

**2021 Instructional Material Summer Review Institute**

**Review Team Appraisal of Title  
K-5 English Language Arts**

This appraisal form is provided for use by educators responsible for the selection of instructional materials for implementation with districts and charter schools across New Mexico to meet the need of their student populations.

This appraisal form should be used in conjunction with the publisher provided Form D: Research Based Effectiveness Determination that supports this reviewed material which can be found on the Instructional Material Bureau website.

<https://webnew.ped.state.nm.us/bureaus/instructional-materials/the-adoption-cycle/>

Text Title	Wonders Grade 4 Comprehensive Student Bundle	Publisher	McGraw Hill LLC
SE ISBN	9780076992744	TE ISBN	9780076900077
SW ISBN		Grade Level/Content	Grade 4 ELA

**Core Instructional Material Designation** *(Core Instructional Material is the comprehensive print or digital educational material, including basal material, which constitutes the necessary instructional components of a full academic course of study in those subjects for which the department has adopted content standards and benchmarks.)*

**Recommended**  
(90% and above)



**Recommended with Reservations** (80-89%)



**Not Recommended and Not Adopted**  
(below 80%)



**Total Score** - The final score for the materials is averaged between the team of reviewers.

**Average Score**

94%

**Cultural and Linguistic Relevance Recognition** - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding cultural relevance and the inclusion of a culturally responsive lens. Those materials receiving a score of 90% or above on the CLR portion of the review are recognized as culturally and linguistically relevant.

**CLR Recognized**



**Average Score**

93%

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):*

Materials include culturally and linguistically responsive instruction and encourage teachers and students to set high expectations for themselves. Materials affirm students' backgrounds by providing a wide range of texts that represent different cultures and customs. The self selected writing provides opportunities for students to relate real life experiences and cultural and linguistic backgrounds in their writing.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from All Content Appraisal tab):*

Materials include various cultures that students can relate to. In addition, some student materials (summaries) can be adapted to reflect the students home language.

**Structured Literacy Recognition** - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the components of structured literacy. Those materials receiving a score of 90% or above on the structured literacy portion of the review are recognized as having high quality support for the components of structured literacy.

**SL Recognized**



**Average Score**

91%

Materials are informed by and based on the Science of Reading; reflect evidence-based teaching principles; and reflect evidence-based elements of structured literacy.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence (autofilled from Structured Literacy/ELA Content Appraisal tab):*

Materials are grounded in the science of reading and the typical developmental progression of language skills. Materials are consistently structured where teachers explain, model and guide students through lessons and then provide time for independent practice. In addition, materials provide teachers with diagnostic teaching and formative and summative assessments to help monitor student progress and their need.

**Standards Review** - Materials are reviewed for alignment with the state adopted content standards, benchmarks and performance standards.

Average Score

92%

Materials align with grade level ELA standards overall.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials align with the fourth grade level ELA standards. Included in the materials is a scope and sequence that outlines the progression of standards throughout the year. In addition, learning objectives that are aligned to each standard are present for each lesson for teacher use. Materials offer students a variety of activities in reading, writing, speaking and listening to help support their deep understanding of the ELA standards.

Materials align to reading standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials include a variety of informational and literature texts, including specific genre studies. Formative and summative assessments are available in both print and online versions to check student progress toward the standard. A comprehensive phonics, fluency and comprehension program is embedded within the curriculum.

Materials align to writing standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials include multiple opportunities for students to engage in short term and long term writing projects both in response to the text and independent. Students develop an organized writing plan and sequence with the use of graphic organizers. Revision guides, rubrics and checklists are available for teacher and student use to aid in completion and grading of writing assignments.

Materials align to speaking and listening standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials in the teacher edition provide multiple opportunities for students to engage with the speaking and listening standards. Collaborative conversations and listening and speaking checklists are available to guide students in their small group discussions and whole class presentations.

Materials align to language standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials align to the language standards for fourth grade. Phonics, grammar and spelling activities are available in the Practice Book as well as the Interactive Games and Activities section in the digital portal. Activities encourage student practice and mastery of the language standards.

**Structured Literacy Review** - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the components of structured literacy.

