



Amplify CKLA Review

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Background

For more than 25 years, Nieman Inc. has been a premier educational developer of innovative digital and print products. Our staff brings decades of experience from teaching, publishing, journalism, marketing, and technology. We're in classrooms, tutoring students and consulting teachers through professional development. We've developed programs across the K-12 spectrum, verified correlations for state adoptions, created digital curricula, written and reviewed ELL programs, created assessment banks, and everything in between.

This alignment was performed by a team of ELA specialists. Additional ELA editors have also reviewed and verified the work.

To conduct the study, Nieman reviewed all materials supplied by the vendor, Amplify Education, including Teacher Guides, standards alignments, Activity Books, and Professional Development materials, in addition to the completed Indiana Evaluation Tool and written evidence. Nieman advised on a few minor changes to the Evaluation Tool for clarity. Amplify made revisions based on Nieman's suggestions, and we have confirmed the final version of the Evaluation Tool and attached documentation.

Findings

Nieman Inc. certifies that the evidence presented by Amplify CKLA (Core Knowledge Language Arts) meets Indiana's requirements for high-quality curricular materials aligned to the Science of Reading.

Amplify CKLA aligns with at least 85% of the 2023 Indiana Academic Standards for English Language Arts in Grades K-5. Most standards have multiple, targeted hits across numerous units and domains. The standards with limited coverage generally have strong hits.

CKLA strongly aligns with the practices and principles of a Science of Reading approach. The program meets all of the required key elements, with particular emphasis in the following areas:

- CKLA has a clear and consistent framework for effective reading instruction, which is systematic and sequential, and includes a comprehensive scope and sequence.
- The vast majority of the materials are aligned to scientific research on oral and written language development.
- The program is based upon research of the five essential components for reading instruction: phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.
- There are specific lessons in the program that align to phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics (decoding and encoding), word study, fluency, reading comprehension, oral language development and use, and vocabulary.
- Amplify's research site provides documentation that demonstrates the effectiveness of the program.
- CKLA does not encourage three-cueing or visual memory for word recognition.
- The program's differentiated support is comprehensive and varied.



- CKLA texts and Read-Alouds are appropriately complex, and the text analysis provided by Amplify shows the appropriate complexity information.
- CKLA includes summative and formative assessments targeting the five essential components for reading instruction, along with scoring guides and examples.
- The program offers various and specific opportunities for professional development.
- All teacher materials contain explicit teacher language and scripting, and all are appropriately developed, annotated, and cross referenced.
- Student materials are accessible in a variety of formats.
- Instruction and practice in handwriting, composition, and grammar and language are included in the program.