



# **HCPS Comprehensive English/Language Arts Curricular Program**

**Harford County Board of Education Presentation  
February 27, 2023**



## What We Believe



Build foundational skills in phonemic awareness and phonics



Focus on all the strands of skilled reading



Provide opportunities for success



Motivate students to want to be lifelong readers

Increase students' volume, stamina, and love of reading

Ensure students understand the various purposes for reading and writing



## LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION

**BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE**  
(facts, concepts, etc.)

**VOCABULARY**  
(breadth, precision, links, etc.)

**LANGUAGE STRUCTURE**  
(syntax, semantics, etc.)

**VERBAL REASONING**  
(inference, metaphor, etc.)

**LITERACY KNOWLEDGE**  
(print concepts, genres, etc.)

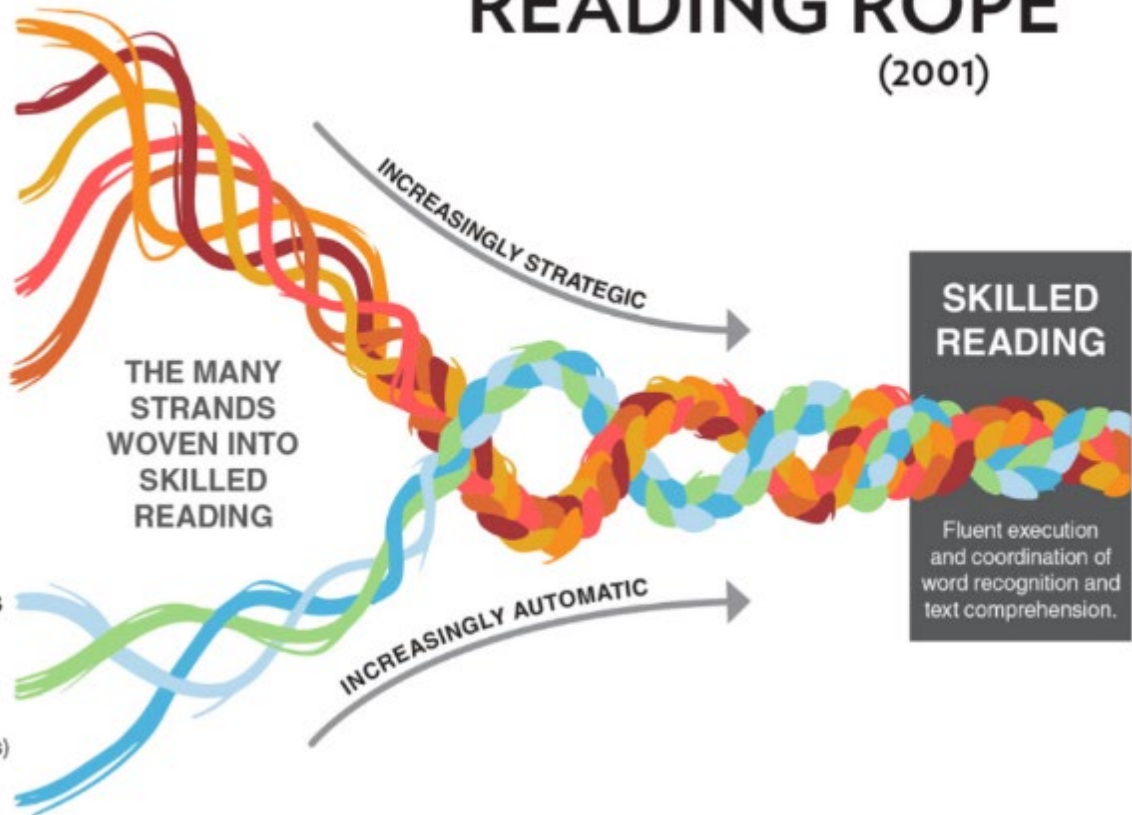
## WORD RECOGNITION

**PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS**  
(syllables, phonemes, etc.)

**DECODING**  
(alphabetic principle,  
spelling–sound correspondences)

**SIGHT RECOGNITION**  
(of familiar words)

# SCARBOROUGH'S READING ROPE (2001)





# RELA Framework: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

10 minutes	Phonological/Phonemic Awareness
20 minutes	Phonics
10 minutes	Phonics Extensions

15 minutes	Read Aloud	
15 minutes	Shared Reading	
Reading Workshop 55 minutes	10 minutes	Mini Lesson
	19 minutes	Small Groups/Conferring/Stamina Reading
	2 minutes	Mid-Workshop Teaching
	19 minutes	Small Groups/Conferring/Stamina Reading
	5 minutes	Share

10 minutes	Interactive Writing	
Writing Workshop 55 minutes	10 minutes	Mini Lesson
	19 minutes	Small Groups/Conferring/Stamina Writing
	2 minutes	Mid-Workshop Teaching
	19 minutes	Small Groups/Conferring/Stamina Writing
	5 minutes	Share



# Units of Study Program Roll Out

**2018-2019**

GCC  
Approval  
and  
Program  
Review  
Process

**2019-2020**

**Phase 1:** Eight  
schools  
implement  
Units of Study  
Reading  
Grades K-5

**2020-2021**

**Phase 1 Schools:**

Units of Study  
Phonics K-2

**Phase 2: Eight  
additional Schools**

Units of Study  
Reading K-5

**All Schools:**

Administer DIBELS  
Early Screener  
Assessment

**2021-2022**

**Phase 2 Schools:**

Units of Study  
Phonics K-2

**Phase 3 Schools:**

Units of Study  
Phonics K-2

Units of Study  
Reading 3-5

**All schools:**

Heggerty Phonemic  
Awareness Program  
K-1

**2022-2023**

Units of Study  
Phonics K-2

Units of Study in  
Reading K-2,  
Revised 2022  
Edition

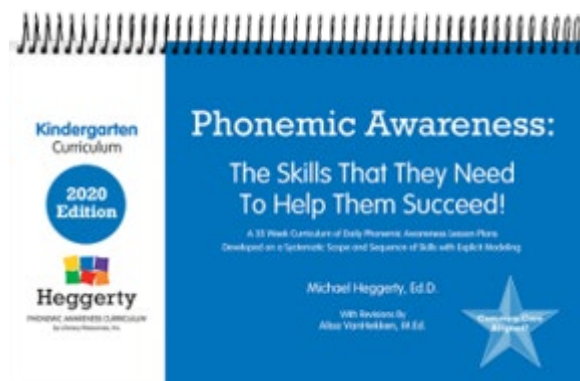
Units of Study in  
Reading 3-5

Heggerty  
Phonemic  
Awareness  
Program K-2



# HCPS Comprehensive Program

HCPS



## New K-2 Reading Units



Units of Study in Reading (2023), Grade K



Orton-Gillingham "Plus"





