

California's 2026 Follow-Up ELA Adoption May Unseat Prevalent Providers



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While California has intentionally shaken up its expectations for English language arts curriculum in the last decade, the shifts haven't unseated the most popular providers in the state, a new report finds.

Although that may start to change in 2026.

The majority of the 937 districts in the major market, which serves approximately 5.8 million K-12 students, are using one of five series for their ELA curriculum, according to [a review by the Center for Education Market Dynamics](#).

Those choices closely mirror the state's 2015 approved curriculum list. Four of the 10 most prevalent elementary programs, used by districts in the 2024-25 school year, were on the list, the report said. The same is true for seven of the 10 most prevalent middle school programs.

According to CEMD, for grades K-5 the most prevalent ELA programs in California are:

- **Wonders**, by [McGraw Hill Education](#)
- **Benchmark Advance**, by [Benchmark Education Company](#)
- **Journeys**, by [Houghton Mifflin Harcourt](#)
- **Lucy Calkins Units of Study**, by [Heinemann](#)
- **Core Knowledge Language Arts**, by [Amplify](#)