

# Arkansas Curriculum Matrix Summary

## English Language Arts

The Arkansas *English Language Arts Curriculum Framework* (revised for grades 3-8, and revised and amended for grades 9-12) represents the content that has been identified as essential for all students to know and will be included on the state assessment.

### Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education Web site. It provided the number of release and/or non-released test items for each Student Learning Expectation (SLE). The number of test items per SLE at each grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Student learning expectations not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 1.

**Table 1. English Language Arts Priority Designation Data.**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
3	1.43	.75	.68 = 1	0	1	>1
4	1.94	1.36	.58 = 1	0	1	>1
5	1.47	.71	.76 = 1	0	1	>1
6	1.87	1.23	.64 = 1	0	1	>1
7	1.52	.80	.72 = 1	0	1	>1
8	1.46	.85	.61 = 1	0	1	>1
11	2.26	2.13	.13 = 1	0	1	>1

English Language Arts summary data are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. English Language Arts Assessment Data Summary.**

	# Standards	# Student Learning Expectations	Benchmark Exams/Literacy Exam			NESS*		
			H	M	L	H 1-19	M 20-38	L 39-50
English LA								
Grade 3	12	134	7	19	108	94	31	9
Grade 4	12	130	7	11	112	90	26	14
Grade 5	12	117	7	13	97	85	25	7
Grade 6	12	117	6	10	101	81	28	8
Grade 7	12	117	7	14	96	82	26	9

<b>Grade 8</b>	12	118	8	16	94	78	30	10
<b>Grade 11</b>	12	103	13	17	73	53	35	15
<b>Totals</b>	84	836	55	100	681	563	201	72

## Mathematics

The Arkansas *Mathematics Curriculum Framework* (revised and amended for Algebra I and Geometry) represents the content that has been identified as essential for all students to know and will be included on the state assessment.

### Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education Web site. It provided the number of release and/or non-released test items for each Student Learning Expectation (SLE). The number of test items per SLE at each grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Student learning expectations not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 3.

**Table 3. Mathematics Priority Designation Data.**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
<b>3</b>	1.48	.71	.77 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>4</b>	1.58	.73	.85 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>5</b>	1.17	.36	.81 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>6</b>	1.25	.51	.74 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>7</b>	1.07	.25	.82 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>8</b>	1.42	.62	.80 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>Algebra I</b>	1.35	.55	.80 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>Geometry</b>	1.57	.88	.64 = 1	0	1	>1

Mathematics summary data are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4. Mathematics Assessment Data Summary.**

	# Standards	# Student Learning Expectations	Benchmark Exams/End-of-Course Exams			NESS*		
			H	M	L	H 1-16	M 17-42	L 43-70
<b>Mathematics</b>								
<b>Grade 3</b>	17	59	12	20	27	36	21	2
<b>Grade 4</b>	17	56	12	17	27	38	16	2
<b>Grade 5</b>	17	49	5	21	23	29	18	2

<b>Grade 6</b>	17	50	5	19	26	32	15	3
<b>Grade 7</b>	17	57	2	26	29	32	22	3
<b>Grade 8</b>	17	52	9	24	19	32	16	4
<b>Algebra 1</b>	5	43	7	16	20	15	20	8
<b>Geometry</b>	5	34	9	15	13	20	12	2
<b>Totals</b>	112	400	61	158	184	234	140	26

## Science

The Arkansas *Science Curriculum Framework* represents the content that has been identified as essential for all students to know and will be included on the state assessment.

### Testing Priority Designation

Information necessary to make priority designations relative to assessments was obtained from the Arkansas Department of Education Web site. It provided the number of release and/or non-released test items for each Student Learning Expectation (SLE). The number of test items per SLE at each grade level was averaged. Standard deviations (STD) were calculated for each grade level and subtracted from the mean. This number established the cut-off point between Medium (M) priority designations and High (H) priority designations. Student learning expectations not tested were assigned a Low (L) priority designation. The results can be found in Table 5.

**Table 5. Science Priority Designation Data.**

Grade	Mean	STD	Mean – STD	Designations		
				L = Low	M = Medium	H = High
5	1.08	.27	.81 - 1	0	1	>1
7	1.11	.39	.72 = 1	0	1	>1
<b>Biology</b>	1.27	.52	.75 = 1	0	1	>1

Science summary data are presented in Table 6.

**Table 6. Science Assessment Data Summary.**

	# Standards	# Student Learning Expectations	Benchmark Exams/End-of-Course Exam			NESS*		
			H	M	L	H 1-32	M 33-50	L 51-85
<b>Science</b>								
<b>Grade 5</b>	10	83	3	31	49	49	11	23
<b>Grade 7</b>	10	85	3	36	46	57	20	8
<b>Biology</b>	15	97	12	39	46	31	15	21
<b>Totals</b>	35	265	18	106	141	137	46	52

## Totals for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

Table 7 presents the number of Student Learning Expectations compared to the number of Student Learning Expectations tested. Using this data, the percentage of Student Learning Expectations tested was calculated.

**Table 7. Totals and Percentages for English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.**

	# of Student Expectations	# of Student Expectations Tested	% of Student Expectations Tested
English Language Arts	836	155	19%
Mathematics	400	219	55%
Science	265	124	47%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1501	498	33%

### References

Arkansas Department of Education

<http://arkansased.org/index.html>

#### Standards

<http://arkansased.org/teachers/frameworks.html>

#### Assessment

<http://arkansased.org/testing/assessment.html>

**Arkansas Benchmark Exams:** [http://arkansased.org/testing/benchmark\\_iowa.html](http://arkansased.org/testing/benchmark_iowa.html)

**Arkansas Literacy Exam:** [http://arkansased.org/testing/gr11\\_literacy.html](http://arkansased.org/testing/gr11_literacy.html)

**Arkansas End-of-Course Exams:** [http://arkansased.org/testing/end\\_of\\_course.html](http://arkansased.org/testing/end_of_course.html)

\***NESS (National Essential Skills Study)** in the preceding subject summary charts refers to the *International Center for Leadership in Education's* 2007 national survey, a forced-ranking by approximately 13,000 adults of the proficiencies deemed most important for high school graduates in each of English Language Arts, Math, and Science.

- English Language Arts proficiencies ranked 1-19 were assigned a High (H) rating; items ranked 20-38 were assigned a Medium (M) rating; and items ranked 39-50 were assigned a Low (L) rating.
- Math proficiencies ranked 1-16 were assigned a High (H) rating; items ranked 17-42 were assigned a Medium (M) rating; and items ranked 43-70 were assigned a Low (L) rating.
- Science proficiencies ranked 1-32 were assigned a High (H) rating; items marked 33-50 were assigned a Medium (M) rating; and items ranked 51-85 were assigned a Low (L) rating.

Where English Language Arts, Math, and Science proficiencies overlapped across indicators in other subjects (for example an English Language Arts proficiency within a Science indicator), the rating of H, M, or L was designated

to the proficiency in the subject of focus. A complete description of the *National Essential Skills Study* is provided elsewhere in this resource kit.

