

imagine learning

 Education

Program Overview

Grades K–8



**“I feel like
a much
stronger
teacher
using this
curriculum.”**

**It really makes a
difference with my
students. It makes
a difference in my
teaching.”**

Taylor I.,
fourth-grade teacher,
AZ



Learn more at
[imaginelearning.com](https://www.imaginelearning.com)

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Sharing Heart, One Word at a Time

Welcome to Imagine Learning EL Education, a research-backed, digital-forward, core ELA program that uses authentic, engaging content to cultivate a lifelong love of literacy, build in-depth knowledge, develop essential character traits, and unlock a world of possibility.

Teaching Reading? It's Science!

Driven by the science of reading, Imagine Learning EL Education is a content-based curriculum that combines systematic instruction focused on the five components of reading with compelling content, text, and knowledge building to support students in becoming 21st-century readers, writers, and critical thinkers.

Many Stories, One Platform

The digital platform makes planning easier and more accessible, with everything educators need available at point of use. Classroom-ready lessons allow educators to spend less time planning and more time connecting with students, engaging creatively, and customizing the curriculum to meet their young learners' needs.

Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Literacy

Authentic knowledge-building texts teach real-world content, develop key literacy skills, and represent a range of multicultural perspectives. Students aren't just learning to read and write; they're making meaning, cultivating essential character traits, and acquiring the tools needed to navigate the world around them with confidence.

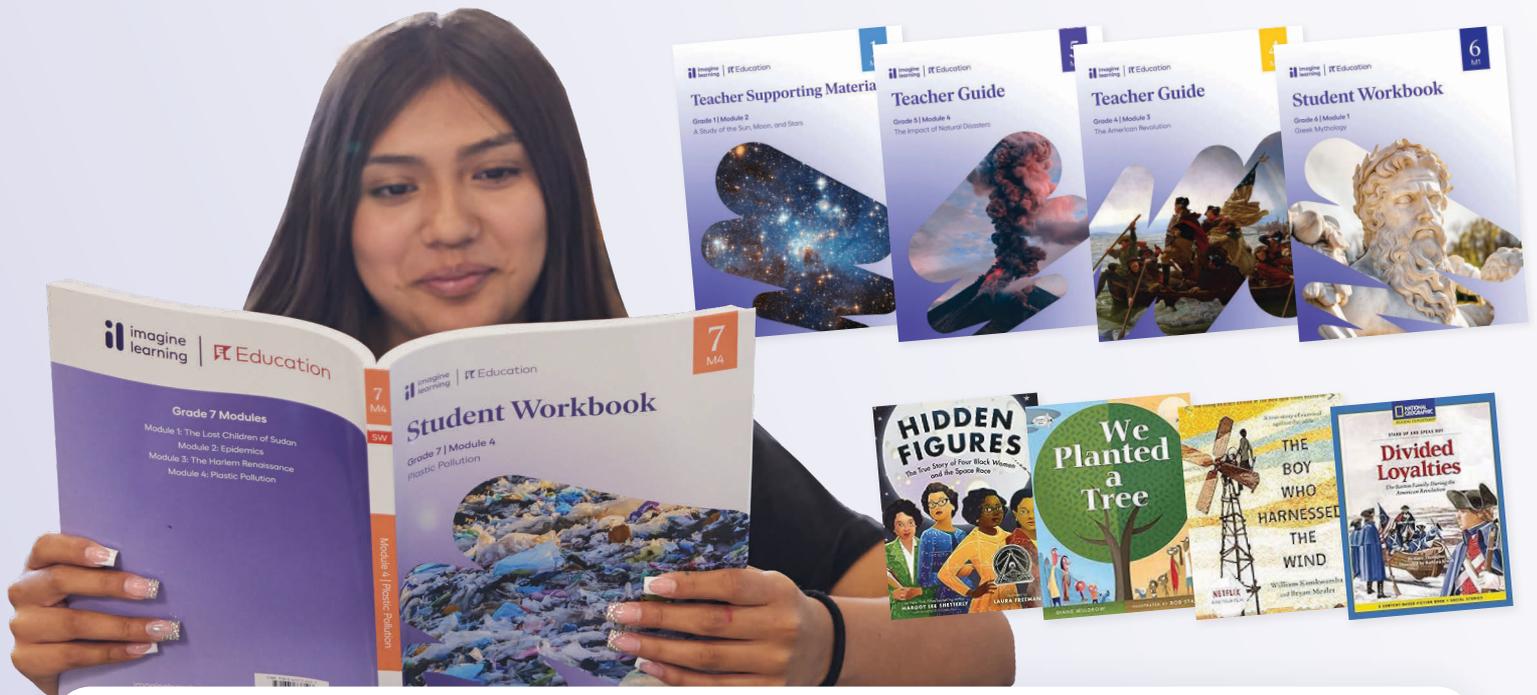


From Learning to Read to Reading to Learn

Why Imagine Learning EL Education Works

Decades of science of reading research show that language is best learned in context, not isolation. The more a learner explores rich content, the better they understand what they're reading, and the more effectively they can speak and write about it.

