



**Just Right  
Reader**

# Just Right Reader's Response to the **First Grade Spanish Phonics IMRA Report 2024**

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**The Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics Program is aligned 100% with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and the Science of Reading.** The structured nature of our decodables, combined with engaging instructional tools, supports students and teachers in developing solid, foundational literacy skills. In this response, we aim to clarify and address the points raised in the IMRA 2024 review and highlight the strengths of our program.

We appreciate the feedback from the IMRA 2024 review and hope this response clarifies the strengths of the Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics Program. Our commitment to systematic, explicit phonics instruction, progress monitoring, and differentiated support ensures that all students can succeed in building strong foundational reading skills. Just Right Reader remains dedicated to supporting Texas educators and students on their journey to literacy success.

## SECTION 1:

# Course, Unit, and Lesson Design

(Responding to Sections 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3)

- **Course-Level Design (1.1):** Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics Program follows a research-based *Scope and Sequence* that outlines a systematic and spiraled approach to phonics instruction. This structured, spiraled sequence ensures students build on foundational skills while continuously reviewing previously learned concepts. The *Just Right Reader Pacing Guide* offers a detailed roadmap for 36 weeks of instruction, ensuring educators have the necessary resources and guidance for effective planning for a full school year.



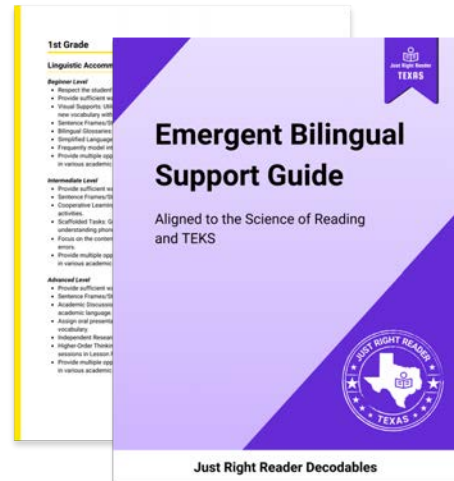
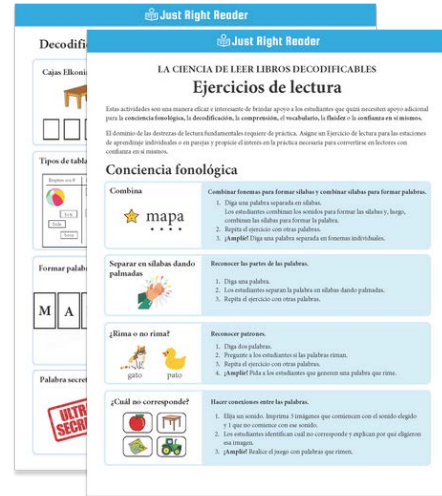
- **Unit-Level Design (1.2):** The review mentioned that *Unit Overviews* lacked certain background content knowledge and academic vocabulary. The *Just Right Reader Unit/Module Overviews* in the Teacher's Edition include comprehensive summaries of the phonics skills covered and aligned with the TEKS. Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics Program provides *Family Support Packs* in both English and Spanish, offering parents and caregivers suggestions on supporting their children's progress at home.
- **Lesson-Level Design (1.3):** The *Just Right Reader Lesson Plans* in our program are designed to provide scripted detailed, structured plans, including daily objectives, essential questions, materials, and tasks. Teachers are guided through every aspect of instruction, from *Phonics Review to Independent Reading*. For example, in the lesson plan for *Llueve en el valle*, students practice phonics skills with explicit teacher modeling, followed by guided and independent practice, ensuring that each skill is mastered through direct application.

## SECTION 2:

# Scaffolding and Differentiation

(Responding to Sections 3.1 and 3.3)

- **Differentiation (3.1):** The Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics Program provides multiple strategies for differentiation to support all learners. The *Spanish Reading Workouts* offer reteaching activities for students who need extra support, such as phonemic awareness, decoding, fluency, and comprehension practice. These workouts reinforce skills with engaging activities, while QR code videos allow students to revisit key concepts independently.
- **Support for Emergent Bilingual Learners (3.3):** Our program includes a robust *Emergent Bilingual Support for Dual Language Programs Guide*, which offers accommodations for students at various levels of language proficiency. This guide supports bilingual learners by providing strategies for differentiated instruction in Spanish and English. Our materials, including decodable texts and videos, help students develop their academic vocabulary, comprehension, and cross-linguistic connections.