Average Score

91%

Materials are informed by and based on the Science of Reading; reflect evidence-based teaching principles; and reflect evidence-based elements of structured literacy.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials are grounded in the science of reading and the typical developmental progression of language skills. Materials are consistently structured where teachers explain, model and guide students through lessons and then provide time for independent practice. In addition, materials provide teachers with diagnostic teaching and formative and summative assessments to help monitor student progress and their need.

**ELA Content Review** - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the specific content area reviewed.

Average Score

100%

Materials provide sequential, cumulative instruction and practice opportunities for a full range of foundational skills.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

The curriculum provides a wide range of materials and exposes students to grade level concepts, with scaffolded differentiation as needed. Materials include daily fluency practice for students with teacher guidance using the check for success to monitor the consolidation of skills. In addition, materials offer assessment opportunities including progress monitoring and summative assessments in reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Materials provide a selection and range of high-quality texts worthy of students' time and attention, exhibiting exceptional craft and thought and/or providing useful information.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Anchor texts are provided in the literature anthology and are read over several lessons to encourage close reading routines and to build knowledge in reading, writing, listening and speaking. Each unit is divided into genre studies where students engage with multiple high quality and award winning texts on the same subject/genre.

Questions in the materials are high-quality text-dependent and text-specific questions. The overwhelming majority of these questions are text-specific and draw student attention to the particulars in the text.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Students learn the comprehension strategy of asking and answering questions. Materials include text-dependent questions that require students to go back to the text to support their answers.

Materials provide scaffolding and supports to enable students' learning of English language arts.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials provide teachers with a scaffolded set of questions to present to students. These questions reference different reading skills to help students make deeper connections to the text. Materials provide opportunities for all students to engage with grade level complex texts through scaffolded instruction and additional read aloud materials. Small group differentiated instruction and guides for English Language Learners are embedded within each lesson and align with the provided leveled readers.

**All Content Review** - Materials are reviewed for relevant criteria pertaining to the support for teachers and students in the material regarding the progression of the standards, lesson structure, pacing, assessment, individual learners and cultural relevance.

Average Score

96%

Materials are coherent and consistent with the standards that all students should study in order to be college and career ready.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials are coherent and consistent with the fourth grade CCSS. They contain opportunities to practice strategies and skills with technology and real world applications. In addition, materials make meaningful connections between current and previously taught content.

Materials are well designed and take into account effective lesson structure and pacing.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

The scope and sequence provides a clear guide on what standards are being taught in each unit as well as the categories of skills, including genre focus, vocabulary, comprehension, phonics, etc. In the weekly plan it shows the progression of skills and concepts and is intentionally sequenced to include differentiated instruction.

Materials support teacher planning, learning, and understanding of the standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials support teachers and students through consistent routines such as the close reading routine, and response to reading routine. Students and teachers have access to digital tools to embed within the lessons. Weekly lesson plans are included that outline all suggested activities as well as optional resources and all digital tools.

Materials offer teachers resources and tools to collect ongoing data about student progress on the standards.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials include multiple types of formative and summative assessments that are aligned to the standards. Included are assessments, rubrics, and guidance for further instruction and groupings for differentiated instruction for reteaching, on level and extension. Differentiated assessments are available for English Language Learners to meet them at their current language levels. Materials provide students with an end of unit check that integrate standards that were previously taught to assess retention of concepts.

Materials support effective use of technology to enhance student learning.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Digital tools that are aligned to the current content are outlined in the teacher editions. Games, interactive activities, digital presentations and the Inquiry Space are online tools that deepen students understanding of the content and work to build technology skills, including keyboarding.

Materials can be easily customized for individual learners.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials contain differentiated instruction for different student populations including approaching, on level, beyond and English Language Learners. Differentiated writing prompts are included to meet grade level standards at the different levels.

Materials give all students extensive opportunities and support to explore key concepts.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials provide support and accommodations for English Language Learners to support their active participation. Students utilize creativity and problem solving skills to create projects and presentations related to specific topics.

Materials take into account cultural perspectives.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials include culturally and linguistically responsive instruction and encourage teachers and students to set high expectations for themselves. Materials affirm students' backgrounds by providing a wide range of texts that represent different cultures and customs. The self selected writing provides opportunities for students to relate real life experiences and cultural and linguistic backgrounds in their writing.

Materials include a culturally responsive lens.