That's why Imagine Learning EL Education has a content-based approach, focusing on teaching content rather than teaching comprehension skills in isolation. Students explore high-interest science and social studies topics — from the Sun, Moon, and Stars and the Impact of Natural Disasters to Greek mythology and the American Revolution — and build their literacy skills by reading, writing, and discussing different types of authentic text. The result? They build knowledge, make meaning of texts, and acquire critical vocabulary skills.



Read-Think-Talk-Write

To enhance students' comprehension, critical thinking, communication, and writing skills, Imagine Learning EL Education is built around the Read-Think-Talk-Write framework. This supports students in developing their knowledge of module topics and producing high-quality, evidence-based work.

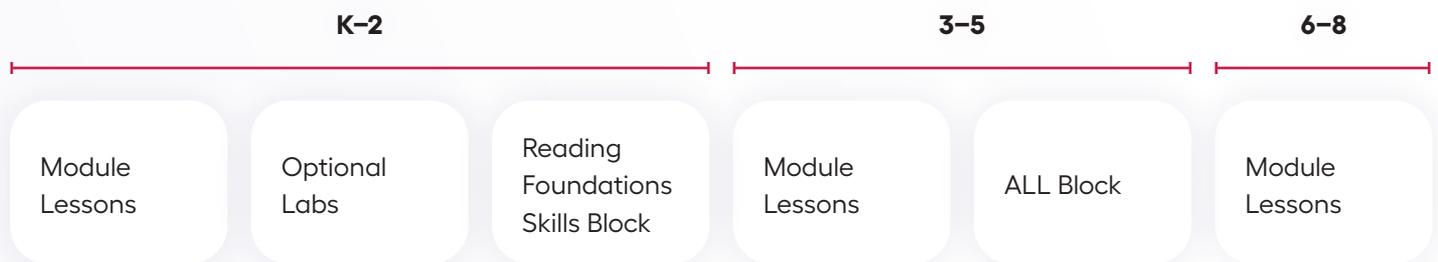
In practice, this looks like students engaging with high-quality text, reflecting and analyzing the content, participating in meaningful discussions, and producing written responses.



Program Structure

Imagine Learning EL Education is carefully structured to build literacy skills across K–8, brick by brick. Students engage with a consistent instructional routine centered around content-rich modules at every grade level, focusing on academic standards mastery for reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

The overarching design structure of the program is as follows:



MODULES

Each grade level includes four eight-to-nine-week modules, each with three units to build content knowledge on a specific topic or text, all using principles of backward design.

Unit 1: Building Background Knowledge

Students read, discuss, dramatize, draw, and write to acquire specific content and background knowledge.

Unit 2: Extended Reading and Research

Students take their understanding of the module topic to a deeper level through extended research and discussion.

Unit 3: Extended Writing

Students bring together their skills and knowledge and apply their learning to writing assignments, group discussions, and presentations.

Skills Block

Grounded in Dr. Linnea Ehri's Phase Theory, Skills Block uses a structured phonics approach focusing on the five components of reading to teach students letter-sound connections and how to decode.

Optional Labs

Labs offer inquiry-based, hands-on exploration that reinforce literacy skills, content knowledge, and habits of character and deepen students' learning on the module topic.

ALL Block

Daily ALL Block lessons complement module units and explicitly reinforce learning while providing additional literacy and language practice.

The Heart of the Program

Guiding Principles of EL Education

Imagine Learning EL Education is built on guiding principles that support teachers and students both in and out of the classroom.

Equity Matters: Achievement extends beyond test scores and mastery of knowledge — it encompasses developing essential character traits, like respect and honesty and pride in high-quality work. That's why the program rests on a foundation of equity with the **Dimensions of Student Achievement**.