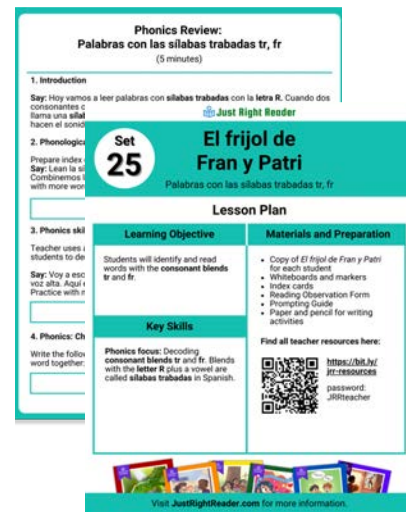
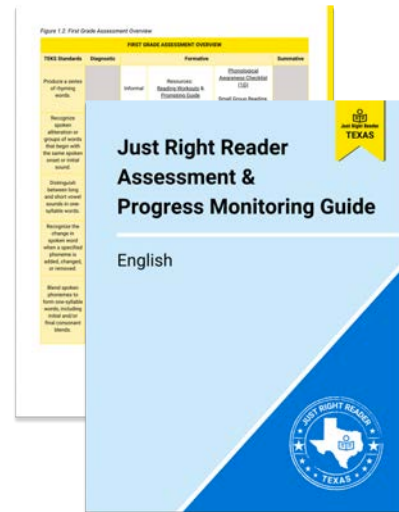


## SECTION 3:

# Phonics Rule Compliance and Foundational Skills

(Responding to Sections 4.2, 4.3, 5.D.1, 5.D.2)

- **Phonics Rule Compliance (4.2, 4.3):** The Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics Program is designed to provide systematic and explicit phonics instruction aligned with the TEKS. The *Just Right Reader Lesson Plans* follow a structured progression, where students practice phonics skills both in isolation and within decodable texts. The progression is spiraled, with phonics skills continuously reviewed once introduced.
- **Phonological Awareness (5.D.1):** Our program emphasizes the development of phonological awareness with daily activities such as syllable segmenting and blending and phoneme manipulation. The review suggests a lack of systematic phonological awareness instruction. However, the *Just Right Reader Lesson Plans*, like the one for *Rita conoce a un amigo*, are designed to introduce and reinforce these essential skills through interactive activities.
- **Phonemic Awareness (5.D.2):** The Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics Program includes explicit instruction in phonemic awareness, focusing on connecting these skills to the alphabetic principle. For example, in the *El frijol de Fran y Patri* lesson, students practice identifying, blending, and segmenting phonemes with manipulatives and encoding them before applying these skills to read decodable text. Just Right Reader materials also provide additional phonemic awareness practice through *Reading Workouts*, such as *Blend It* and *Clapping Syllables* activities.



## SECTION 4:

# Assessment and Progress Monitoring

(Responding to Sections 4.4 and 4.5)

- **Assessment (4.4):** The Just Right Reader First Grade Spanish Phonics program includes various assessment tools, including *Baseline Assessments*, *Phonics Skills Checklists*, and *Reading Observation Forms*, as well as diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments, all aligned to grade-level TEKS. These tools provide teachers with data to inform instruction and track student progress throughout the year. *Just Right Reader Spanish Assessment and Progress Monitoring Guide* offers clear guidance on administering, scoring, and interpreting assessment results.
- **Progress Monitoring (4.5):** Just Right Reader includes a comprehensive *Assessment and Progress Monitoring Guide* with progress monitoring tools. Tools like the *Phonics and Fluency Monitoring Form* help teachers track student growth and make informed instructional decisions. The *Monthly Progress Review* allows teachers to adjust instruction based on student performance, ensuring all students progress toward mastery.

The image shows two overlapping forms from the Just Right Reader program. The top form is the 'Phonics Skills Checklist' and the bottom form is the 'Comprehension Check Form'. Both forms include fields for Student Name, Teacher, Date, and Grade Level. The Phonics Skills Checklist includes sections for Alphabet Knowledge, Phonemic Awareness, High Words, and Additional Observations. The Comprehension Check Form includes sections for Comprehension Analysis, Response to Inferential Questions, Predictive Thinking, and Depth of Content Understanding.

The image shows the 'Phonics & Fluency Monitoring Form' from the Just Right Reader program. It includes fields for Student Name, Teacher, Date, and Grade Level. The form is divided into several sections: Focused Phonics Skills, Application of Phonics Rule, Engagement and Confidence, Confidence in Phonics Skills, Fluency Assessment Details, and Fluency Development Insights. It also includes a section for Words Correct Per Minute (WCMPM) and a page number of 27.

## SECTION 5:

# Oral Language Development and Phonemic Awareness

(Responding to Sections 5.B.1 and 5.C.2)

- **Oral Language Development (5.B.1):** *Just Right Reader Lesson Plans* provide numerous opportunities for students to engage in academic and social communication. *The Reading Review* and *Writing Application* sections include partner and group discussions where students share their ideas and responses. *Just Right Reader, QR Phonics Videos*, within each decodable book, provide models for oral language development, reinforcing correct pronunciation and fluency.
- **Phonemic Awareness (5.C.2):** The *Just Right Reader* first-grade program materials include a variety of activities in the lesson plans, QR code videos available in every decodable book, and *Teacher Resources* that offer opportunities for students to decode words in context. *The Reading Workouts* provide 25 additional activities for students to extend their practice and reinforce letter-sound correspondence.

### Reading Review

(5 minutes)

#### 1. Group discussion

**Say:** ¿Cómo se sintió Julián antes, durante y después de viajar en avión?

#### 2. Find words in the book that have the stress in the last syllable

Students find a word and put their finger on it. When everyone has found a word, students share the word they found out loud or with a partner.