

Essential Skills Publisher Response

Essential Skills Software Inc. appreciates the opportunity to participate in the Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA) process and to review the Final Report for our submitted instructional materials. We value the insights gained through this process and recognize the importance of ongoing collaboration with the Texas Education Agency and the State Board of Education to ensure that instructional resources meet the highest standards of quality, suitability, and alignment.

Commitment to Continuous Improvement

As part of our commitment to serving Texas educators and students, Essential Skills is undertaking a comprehensive review of the materials included in this submission. We are returning these products to development with the goal of strengthening instructional design, enhancing engagement, and ensuring complete alignment with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).

Our internal review will focus on instructional intent, content suitability, and standards coverage, with particular attention to the areas identified during the IMRA evaluation. We are also taking this opportunity to expand our approach to teacher and student support, informed by current research and educator feedback. These efforts reflect our dedication to providing resources that are evidence-based, age-appropriate, and culturally responsive.

Instructional Design and Standards Alignment

Essential Skills programs are built upon explicit, systematic, and research-based instructional methods designed to build foundational literacy, math, and critical thinking skills. Through this process, we have identified valuable opportunities to strengthen how these principles are applied and communicated within our programs.

We are conducting a detailed review of all activities and instructional elements to ensure that each reflects direct, skill-based learning consistent with TEA expectations. This includes ensuring that instructional prompts, visuals, and examples fully support phonemic awareness, decoding, and structured skill progression.

Looking Ahead

The IMRA review process has provided valuable feedback that will guide the next phase of product development at Essential Skills. We view this as an opportunity to evolve our instructional materials and reaffirm our commitment to supporting the needs of Texas educators and students.

We are grateful to the Texas Education Agency, the State Board of Education, and the Safal Partners review team for their time, expertise, and professionalism throughout this process. Essential Skills looks forward to continued collaboration as we work to ensure that our programs reflect the highest standards of instructional quality and effectiveness.