- *DIBELS* - Early Childhood Reading Assessment  
Universal screener given to all students in kindergarten and identified students in grades 1-3
- *Reading Inventory (RI)* – Reading comprehension assessment for students in grades 2-8\*
- Data for student groups less than 10 students is not displayed

*\*Note: The RI assessment data includes the percentage of students who have met the **end of year standard** regardless of the testing window (fall, winter, and spring).*

## HCPS DIBELS: Elementary (Grade K)

	Fall Administration			Winter Administration			Spring Administration		
School Year	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified at Risk	% At Risk
<b>2021-22</b>	2,762	1,108	40.1%	2,777	789	28.4%	<b>2,695</b>	<b>547</b>	<b>20.3%</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	2,734	804	29.4%	2,684	455	16.9%			

## HCPS DIBELS: Elementary (Grade 1)

	Fall Administration			Winter Administration			Spring Administration		
School Year	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified at Risk	% At Risk
<b>2021-22</b>	2,719	816	30.0%	2,734	720	26.3%	<b>2,652</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>17.8%</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	2,855	494	17.3%	2,825	505	17.8%			



## HCPS DIBELS: Elementary (Grade 2)

	Fall Administration			Winter Administration			Spring Administration		
School Year	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified at Risk	% At Risk
<b>2021-22</b>	2,765	680	24.6%	2,749	571	20.8%	<b>2,774</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>17.7%</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	2,779	471	16.9%	2,715	392	14.4%			

## HCPS DIBELS: Elementary (Grade 3)

	Fall Administration			Winter Administration			Spring Administration		
School Year	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified At Risk	% At Risk	# Students	# Identified at Risk	% At Risk
<b>2021-22</b>	2,660	420	15.8%	2,659	375	14.1%	<b>2,675</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>12%</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	2,800	361	12.8%	2,746	326	11.8%			

# HCPS DIBELS: Elementary (Grade K)

	Fall 2021-22		Winter 2021-22		Spring 2021-22	
Student Group	# Test Takers	% Proficient and Advanced	# Test Takers	% Proficient and Advanced	# Test Takers	% Proficient and Advanced
All Students	2,689	41.8%	2,662	52.7%	2,678	66.5%
Female	1,332	42.9%	1,322	54.8%	1,337	68.7%
Male	1,357	40.8%	1,340	50.5%	1,341	64.2%
Asian	72	65.3%	73	78.0%	73	83.6%
Black/African American	517	36.0%	513	39.1%	517	50.1%
Hispanic	240	25.0%	238	39.0%	246	54.1%
White	1,612	44.9%	1,595	57.9%	1,599	73%
Two or more races	243	44.0%	238	52.5%	238	65.5%
English Language Learners	86	16.3%	92	22.8%	95	41.1%
Free or Reduced Meals	831	23.3%	822	32.2%	880	44.4%
Students with Disabilities	189	28.0%	212	32.5%	246	38.2%

# HCPS DIBELS: Elementary (Grade 1)

	Fall 2021-22		Winter 2021-22		Spring 2021-22	
Student Group	# Test Takers	% Proficient and Advanced	# Test Takers	% Proficient and Advanced	# Test Takers	% Proficient and Advanced
All Students	2,624	51.9%	2,650	56.4%	2,645	63.5%
Female	1,274	52.4%	1,283	56.3%	1,284	63.4%
Male	1,350	51.3%	1,367	56.5%	1,361	63.6%
Asian	81	76.5%	80	78.8%	83	81.9%
Black/African American	488	39.1%	491	43%	492	48.6%
Hispanic	236	44.1%	234	48.3%	234	55.6%
White	1,556	56.6%	1,573	61.5%	1,571	68.9%
Two or more races	255	46.7%	264	51.1%	257	59.9%
English Language Learners	102	37.3%	104	37.5%	106	45.3%
Free or Reduced Meals	869	33.7%	880	36.9%	892	44.2%
Students with Disabilities	250	31.6%	263	32.3%	301	34.9%

# 21-22 End of Year DIBELS Data Comparison

## EOY 21-22 District Comparison: Percent of students at risk

### Based on # of students enrolled

District	Kindergarten
Cecil	8.8%
Montgomery	16.4%
Howard	16.7%
Harford	19.3%
Frederick	21.6%
Anne Arundel	28%
Baltimore County	36.3%

### Based on # of students enrolled

District	Second Grade
Howard	14.1%
Harford	17.6%
Frederick	30%
Baltimore County	32.9%
Anne Arundel	33.9%
Montgomery	34%
Cecil	56%

### Based on # of students screened

District	First Grade
Howard	12.4%
Harford	18.4%
Montgomery	22.4%
Frederick	29.6%
Anne Arundel	31.9%
Baltimore County	39.4%
Cecil	65%