*Statements of appraisal and supporting evidence:*

Materials include various cultures that students can relate to. In addition, some student materials (summaries) can be adapted to reflect the students home language.

**Reviewers' Professional Summation** - These materials are reviewed by Level II and Level III educators from across New Mexico. The reviewers have brought their knowledge, experience and expertise into the review of these materials. They offer here their individual summary of the material as a whole.

Reviewer #: 31

*Background and experience:*

Level III K-8 Educator with a TESOL endorsement. I have 6 years of experience in third and fourth grade. I am a National Board Certified teacher with a certification in Middle Child Generalist. In addition, I have worked with the state in their creation of the NMIS and the NMIS 2.0 and I am currently serving as an NMIS Champion for the state.

*Professional summary of material:*

The Wonders Fourth grade curriculum provides ample opportunities for students to engage with high quality, engaging texts and supporting materials that are aligned to the fourth grade CCSS. Wonders is broken up into 6 units that cover the course of the year. Each unit is split into 3 separate genre studies. which include informational and literature texts in both a Reading Writing Companion consumable book as well as a hardcover Literature Anthology. Each genre study is concluded with a spiraled week of instruction to measure student progress toward mastery. The curriculum includes a detailed scope and sequence that outlines the progression of standards throughout the year, in addition to weekly lesson plans and differentiated instruction guides to aid in teacher planning. Phonics, fluency, comprehension skills, spelling, grammar and writing are also integrated within the curriculum and are embedded with various digital tools and games to help students gain a deeper understanding of the material. Writing instruction in particular is embedded throughout the curriculum with small writing projects as well as larger culminating projects that work through the writing process. The Wonders curriculum is aligned, easy to use and contains significant supplemental material to help teachers meet the ever changing needs of their students.

Reviewer #: 32

*Background and experience:*

Level 3 Teacher with 18 years teaching experience in elementary education. Teaching endorsements in Bilingual Education, Gifted Education, and TESOL. Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling School Counseling and Licensed Professional Counseling. In addition, I have worked with the state in the creation of the NMIS.

*Professional summary of material:*

Wonders fourth grade curriculum is aligned with CCSS standards in ELA. The curriculum addresses comprehension skills, phonics, fluency, grammar, spelling, writing, speaking, and listening standards. The curriculum includes a scope and sequence and weekly lesson plans that clearly shows the progression of standards for the year and week. Differentiated instruction guides are included to offer support for English Language Learners, students that are approaching level, on level, and beyond. Wonders provides high quality materials in a wide range of lexile levels for students to deepen understanding. Students are given opportunities to revisit and practice previously taught skills in the spiral review to ensure mastery of the content. Writing instruction is included in every lesson with students engaging in short term and long term writing projects. Students practice speaking and listening skills when presenting projects, in peer conversations, collaborative conversations, and class discussion. Students have access to both speaking and listening rubrics to aid in the mastery of these skills. Embedded in the curriculum are a variety of digital tools, games, and videos to help students be actively engaged learners. The materials also provide additional activities for culturally relevant lessons. Materials include multiple types of formative and summative assessments that are aligned to the standards in both print and digital formats.

Reviewer #: 33

*Background and experience:*

Level 2 teacher with 7 years of experience teaching elementary education. Teaching endorsements in ELA and TESOL.

*Professional summary of material:*

This curriculum covers the 4th grade CCSS standards across all ELA content standards. Units provide teachers with sample lesson plans and clearly defined layouts that present objectives taught in each lesson. Some of the text selections are poetry, myths, plays, informational works, autobiographies, expository texts, historical fiction and informational fiction. The curriculum provides scaffolded ELL support for each lesson and activity. The materials provide numerous online activities that include additional readings, culturally relevant lessons, games for student practice, inquiry space and others. The text is organized into units based on genre studies. There are multiple layers of support for English Language Learners, students that are approaching level, students that are on level, and advanced students throughout each unit's teacher edition. Different cultures are addressed through diverse representations within myths, tall tales, historical fiction, biographies, as well as some Hispanic and African American selections. Writing tasks at the end of each unit provide students with opportunities to create pieces of writing, including informative, narrative, opinion and research writing. The materials incorporate a variety of different projects that are included throughout each unit that provide students the ability to integrate technology into their work and practice presenting projects to their peers.