Overview

Learning A-Z is honored to have Foundations A-Z thoughtfully reviewed and recognized by The Reading League. This acknowledgment reflects our commitment to aligning our products with the Science of Reading and evidence-based literacy practices. We extend our sincere gratitude to the reviewers for highlighting the instructional quality Foundations A-Z provides.

Built on the principles of the Science of Reading, Foundations A-Z equips educators with research-driven strategies to deliver effective foundational skills instruction. Our goal is to empower teachers by providing the tools and resources that make those transformative "aha" moments possible—when a student successfully decodes a word for the first time.

At Learning A-Z, our mission is to equip educators with practical, research-based literacy solutions that inspire joy in students. We believe teachers know their students best, and when equipped with research-aligned resources, they can deliver differentiated instruction that benefits every learner. Our comprehensive suite of curriculum solutions helps educators strengthen core instruction, address learning gaps, and personalize learning—without sacrificing creativity or individuality. By supporting teachers with evidence-based practices, we aim to ensure every student receives the impactful instruction they need to thrive.

Strengths

The final report indicates the reviewed components of Foundations A-Z meet most criteria for Grades K-5, reflecting minimal evidence of red flag practices.

Criteria Met

- ✓ **word recognition**
- ✓ **phonological and phonemic awareness**
- ✓ **phonics and decoding**
- ✓ **fluency**
- ✓ **handwriting**
- ✓ **spelling**

The evaluation also highlights several key strengths in the program:

Alignment With Evidence-Based Practices

Reviewers recognized the program's teacher scripts for their use of "clear, explicit language aligned with the science of reading," offering "strong support" for teachers and reinforcing the capacity of Foundations A-Z to build skilled readers through evidence-based practice.

Consistent, Purposeful Instructional Routines

The instructional routines in Foundations A-Z were identified as a significant strength. Reviewers noted that the routines "build coherently on previous learning from earlier grades, enabling students to use them with confidence and ease."

Rich, Wide-Ranging High-Quality Texts

Reviewers commended the substantial text collection in Foundations A-Z, highlighting the breadth of fiction and nonfiction that "exposes students to a wide range of topics." This variety provides "frequent opportunities to practice fluent reading," which reviewers identified as another notable strength of the curriculum.

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Flexible and Engaging Student Activities

Foundations A-Z offers flexible student activities that support independent practice. Reviewers observed that the variety of practice includes "watching instructional videos, playing practice games, and reading decodable texts," which offer engaging opportunities for skill reinforcement.

Frequent Formative Assessments

Reviewers noted that the Foundations A-Z Daily Checks for Understanding include "I can…" objectives and "have the potential to serve as a supportive tool for collecting anecdotal evidence." These checks appear at point of use within each Lesson Plan and allow teachers to give corrective feedback so students do not leave with misconceptions.

Addressing the Feedback

Enhancing Navigation

Learning A-Z actively listens to customers and continuously enhances materials based on their feedback. One of the key advantages of being a digital product is the ability to quickly adapt and revise resources to meet evolving customer needs. To improve ease of access, Learning A-Z is exploring solutions such as bookmarks and a favorites feature to make finding materials faster and more convenient.

Timing

Learning A-Z has acknowledged feedback regarding lesson timing. To support flexible implementation, Learning A-Z provides detailed guides that include pacing charts tailored to different literacy blocks, ensuring educators can adapt lessons to their classroom schedules with ease.

Clarification of Assessment Suite

The Foundations A-Z assessment suite is designed to complement a broader assessment system. This larger system typically includes components such as nonsense word assessments and support for multilingual learners, which are common in most core programs. All of our assessments can be administered digitally or on paper, and they can be assigned individually to students or delivered in whole-group or small-group settings. This flexibility is especially valuable for students in lower grade levels who may be less comfortable with technology. Additionally, we plan to explore further implementation support to help educators understand how these curriculum-based assessments fit within the wider assessment context.

Clarification on Writing

Foundations A-Z isn't a full-scale writing curriculum covering all stages of composition, but it offers explicit, research-based instruction in both handwriting and spelling—two foundational components of writing. Drawing on kinesthetic learning, it guides students through letter formation and phonogram writing using multi-sensory, motor-rich activities. This approach not only supports accurate letter production but also reinforces phonological awareness and decoding skills, which are essential bases for fluent reading and writing.

For educators seeking a comprehensive writing program, Learning A-Z offers Writing A-Z, which was specifically designed for K-5 instruction. It integrates the full writing process—prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing—across genres like opinion, informative, and narrative writing. The program includes explicit lesson plans, embedded grammar instruction, and a patented digital tool called WaLT (Writing and Learning Together) that supports students through every stage of writing. It also offers point-of-use professional development, interactive practice opportunities, and automated grammar assignments aligned to grade-level standards.

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