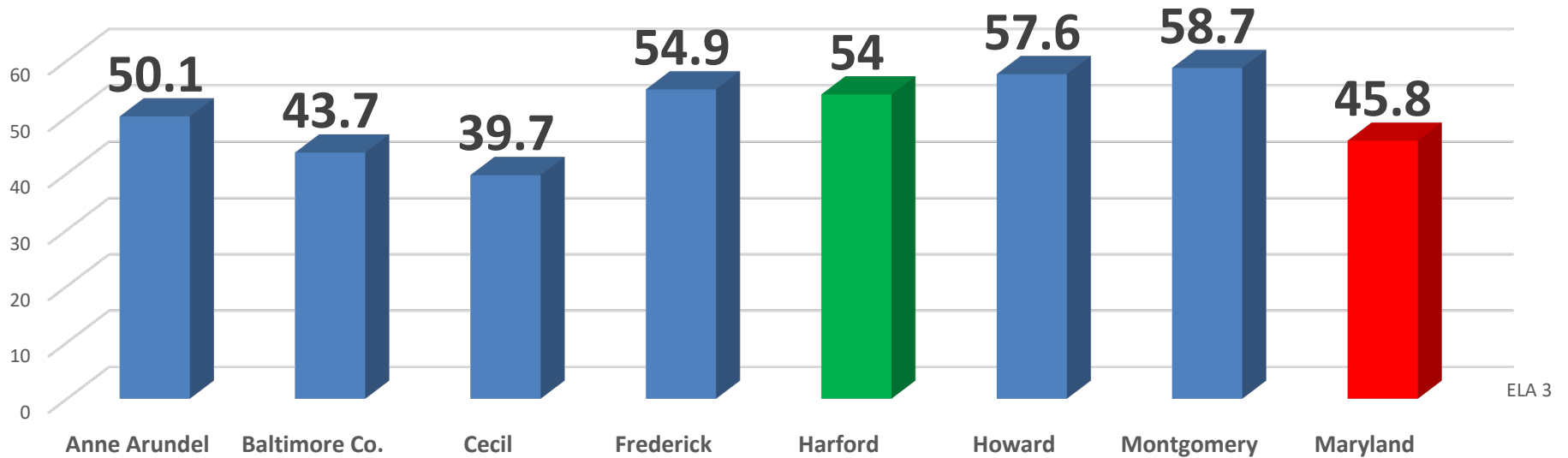
### Based on # of students enrolled

District	Third Grade
Anne Arundel	9.9%
Harford	11.9%
Howard	13.7%
Baltimore County	15.8%
Montgomery	24%
Frederick	34.3%
Cecil	44.1%

# HCPS Reading Inventory: Elementary (3-5)

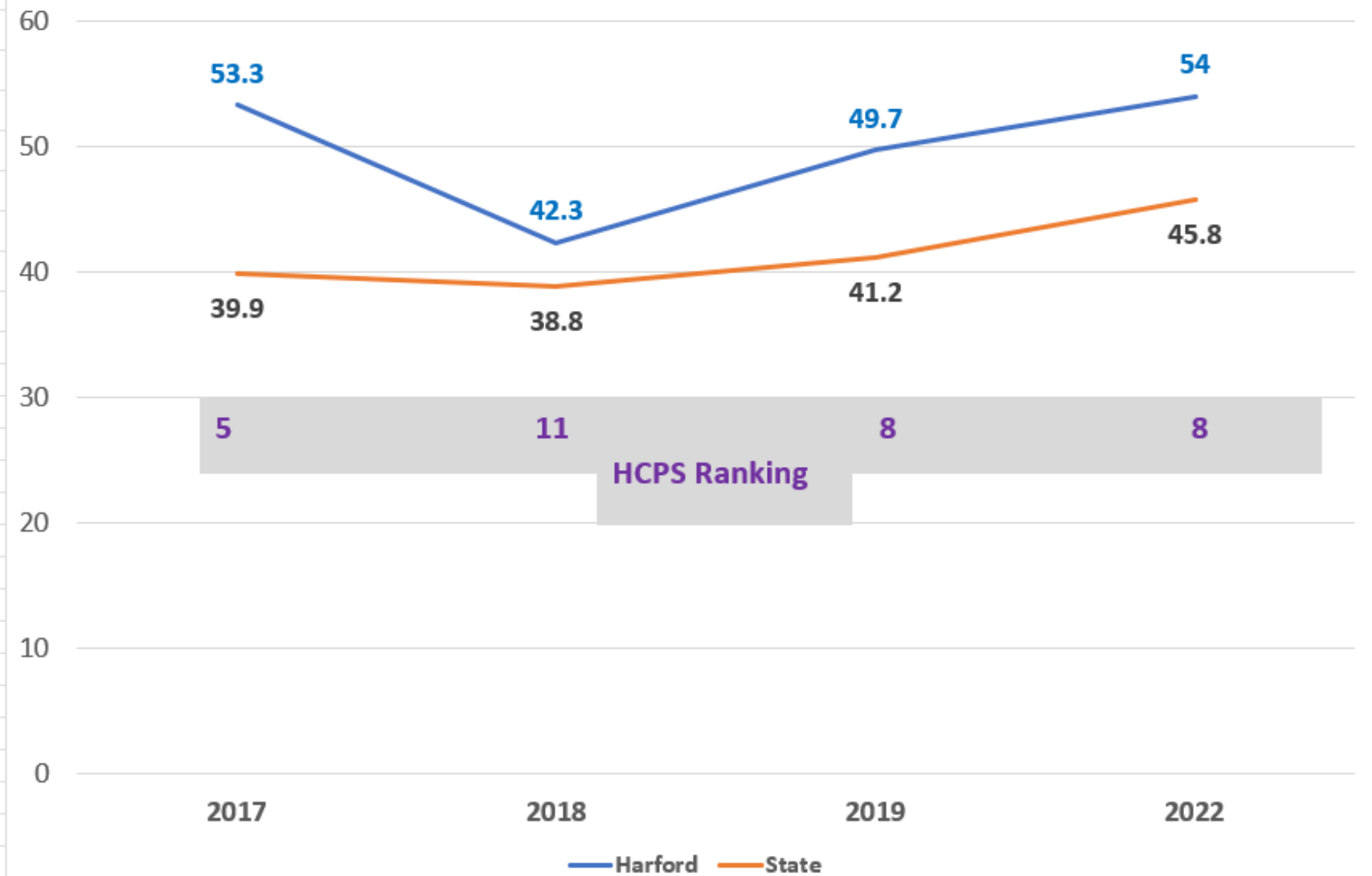
	Fall 2021-22		Spring 2021-22	
Student Group	# Test Takers	% 2021-22 Proficient and Advanced	# Test Takers	% 2021-22 Proficient and Advanced
All Students	8,081	50.4%	8,123	63.3%
Female	3,992	53.2%	4,030	65.7%
Male	4,089	47.6%	4,093	59.8%
American/Native Indian	17	47.1%	17	52.9%
Asian	236	58.5%	235	72.8%
Black/African American	1,559	33.9%	1,595	45.1%
Hispanic	688	35.6%	709	49.1%
White	4,945	57.7%	4,934	71.2%
Two or more races	629	41.7%	627	60.4%
English Language Learners	286	17.5%	295	33.2%
Free or Reduced Meals	2,611	31.4%	2,669	44.2%
Students with Disabilities	1,058	13.2%	1,154	18.8%