Mastery of Skills and Knowledge

Standards-aligned instruction and assessment

Focus on critical thinking, communication, and deeper learning

High-Quality Student Work

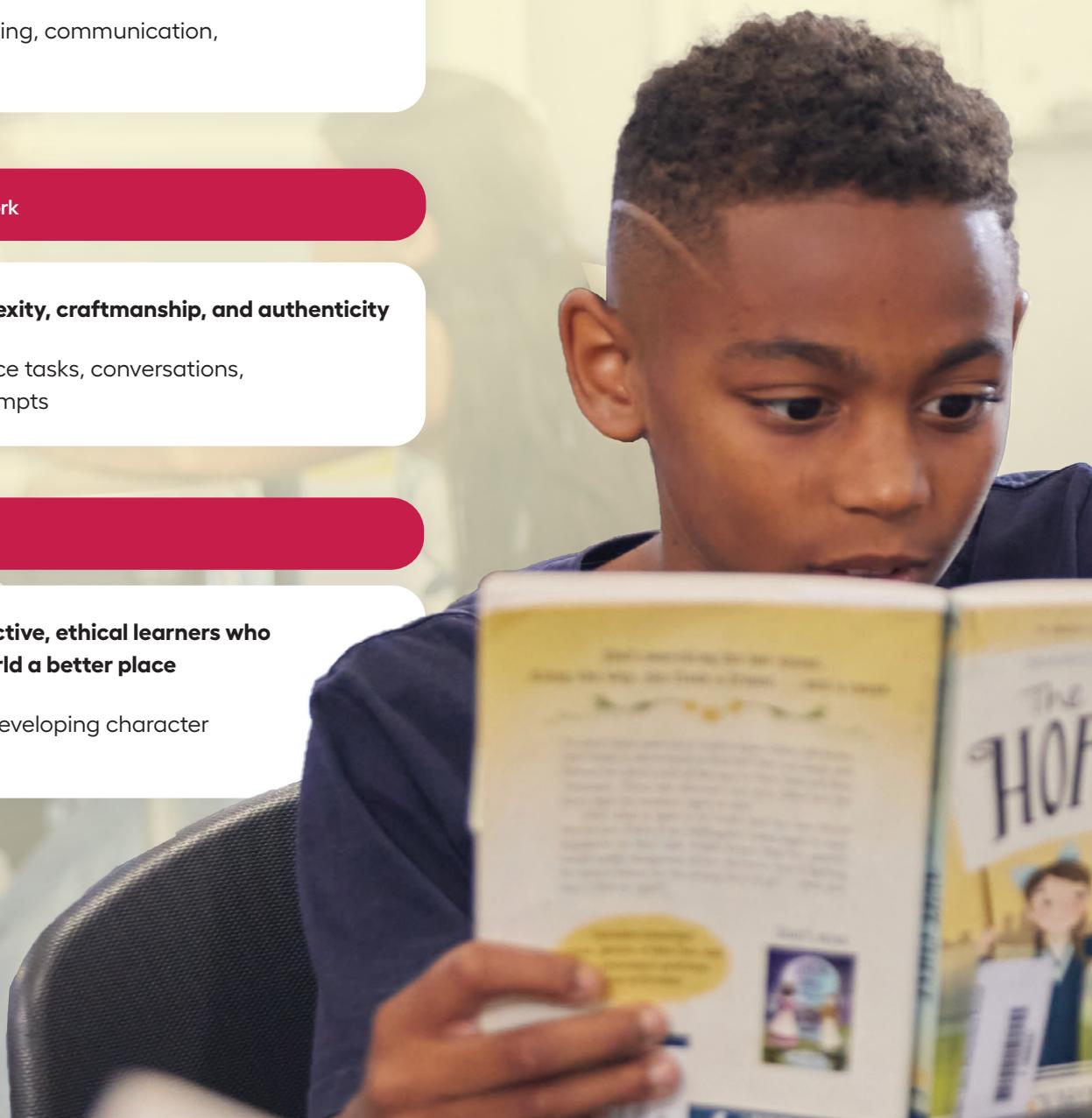
Demonstrates complexity, craftsmanship, and authenticity

Evident in performance tasks, conversations, and responses to prompts

Habits of Character

Tools to become effective, ethical learners who work to make the world a better place

Integrated focus on developing character within lesson context



Backward Design: Imagine Learning EL applies backward design — this means planning is designed with the end in mind, with strategies to assess students along the way.

Substantiative Content Matters: Students simultaneously develop understanding of cross-curricular content — science, social studies, and literature — while acquiring the key literacy standards of reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Diverse and Inclusive Settings: To support every learner, the program provides numerous supports and resources to differentiate instruction within all curriculum components.

Promote Student Thinking, Collaboration, and Respect: Clear and simple protocols and conversation cues support rich, purposeful, collaborative conversation.

Students Own Their Learning: By setting goals, assessing their own learning, and using feedback from themselves, peers, and teachers, students become active participants in their own learning journeys.

Families and Caregivers Are Partners: The curriculum supports the home-to-school connection through various resources to include families/caregivers and extend learning at home.

Curriculum as Powerful Professional Development: Teachers are provided with ample resources and opportunities to enhance their expertise and make strong instructional decisions, both in planning and in the classroom. Ongoing professional learning and comprehensive customer support is also available.



Grades K-8 | 7

Teacher Experience

Imagine Learning EL Education's comprehensive toolkit of resources — all available at point of use — are designed to streamline lesson planning and preparation and support teachers to create engaging, effective learning experiences like no other program.

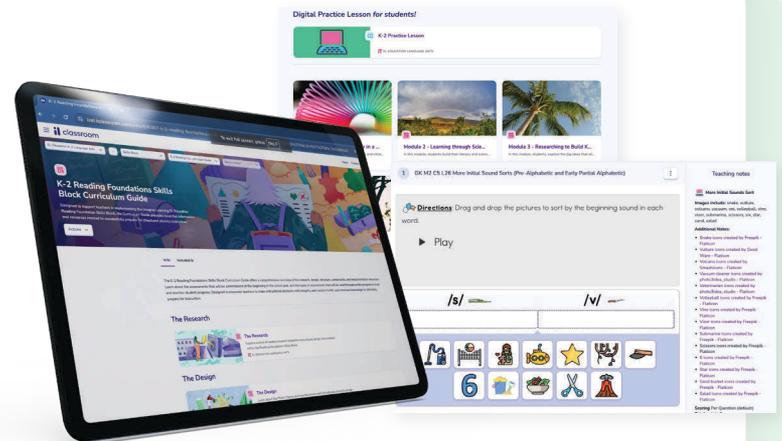
Print

Seamless integration of print and digital resources ensures that teachers can deliver Imagine Learning EL Education's research-driven instructional approach with ease.



