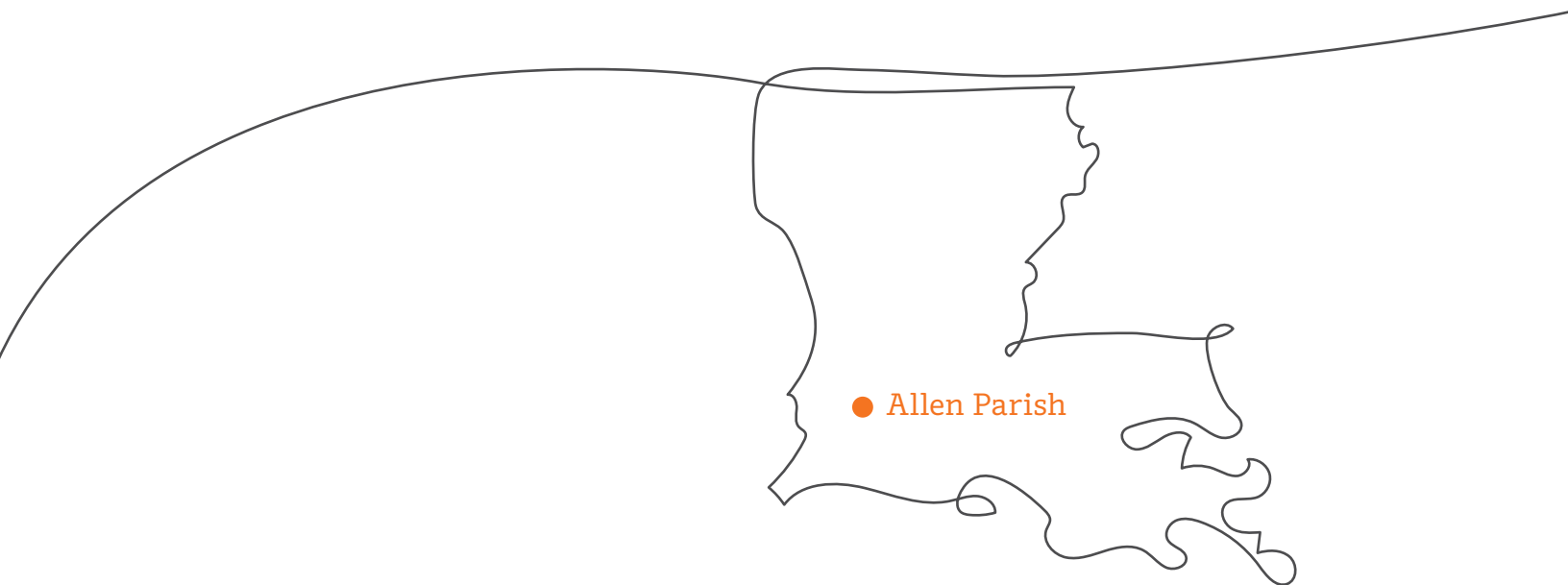


Making the shift to the Science of Reading

Louisiana's Allen Parish School District experiences impressive gains after just one year of using Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts.



Background

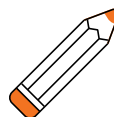
Louisiana's Allen Parish School District serves approximately 4,300 students across 11 Title I schools. The district is made up of 75% White, 21.4% Black, 1.7% Native American, 1.3% Hispanic, and 0.5% Asian students. Roughly 66% are eligible for free or reduced price lunches.



11
schools, all Title I

Challenge

With only 52% of students in Grades K–2 meeting grade-level expectations in 2022, far below their district goal of at least 80%, Allen Parish examined areas for improvement. The need for a new curriculum became evident: Teachers expressed frustration as their existing curriculum did not support their needs and failed to boost student outcomes. It also lacked alignment to the Science of Reading, which was critical to the district's beliefs and mandated by the state.



4,300
students



66%
eligible for free or
reduced price lunches

Solution

Allen Parish sought a curriculum partner that aligns to the Science of Reading, supports its teachers, and raises student achievement.

Recognizing the importance of teacher buy-in when implementing a new curriculum, Elementary Instruction Supervisor Marla Sanders championed something that teachers believed in and that would fully support teaching and learning in their classrooms.

Because Allen Parish was already using the Amplify mCLASS® literacy screener, exploring the aligned core program—Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts® (CKLA)—was a natural next step.

“The program is based on the Science of Reading and everything is integrated,” Marla Sanders said. “Amplify offered the whole package.”

Allen Parish teachers agreed. “[Amplify CKLA] hits all parts of Scarborough’s Reading Rope for language comprehension and word recognition to help create skilled readers,” said Ashley Matt, Oberlin Elementary Grade 2 teacher.

Plus, Amplify’s comprehensive digital experience would “make a world of difference, with everything accessible in one place,” said Katie Bonnette, Oakdale Elementary Grade 1 teacher.

Results

Allen Parish educators saw immediate positive effects after implementing Amplify CKLA and the Science of Reading.

Katie Bonnette experienced greater impact on student engagement. “I absolutely love the varied topics that the [Amplify CKLA] Knowledge Strand provides,” she said. “In past years, my students were bored to tears with other curriculums being super repetitive, so it is refreshing to see a curriculum that engages the students so well.”

Ashley Matt confirmed that engagement also improved in her classroom. “Students expanded their vocabulary and enjoyed the knowledge topics,” she said. “They also improved their DIBELS® scores. Several of my [Grade 2] students went from an Oral Reading Fluency of 19 words per minute to 90 or more words per minute with 95% or higher accuracy.”

After just one year of using Amplify CKLA, Allen Parish Grade 1 students met their goal of 80% proficiency, up

from 58%. The overall level of proficiency for Grades K–2 in that year rose from 52% to 66%.

“Of the curricula I have experienced in my career, [Amplify CKLA] is the best,” said Katie Bonnette. “My students are so engaged and achieving so many things. The curriculum also covers many science and social studies standards.”

In addition to impressive student gains and teacher satisfaction, Marla Sanders highlighted the support Allen Parish experienced in partnership with Amplify. “We have a dedicated Amplify contact who offers a wealth of information, answering all of our questions and updating us on CKLA news that impacts our district.”

“I highly encourage educators to adopt this program,” said Tabitha Moffett, Oakdale Elementary Grade 2 teacher. “It has greatly helped our students become better readers.”

Allen Parish School District Grade 1 student proficiency, 2022–2023

Beginning of year

58%



End of year

80%

“Several of my [Grade 2] students went from an Oral Reading Fluency of 19 words per minute to 90 or more words per minute with 95% or higher accuracy.”

Ashley Matt
Grade 2 teacher,
Oberlin Elementary

For more information about Amplify's Science of Reading-based complete early literacy suite, visit **amplify.com**.

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