Benchmark/ Number	Elementary Language Arts Critical Enduring Understandings
Kindergarten	
RF 0.3.0.1	Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print.
9	
RF 0.3.0.2 10	Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes).
RF 0.3.0.3 11	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
RF 0.3.0.4 12	Read emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding.
1 st Grade	
RL 1.1.1.1 RI 1.2.1.1 1	Ask and answer questions about key details in literature and informational text.
RL 1.1.2.2 RI 1.2.2.2 2	Retell stories including key details and demonstrate understanding of the central message (theme) or main topic in literature and informational text.
RL 1.1.10.10 RI 1.2.10.10 8	With prompting and support, read literature and informational text of appropriate complexity for grade 1, as well as self- select appropriate text.
RF 1.3.0.3 10	Know and apply grade level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
RF 1.3.0.4 11	Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
2 nd Grade	
RL 2.1.1.1 RI 2.2.1.1 1	Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of key details in literature and informational text.
RL 2.1.5.5 RI 2.2.3.3 4	Describe the overall structure of a story (beginning, middle, and end) and the connection between a series of events, ideas, or steps in a text.
RL 2.1.10.10 RI 2.2.10.10 9	Read and comprehend literature and informational text in the grades 2-3 text complexity band proficiently.
RF 2.3.0.3 10	Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.
RF 2.3.0.4 11	Read fluently and accurately to support comprehension.
3 rd Grade	
RL 3.1.1.1 RI 3.2.1.1 1	Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of literature and informational text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.
RL 3.1.2.2 RI 3.2.2.2 2	Recount fictional stories; use key details to determine their theme, lesson, or moral; explain how key details support the main idea of a nonfiction text.
RL 3.1.9.9 RI 3.2.9.9 9	Compare and contrast the theme, setting, and plots of two stories by the same author about the same or similar characters. Compare and contrast the important facts for two informational texts on the same topic.
RL 3.1.10.10 RI 3.2.10.10 10	Read and comprehend literature and informational text at the high end of the grades 2-3 text complexity band independently and proficiently.
RF 3.3.0.4 12	Read fluently and accurately to support comprehension.
L 3.10.4.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases.

Refer accurately to a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from
literature and informational text.
Determine the theme or main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize text.
Explain how an author uses reasons and evidence to support points in a text.
Read and comprehend literature and informational text in the grade 4-5 text complexity band independently and
proficiently.
Know and apply your analysis skills to decode and determine the meaning of unknown and multiple meaning
Know and apply word-analysis skills to decode and determine the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning
words and phrases.
Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from
literature and informational text.
Determine a theme of a story, drama or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or
drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize text.
Determine two or more main ideas of a text and explain how they are supported by key details; summarize text.
Read and comprehend literature and informational text at the high end of the grades 4-5 text complexity band
independently and proficiently.
Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings to
develop word consciousness.
Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly, as well as inferences drawn from
literature and informational text.
Determine a theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through particular details; providing a
summary of the text distinct from personal opinions or judgments in literature and informational text.
Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple meaning words or phrases as they are used in a text,
including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings (context, common Greek or Latin affixes & roots, and
consulting reference materials).
Read and comprehend literature and informational text in the grades 6-8 text complexity band independently
and proficiency.
Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames
(in a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.