Digital

The comprehensive, user-friendly digital platform includes interactive tools, exclusive content, and flexible delivery methods to empower teachers to deliver dynamic lessons and focus on what truly matters: the needs of students.



Multimedia

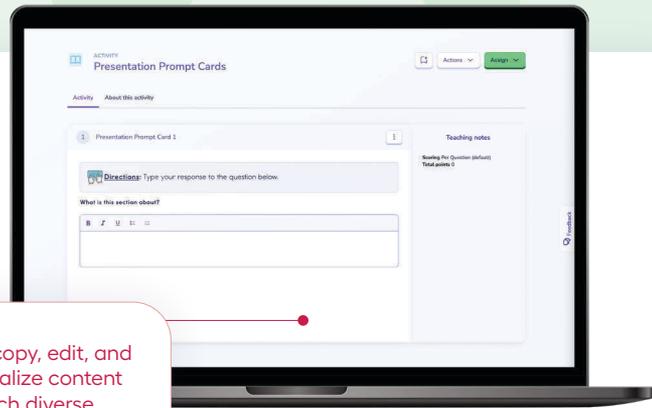
Informative module overview videos that support the home/school connection and Animated Letter Stories where K-2 students join Anak and Watota on a journey to uncover letter-sound connections bring learning to life for teachers, students, and families/caregivers.



Flexibility

Customizable digital lesson cards can be projected for whole class learning or assigned to students, enabling effortless adaptation.

Easily copy, edit, and personalize content to match diverse learning needs.



Interactive Teaching Tools

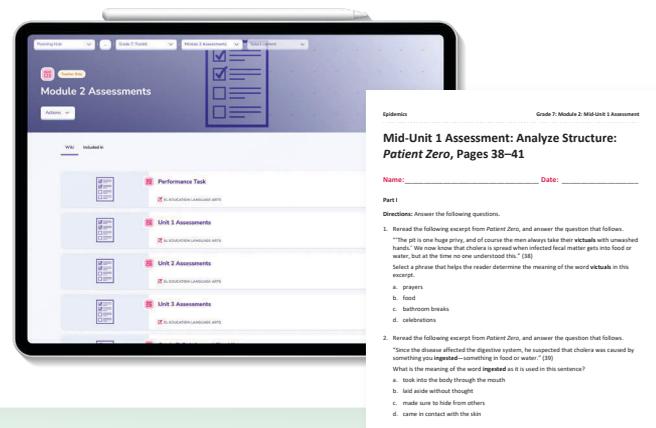
Through Live Learn, teachers can switch effortlessly from asynchronous to synchronous instruction with just one click and monitor student progress in real time. Live Learn sessions include:

- Student anonymity
- Text-to-speech
- A timer
- Presentation mode



Assessment Opportunities

A variety of strategically placed assessments — from summative end-of-unit assessments to performance tasks and formative opportunities — ensure teachers monitor progress and understanding at every step.



Student Experience

Imagine Learning EL Education ignites a passion for literacy through meaningful connections and complex texts. By merging content knowledge with word recognition, students develop a strong foundation for lifelong learning and compassionate contributions to the world.

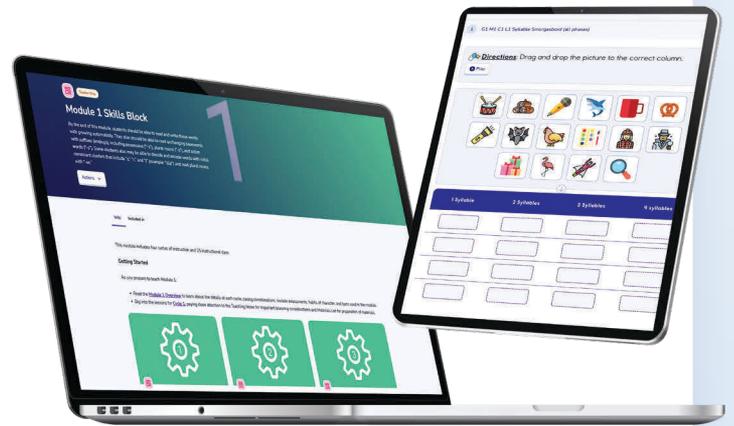
K–2 Experience

Reading is not innate; it must be taught and nurtured. Through playful exploration, movement, and creative expression, K–2 students build a foundation for lifelong learning — not just in ELA, but across all subjects.

Build Foundational Reading Skills

In K–2, students engage with structured phonics instruction grounded in reading science and backed by rigorous brain research in the Reading Foundations Skills Block.