## ELA Grade 3 Spring 2022

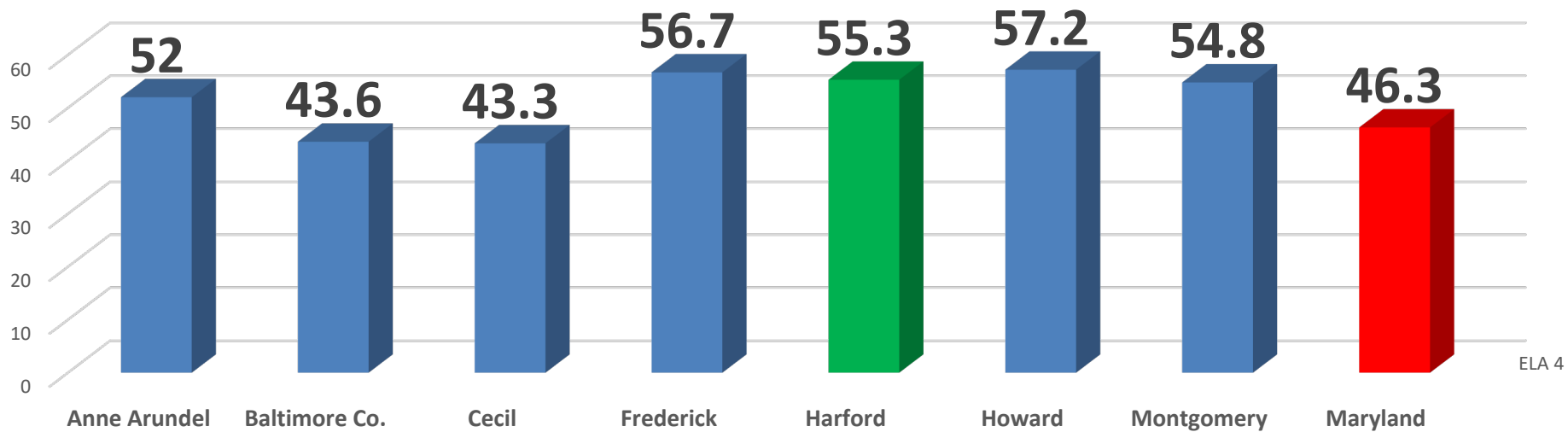


ELA 3

## ELA Grade 3 Comparison



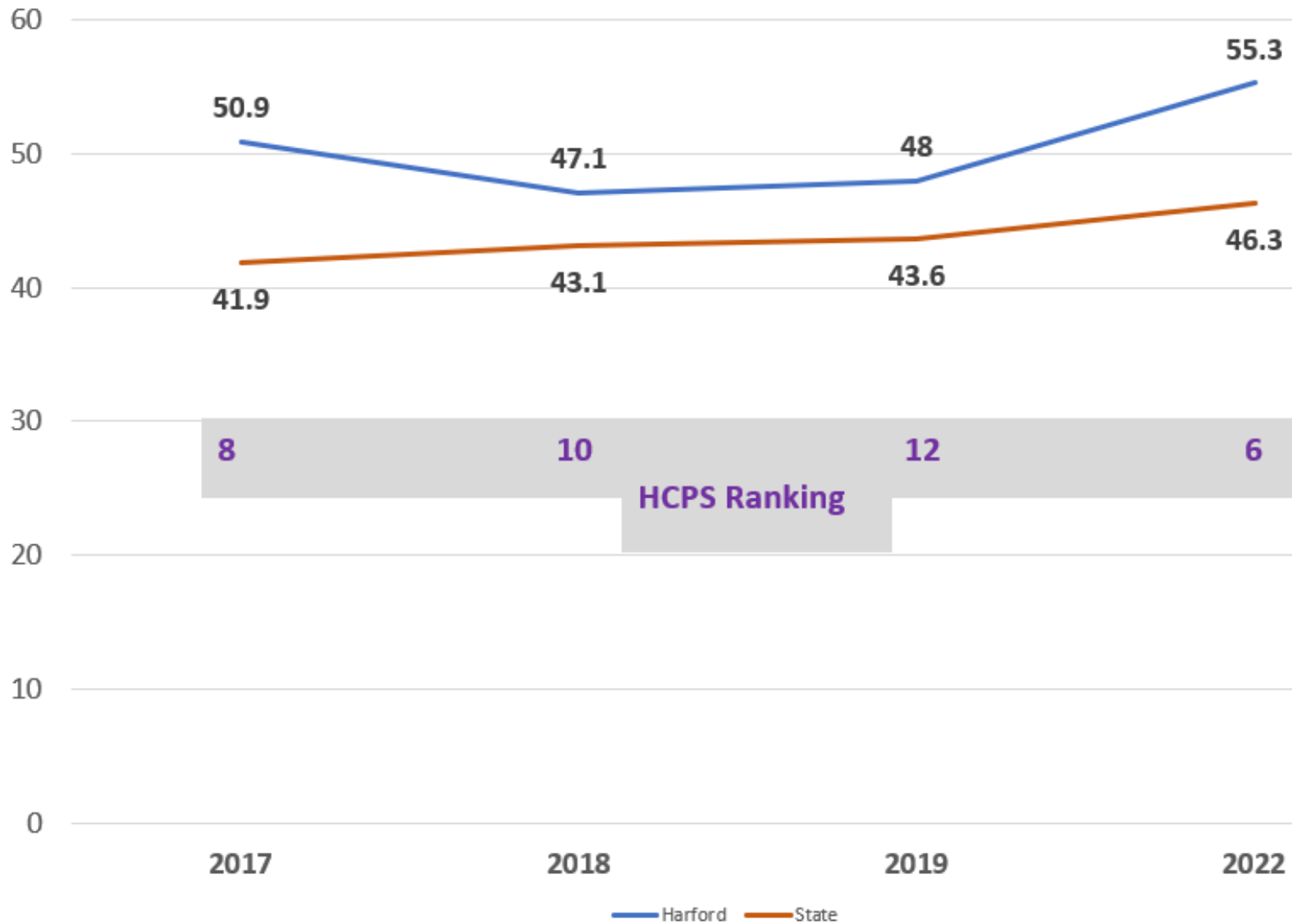
## ELA Grade 4 - Spring 2022



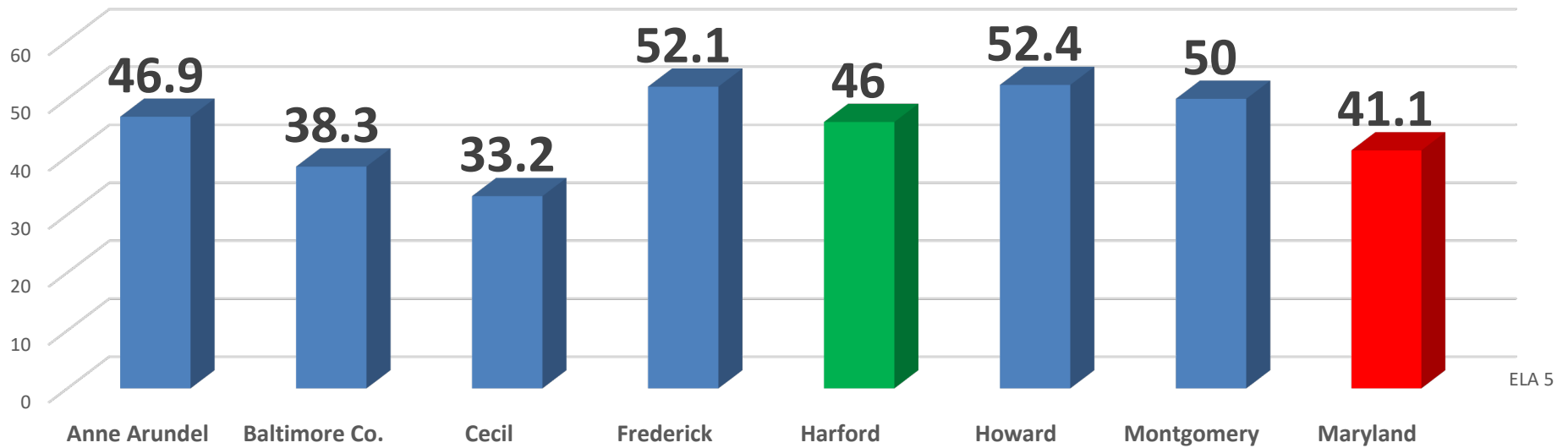
ELA 4



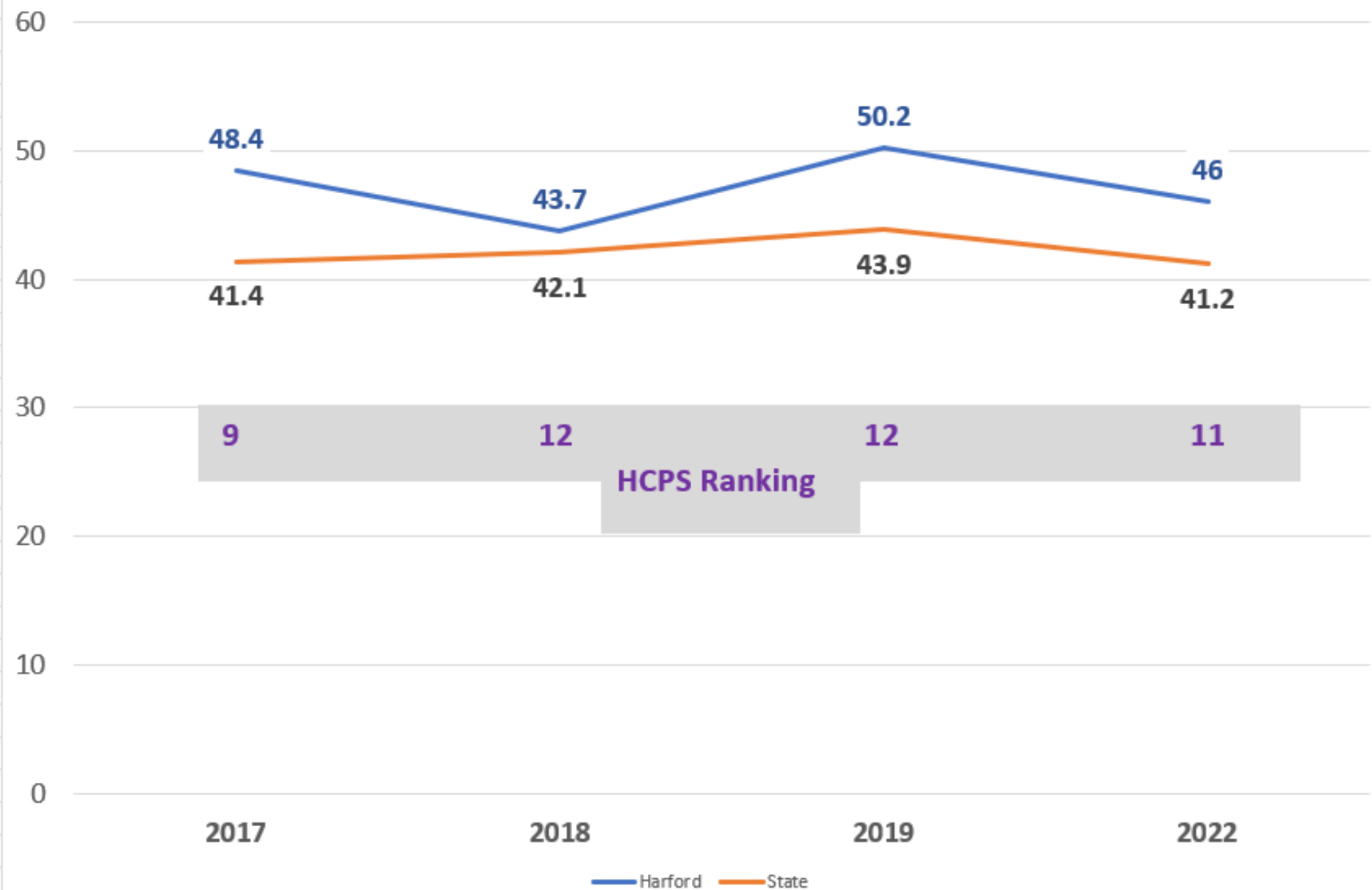
## ELA Grade 4 Comparison



## ELA Grade 5 - Spring 2022



## ELA Grade 5 Comparison





# Ongoing Evaluation

- External evaluator findings and recommendations
- Classroom walkthroughs
- Feedback from teachers regarding professional development
- Staff surveys
- Data review and analysis in grades K-5



