# Core Program Summary

## Benchmark Education, Benchmark Adelante, 2022

### Information

**This program was approved for use in:**

* **Kindergarten**
* **First Grade**
* **Second Grade**
* **Third Grade**

**Core (Universal) Programming:** A reading program that is used to help guide both initial and differentiated instruction in the regular classroom. It supports instruction in the broad range of reading skills (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension) required to become a skilled reader. It contains teacher’s manuals with explicit lesson plans and provides reading and practice materials for students (FCRR, n.d.).

**Please access the scored rubric online to review the specific criteria and feedback for each approved core reading program.**

Rubrics are available for all instructional program reviewed from the CDE upon request. Please contact READAct@cde.state.co.us.

The Colorado Reading to Ensure Academic Development Act (READ Act), passed by the Colorado legislature in 2012, focuses on early literacy development for all students kindergarten through third grade and especially for students at risk of not reaching grade-level proficiency in reading by the end of third grade. Included in the READ Act is the requirement that the department shall create an advisory list of evidence-based or scientifically based instructional programming in reading, pursuant to C.R.S. 22-7-1209.

The main purpose of the READ Act Advisory List of Instructional Programming is to provide districts and schools with a choice of instructional programming that adequately enhances teacher quality and is a major vehicle that schools/districts can utilize to upgrade their capacity as it relates to the implementation of the evidence-based literacy practices.

### CDE Core Program Rating Summary

**Kindergarten:** Meets Expectations

**First Grade:** Meets Expectations

**Second Grade:**  Meets Expectations

**Third Grade:** Meets Expectations

**Usability:** Meets Expectations

**Review Comments:** For all grade levels, the evidence provided by the vendor to demonstrate the listening and reading comprehension does not address specific content knowledge students will learn in a clearly stated way with a vertical progression linked to standards. Units are based on content-related themes, which connect across grade levels, but are not explicitly stated or mapped based on a specific content topic or standard. Expressed as a "Unit Topic" and "Essential Question" on the grade level Scope & Sequence document.

In first through third grades, reviewers located only one decodable text for each phonics pattern.

### Vendor Information and Program Summary

 **Vendor:** Benchmark Education Company

**Publication year (or edition):** 2022

**Contact Information**

**Name:** Cristine Morris

**Role:** Sales Consultant

**Address:** 14255 Denver West Circle, #5209, Lakewood, CO 80401

**Number:** 720-965-0007

**Email:** cmorris.coedllc@gmail.com

**Website:** <https://www.benchmarkeducation.com/>

**Vendor provided summary:**

Benchmark Adelante ©2022 is a powerful, and research validated K-3 program that incorporate all components of a best-practice literacy block to support the achievement of every student. The program is designed to connect children to the world through text, building knowledge and perspectives, with explicit instruction in close reading and analysis, social emotional learning, multiple perspectives, authentic literature, and culturally responsive texts that reflect the complexity and dimensions of the world.

Benchmark Adelante ©2022 is designed to support educators in meeting the needs of all learners through systematic, evidence-based methods which offer differentiated and scaffolded instruction to promote access to grade level texts and grade level standards. Routines and procedures are key to providing scaffolding and access for all students, but special population students like Spanish learners and striving learners, especially benefit.

Each of the ten units of Benchmark Adelante ©2022 were intentionally designed to teach a cluster of standards that cut across the ELA strands across each unit. Instruction of the cluster of standards, skills and strategies spirals across the unit as they are applied to the core set of grade-level complex texts. This provides students the opportunity to transfer their learning of the standards from one text as they apply them to the next text in the unit. This spiral of instruction continues across the year as standards that are introduced in one unit are revisited in later units, giving students multiple opportunities and access points to learn the standards. All standards that are tested on state assessments are taught by the end of Unit 7.

The Science of Reading Foundational Reading-Skill Competencies of phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics and word study, fluency and high-frequency words are taught in Benchmark Adelante ©2022 through Phonics and Word Study lessons that are provided for grades K– 3. Benchmark Adelante ©2022 is informed by the Science of Reading as there are important differences in key aspects of learning to read in Spanish such as English is an opaque language whereas Spanish is a transparent language. Being a transparent language affects many aspects of phonological and phonemic awareness, phonics, and fluency. Cross-Linguistic Transfer also plays a very important role in what we do to connect English and Spanish, and we address it explicitly and systematically.

Benchmark Adelante ©2022 materials reflect the belief that equity, social-emotional development, and academic development go hand in hand and are mutually reinforcing. Instruction within Benchmark Adelante ©2022 engages each student in grade-level resources and educational rigor regardless of race, gender, ethnicity, language, disability, or family background.