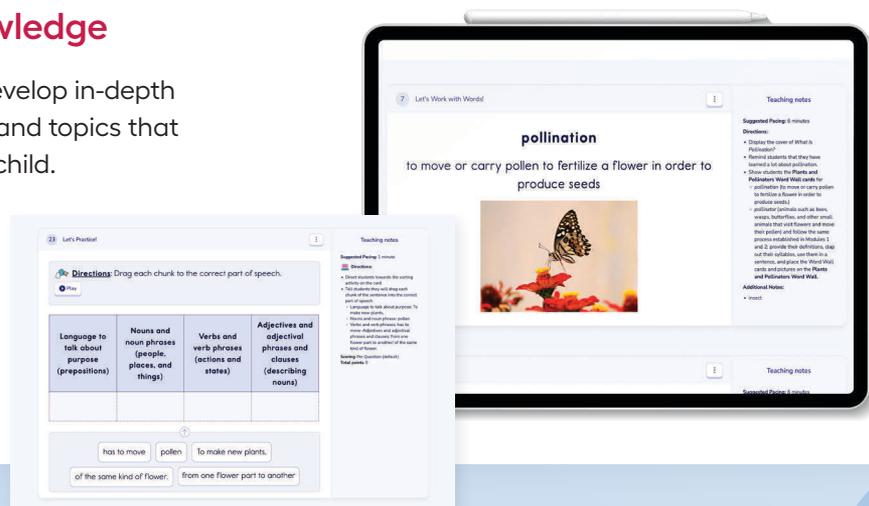
The explicit, systematic program comprehensively teaches and assesses foundational reading skills, engaging students in thoughtful practice through games, digital practice, and small group instruction.



Develop Background Knowledge

Students explore rich content and develop in-depth knowledge through module lessons and topics that are familiar and accessible to every child.

This forms the building blocks for future success and promotes the development of essential critical thinking and comprehension skills.



3–8 Experience

As students progress through the curriculum, they are immersed more and more in rigorous reading, writing, speaking, and listening practice. Rich, informative texts promote comprehension and communication skills necessary to thrive in the workforce and higher education.

Engage with the World

Students engage in authentic experiences, rich conversations, and collaborative projects that nurture empathy, critical thinking, and a global mindset.



Program Resources in Action

Through a blend of print materials, immersive digital tools, authentic literature, and effective instructional support — designed for easy access, implementation, and enhanced student engagement — Imagine Learning EL Education sets both teachers and students up for success.

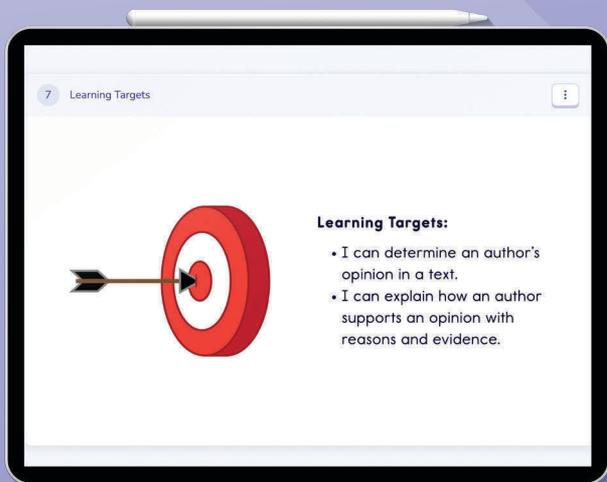
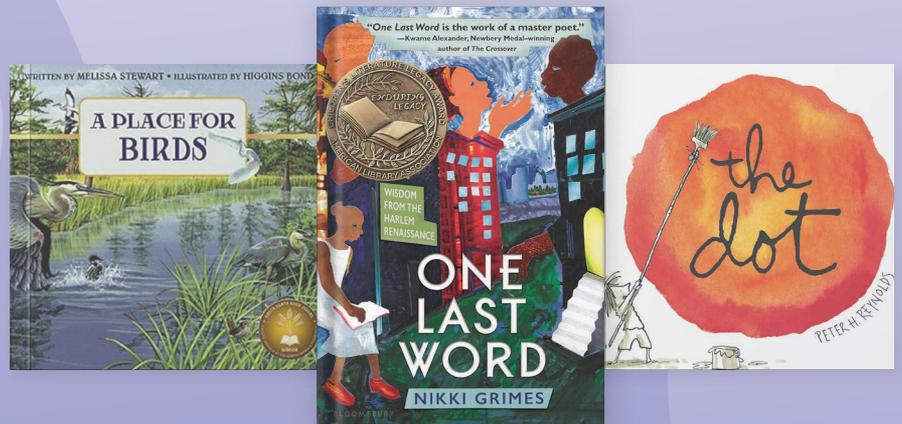


Modules

Learning kicks off with module overview videos, which introduce the module topic and outline the key lessons and concepts students will master throughout the lesson progressions.

Literature

A diverse array of engaging and complex trade books, including both fiction and nonfiction, across various genres and text types support module learning and cultivate curiosity and engaged readers.



Goal Setting and Reflection

The curriculum fosters student agency with daily goal setting and reflection. Clear learning targets guide students toward success, while regular check-ins build essential executive functioning skills.