# K-2 Teachers: August Professional Learning

1. Today's session provided me with professional learning that will support me in the teaching of reading.


[More Details](#)

Strongly Agree	213
Agree	107
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	6
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	0



2. This session provided me with new instructional ideas based on current reading research.

[More Details](#)

 Insights

Strongly Agree	202
Agree	109
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	11
Disagree	6
Strongly Disagree	0










3. I feel better prepared to teach Unit 1 in the Reading Units of Study after today's session.

[More Details](#)

 Insights

 Strongly Agree	175
 Agree	122
 Neither Agree Nor Disagree	25
 Disagree	6
 Strongly Disagree	0





# 3rd-4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers: August Professional Learning

1. Today's session provided me with professional learning that will support me in the teaching of reading.


[More Details](#)

Strongly Agree	54
Agree	48
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	3
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	0

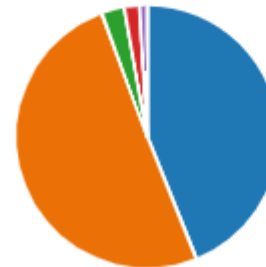


2. This session provided me with new instructional ideas based on current reading research.

[More Details](#)


 Insights






Strongly Agree	47
Agree	54
Neither Agree Nor Disagree	3
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	1





### 3. I feel better prepared to teach Unit 1 in the Reading Units of Study after today's session.

[More Details](#) Insights

 Strongly Agree	46
 Agree	47
 Neither Agree Nor Disagree	11
 Disagree	1
 Strongly Disagree	2







## HCPS and SoR Alignment: Foundational Skills

### Science of Reading

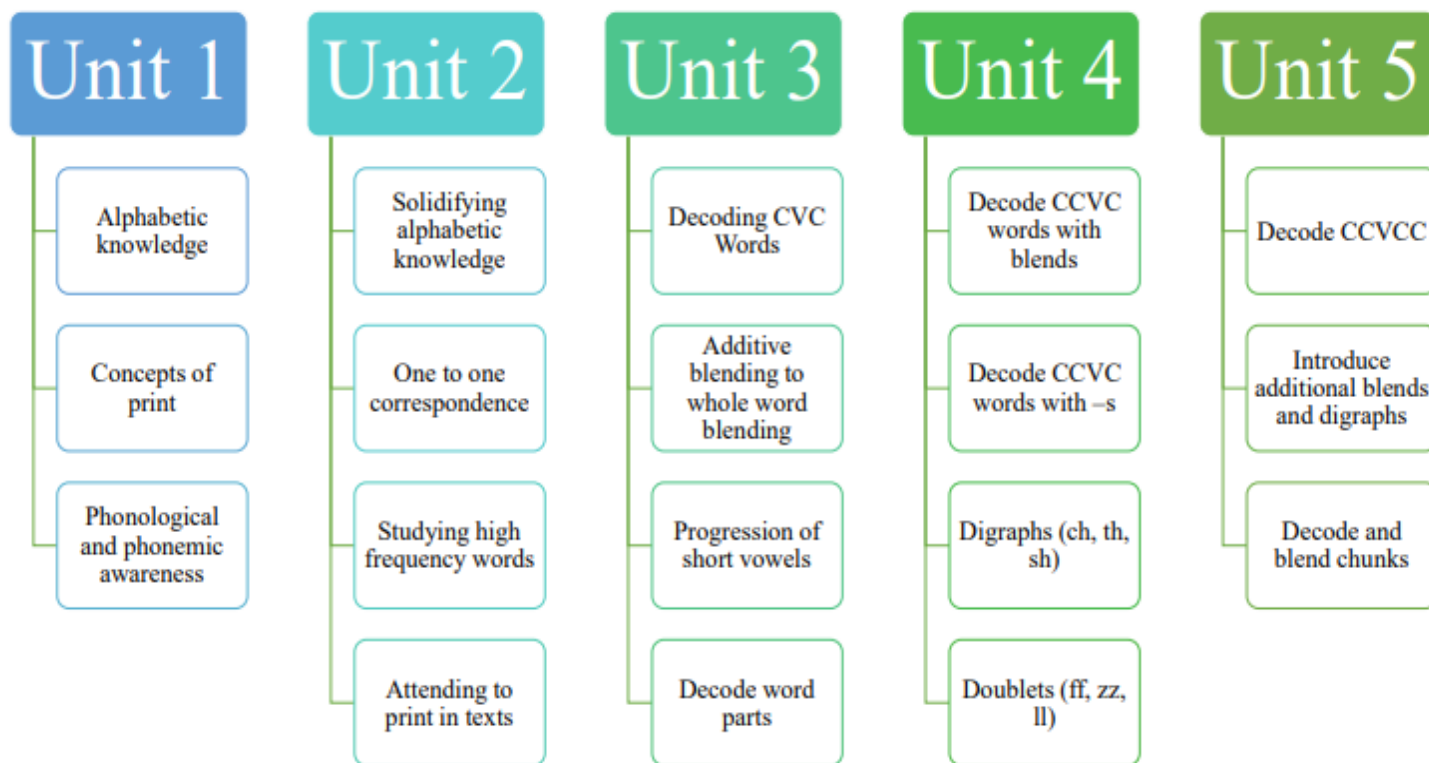
- Teaching of phonics with a systematic scope and sequence from simple to more complex foundational skills.

### HCPS RELA Program

- Early reading instruction provides foundational skill support with a scope and sequence from simple to more complex.
- Phonics skills are developed across units, across years in a research-based sequence of skills.



