral Language as the Root of Literacy Development**
- ▶ **Section 4: Reading Models Based in Research**
- ▶ **Section 5: Foundational Skills**
- ▶ **Section 6: Writing, Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary & Background Knowledge**
- ▶ **Section 7: Core Instruction & Assessment**
- ▶ **Section 8: Reaching All Learners**

Figure 1 reflects the reciprocal and interconnected relationship between the sections and reinforces the importance of the ways in which all sections of the framework co-exist in relationship with one another.

This framework builds momentum and capacity for strengthening belonging and literacy instruction in every elementary classroom so that all children leave elementary school proficient in reading and writing in at least one language. It speaks to the comprehensive nature of literacy instruction and underscores the complexity of learning to read and write.

Figure 1. Oregon's Early Literacy Framework Graphic

This framework aims to be a foundational literacy resource for K–5 classroom teachers, specialists, elementary school principals/K–8 principals, superintendents, district leaders, and education service district leaders. More broadly, it is relevant for all who are committed to seeing literacy learning maximized for every student through high-quality instruction.