Target-Driven Tasks

Students — either in whole groups, small groups, or individually — read from diverse fiction and nonfiction books, respond in writing and collaborative groups, and practice skills.

Authentic Projects

Students apply their learning to the real world through culminating performance tasks. Teachers facilitate students to collaborate to create high-quality products that showcase their deep understanding of content and literacy.



Support for Diverse Learners

Differentiated materials, Language Dives, and Conversation Cues provide explicit support for ELLs. Additionally, scaffolded supports are detailed in teaching notes both in print and digital.

Equity and Access

As one of the guiding principles of Imagine Learning EL Education, the program has been designed to drive equity for every student.

Access for Students with Diverse Abilities

Imagine Learning EL Education promotes an inclusive and effective learning environment by integrating principles of the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework. This means that the curriculum was designed from the outset to support all learners, an approach that cuts down on the need to adapt learning experiences.

Support for English Language Learners (ELLs)

The program is designed with comprehensive, seamlessly integrated support for ELLs — from newcomers and beginners to advanced English learners — with high-leverage practices embedded in every lesson:

Content

- Imagine Learning EL Education’s content-based approach allows ELLs to engage with compelling materials as they learn English.
- ELLs receive appropriate scaffolding through strategic grouping and levels of support.

Conversation

- Through Conversation Cues, educators promote equitable, productive conversation about content and new ideas before a writing task.
- Language Dives empower students to engage with the fundamental components of a sentence, actively discussing them and relating them to their own experiences.

Contribution

- Students are encouraged to use their home language to help navigate challenging tasks and bridge understanding.

The digital platform offers customization for educators to add their own visual supports to support in-built digital resources:

- K–2 digital vocabulary kits
- Meeting Students’ Needs teaching notes
- Digital Language Dives
- Family/caregiver letters translated to 10+ languages
- Module overview videos with close captioning in 10+ languages



“Students feel included, they feel like they are part of the story, which influences their love of reading, influences their love of storytelling and their desire to learn more.”

Akin A.,
school counselor,
AZ

Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning

Students excel in diverse, inclusive spaces, which is why texts and activities within Imagine Learning EL Education honor and celebrate students and their families’ cultures and backgrounds.

Home Connections

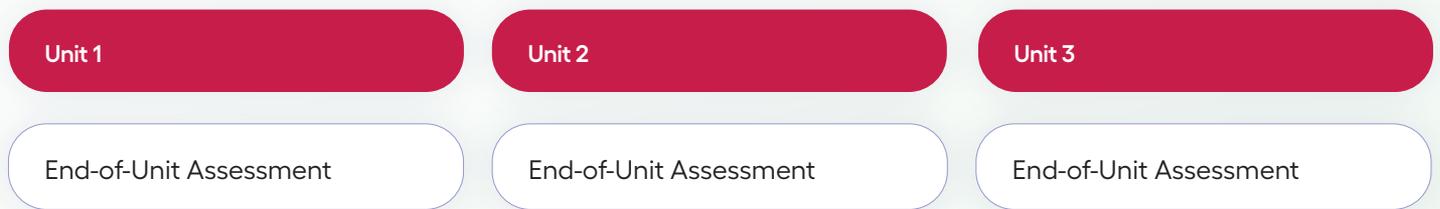
Imagine Learning EL Education welcomes families/ caregivers as partners in students’ education. Teachers can send home or assign sample letters and module overview videos that describe what students are learning in modules and how guardians can support their progress.

Assessment

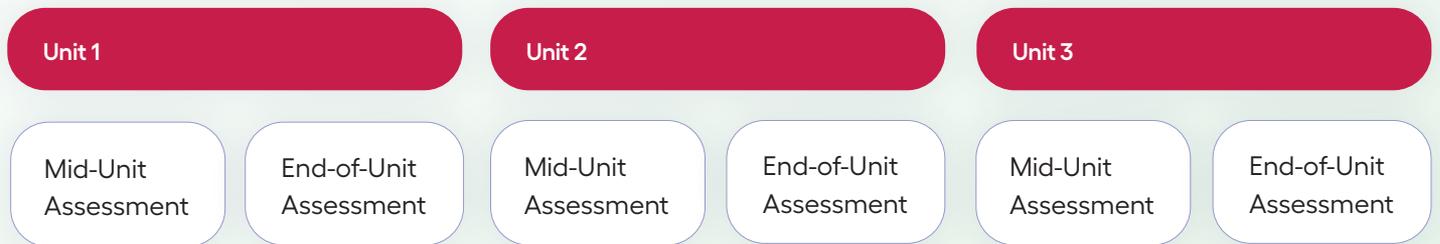
Unit-Level Assessment

Unit assessments are designed as “on demand” to demonstrate students’ independent knowledge and skills and assess students’ progress towards mastery of the reading, writing, listening, and speaking standards. These assessments are aligned with standards, curriculum-provided writing rubrics, and speaking and listening skills.