# Decoding Instruction Across the Units: Kindergarten





## HCPS and SoR Alignment: Cueing System

### Science of Reading

- Elimination of the cueing system (using pictures and meaning to decode words instead of looking at the phonics first)

### HCPS RELA Program

- Revised K-2 Reading program teaches students to use letter sound correspondence.
- Program introduces students to “slider power” to visually look across the letters in a word and use phonics to decode. Instruction teaches students to use their phonics skills to decode words instead of relying on using the picture to decode.



## HCPS and SoR Alignment: Sounds and Letters

### Science of Reading

- High frequency word instruction that uses analysis of sounds and letter sound correspondence.
- Students taught to decode words by using their phonics skills.

### HCPS RELA Program

- Units contain recurring instructional routines that model and teach reading and spelling of high-frequency words to develop automatic word retrieval.
- By the end of second grade, over 200 high frequency words are directly taught through orthographic mapping for better decoding and automaticity.



# HCPS and SoR Alignment: Decodable Texts

## Science of Reading

- Practice taught phonics skills using decodable texts.

## HCPS RELA Program

- Decodables identify phonics concepts and align to the phonics sequence instruction.
- HCPS purchased approx. \$450,000 in decodable texts from a variety of publishers for all elementary schools.



# Decodable Text

- Cherry Blossom Press
- Flyleaf Publishing
- Heggerty
- Half Pint Readers
- High Noon
- Heinemann