The K–2 module assessment structure is as follows:



The 3–8 module assessment structure is as follows:

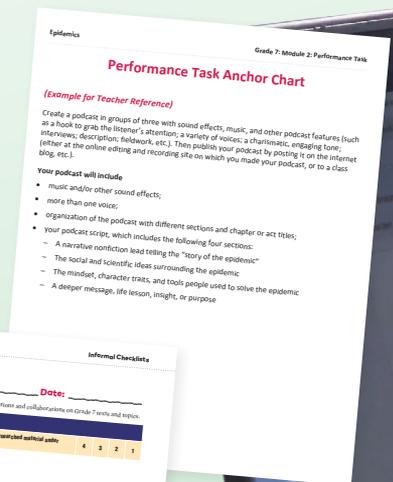


Performance Tasks

Each module culminates in a performance task, a supported project where students gain practical experience by synthesizing and transferring their knowledge and understanding from the module. The tasks are scaffolded with models, drafts, critique, and revision.

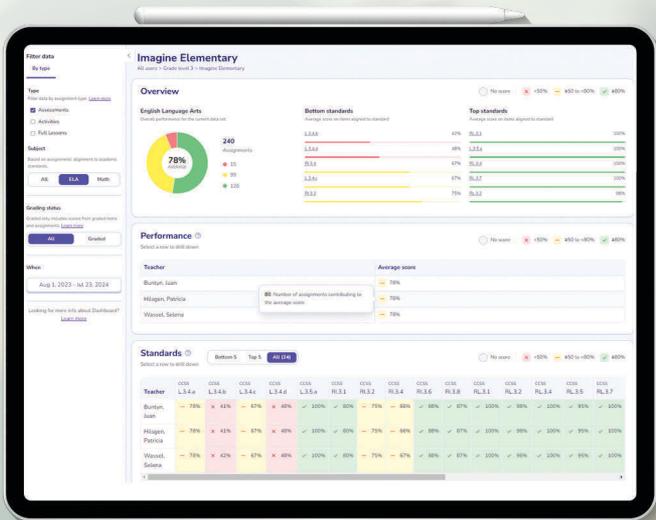
Assessment Checklists

Assessment checklists help teachers monitor progress within a module on specific standards or sub-standards. Checklists for select reading, writing, listening, and language standards are included.



Data and Reporting

The data dashboard provides a view of aggregated digital assessment and lesson use data. It enables educators to identify areas that may need support, provides quick callouts for standards that may require further investigation based on digital assessment results, and gives educators insight on individual student performance across assessments.



Program Components

Print

Teacher Guides

MODULES SKILLS BLOCK ALL BLOCK LABS

Includes grade- and module-level information necessary to start planning, including curriculum maps, module and assessment overviews, step-by-step lessons plans, and additional guidance and background information.

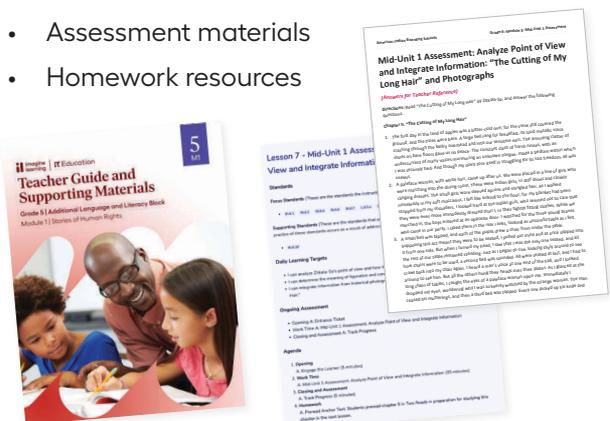


Teacher Supporting Materials

MODULES SKILLS BLOCK ALL BLOCK LABS

Includes teacher- and student-facing materials to support lessons:

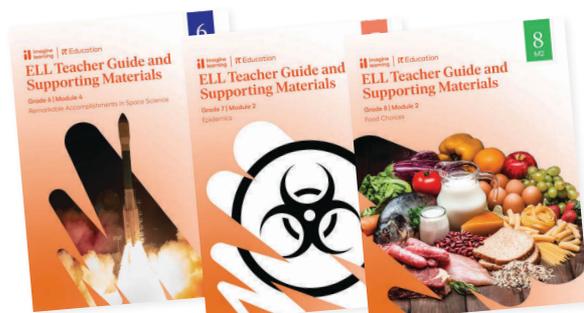
- Student-facing handouts
- Exemplars and answer keys
- Additional lesson materials
- Assessment materials
- Homework resources



ELL Teacher Guide and Supporting Materials

MODULES

Provides background information, teaching strategies, and differentiation materials to support diverse learners and ELLs.