**Teachers provide explicit phonics instruction differentiated to meet the needs of students**











# Classroom Libraries

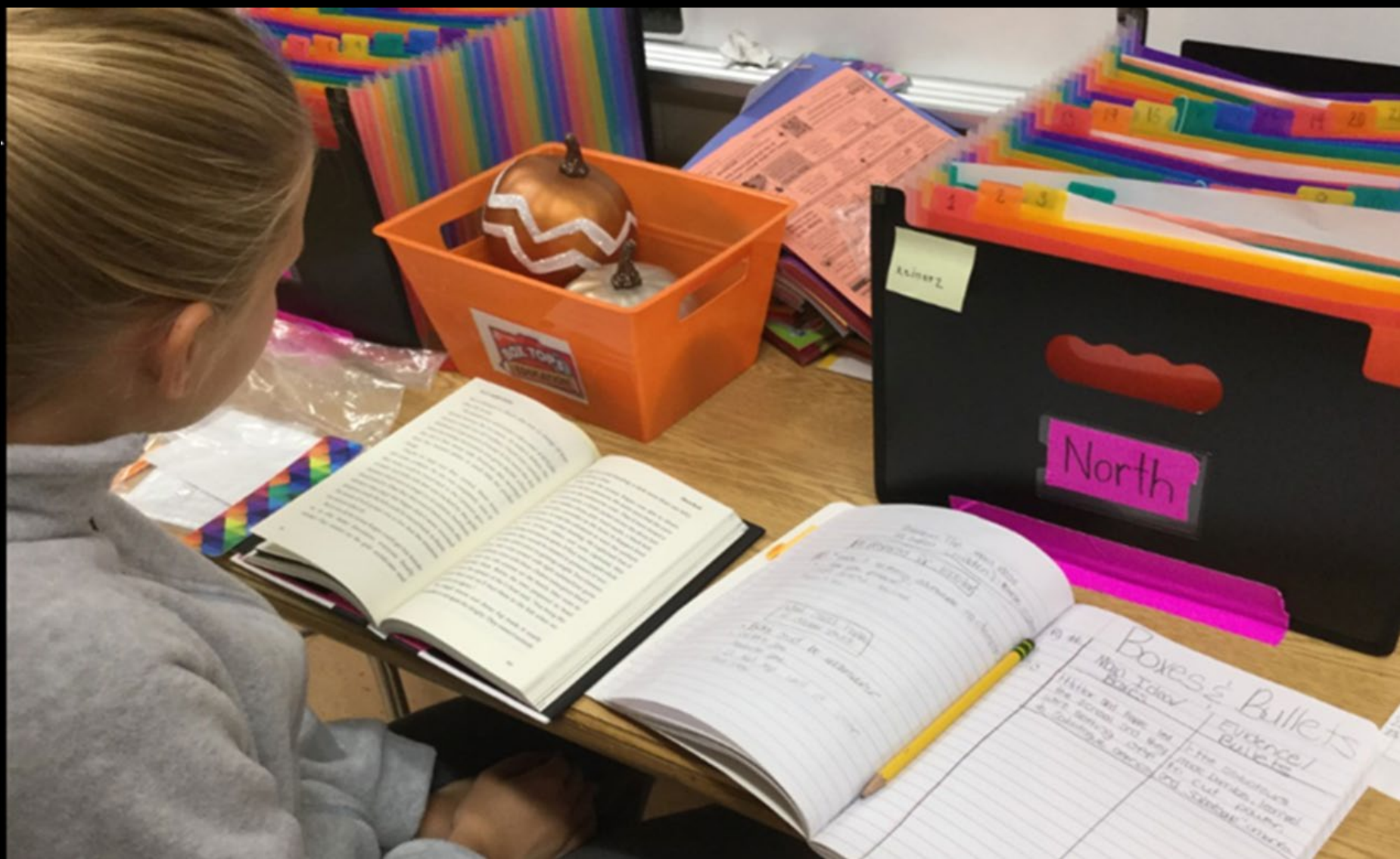


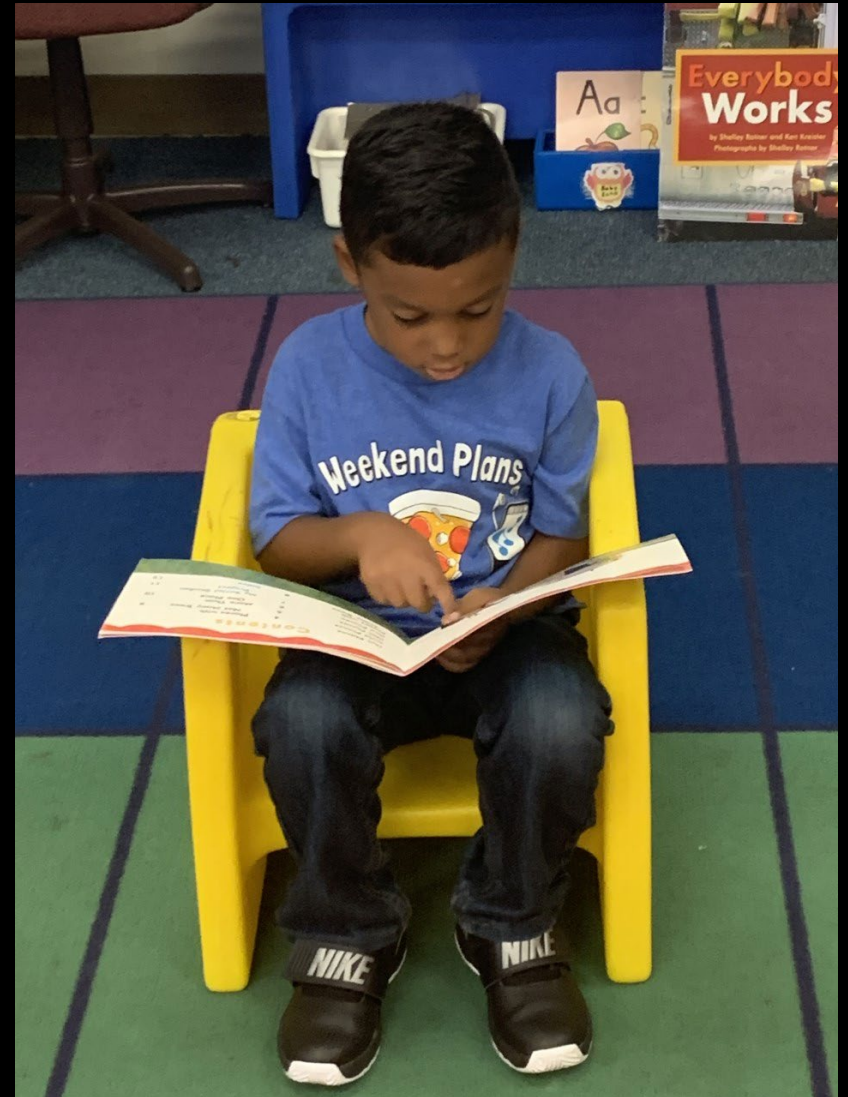








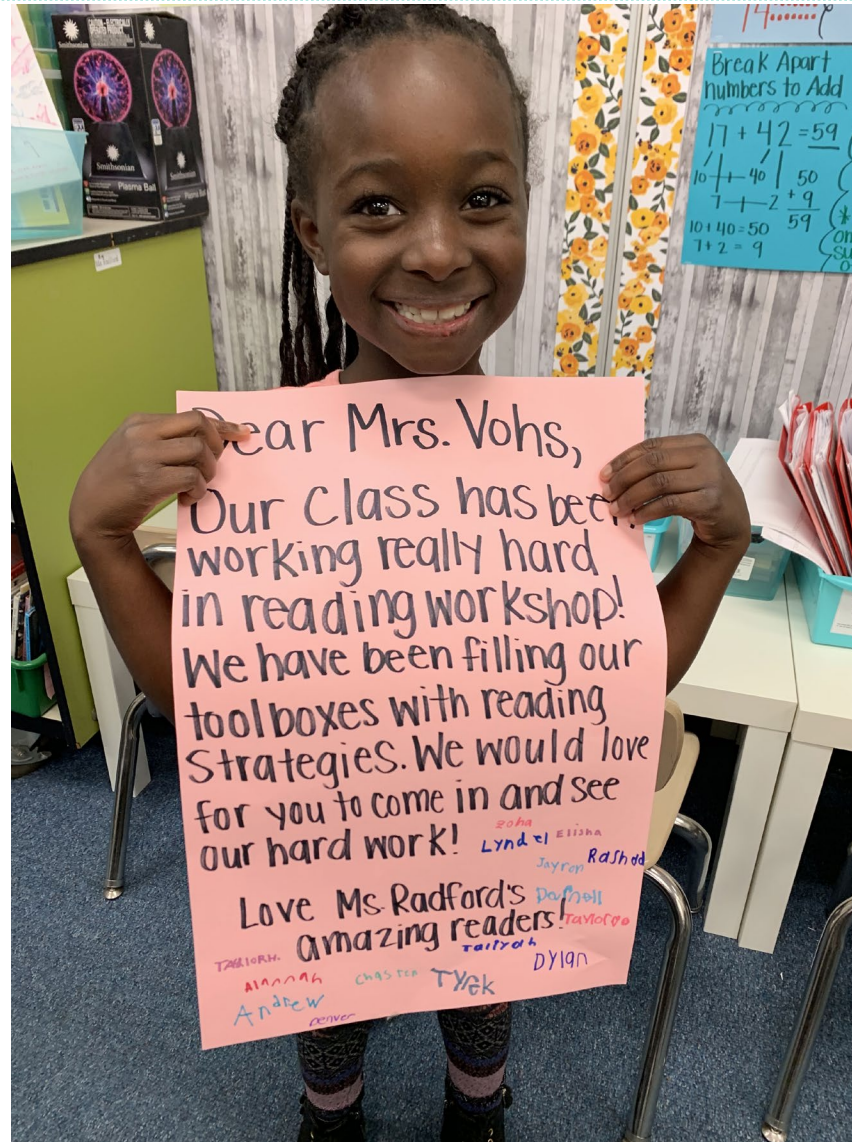












Our reading promise  
is to try our s+ strategies  
we have learned. We won't  
give up, no matter what!

part  
of  
word  
nation

Parts of  
Words.

plays

Use what  
you no

WILL  
UPCK YOUR

Check  
your  
picture

MARCHES  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
CHURCH

1940

books  
ROCK!

parts of  
water  
plants

2. ~~Identify~~  
PARTS OF ~~THE~~  
WORDS

[illegible]

1940

Need a Word Detective?  
Call Mrs. Spencer's Class

We can stop  
and solve tricky  
words. We look  
for clues and  
check our reading.  
We find snap words  
in our books. We  
help each other and  
we can help you, too!