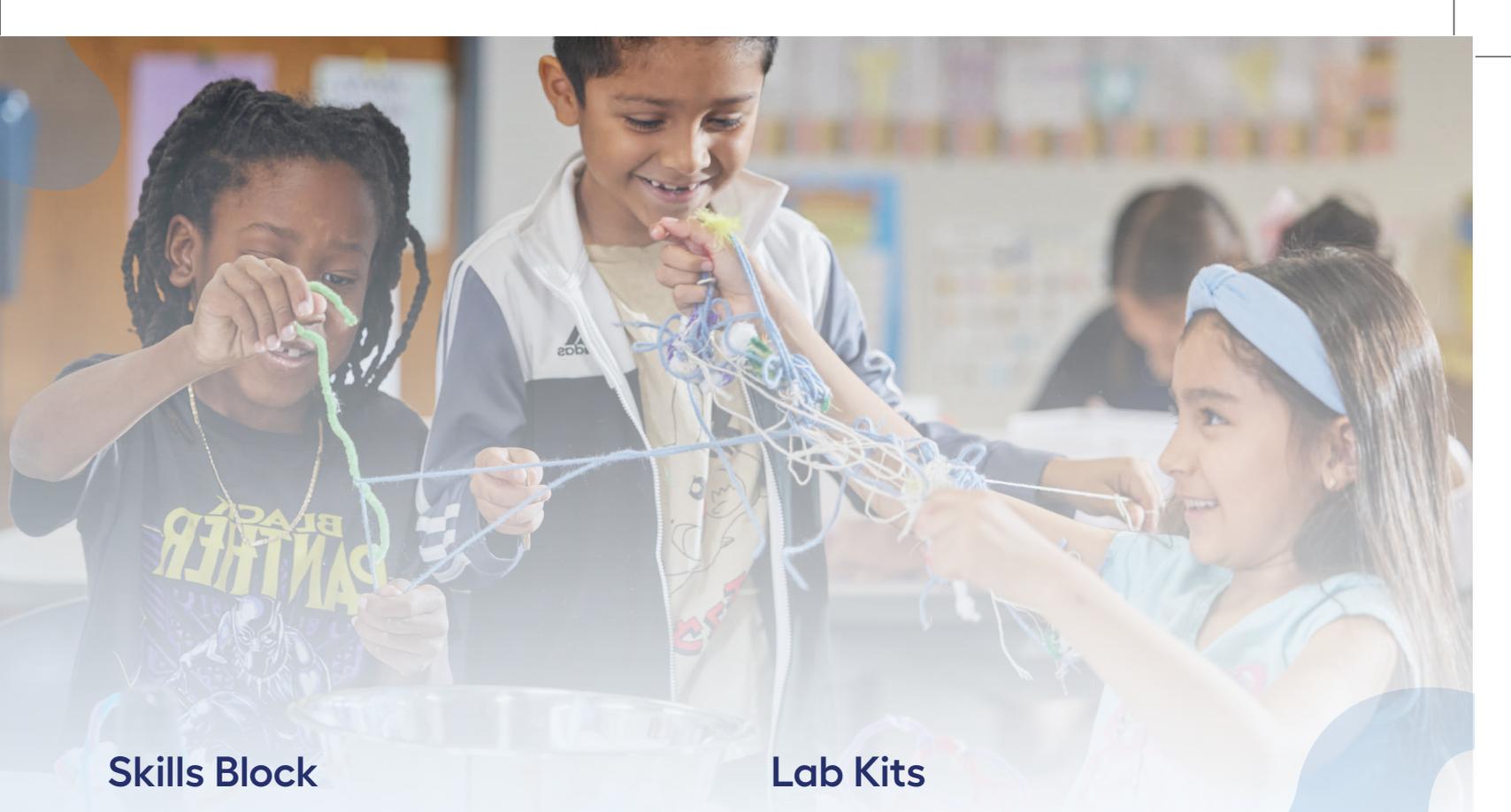
Student Workbooks

MODULES ALL BLOCK LABS

Include student-facing materials used in modules:

- Lesson handouts
- Select anchor charts
- Entrance/exit tickets
- Homework





Skills Block

In addition to the Teacher Guide and supporting materials, Skills Block instruction is supported by:

- Skills Resource Manual
- Learning Letters
- Keyword Letter Cards
- Student Decodable Readers

Digital

Imagine Learning EL Education is a digital-first program and all curriculum materials can be found on the digital platform (except trade books and physical lesson materials). The platform is also equipped with a range of tools to enhance instruction:

- For planning and instruction: a comprehensive planning hub, module overview videos, assignable digital lessons and assessments, embedded teaching notes, unit planning maps, and more
- For lesson delivery: a lesson player with editable lesson cards, Live Learn, text-to-speech, and the annotation tool
- For home connections: family/caregiver letters and module overview videos
- Data and reporting: data dashboard, performance and item analysis reports, and monitoring sheets
- Student engagement: interactive tools, engaging media, and more

Lab Kits

Includes materials needed to complete each grade level.

Professional Learning

Imagine Learning EL Education offers strategic professional learning to fully support teachers, coaches, and administrators in onboarding the program and effectively implementing it with integrity.

There are virtual and in-person options — to support the unique needs of your school or district — that guide educators as they learn how to implement the curriculum. Educators will also have support from a dedicated customer support manager, who will plan, monitor, and support curriculum implementation over the years.

Embedded opportunities are also available in the digital platform for teachers to build professional learning and engage in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).

You've never seen core like this before



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Imagine Learning is with you every step of the way. To learn more or to connect with your local account executive, go to www.imaginelearning.com/contact-us

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