



**G R E A T  
M I N D S**

TM

# **WIT & WISDOM<sup>®</sup>**

Curiosity, Inquiry, Knowledge

Virginia Standards of Learning for  
English Correlation to  
*Wit & Wisdom*

**GRADE K** | October 2022



## ABOUT *WIT & WISDOM*

*Wit & Wisdom*® is a Kindergarten through Grade 8 English language arts (ELA) curriculum created by Great Minds. Founded in 2007, Great Minds PBC has evolved from an education advocacy start-up to a respected curriculum developer providing the highest quality materials and professional development to schools and districts nationwide. In pursuit of its goal to raise expectations for every student, Great Minds enlists educators to write curricula that use proven learning strategies to reward students' natural curiosity, build knowledge, and cultivate lifelong critical-thinking skills. Writing teams collaborate to ensure a consistent structure and vision for learning within and across all grade levels.

With *Wit & Wisdom*, every text a student explores is authentic and of the highest quality. Students use these texts at every turn—to learn, and eventually master, essential reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, and vocabulary skills. All students read and discuss grade-level texts, and the curriculum includes suggestions for supporting this learning at key moments in the lessons.

*Wit & Wisdom* is composed of four modules per grade level. Each artfully explores a specific topic to develop depth of understanding and inspire curiosity. Modules build students' knowledge of important topics in the arts, science, and social studies through the use of diverse and culturally relevant texts. The core of each module is a selection of literary works, informational texts, and visual art. Modules are made up of approximately 30 lessons that are covered in six to eight weeks. All modules integrate reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language instruction.

*Wit & Wisdom* was intentionally designed to be implemented alongside a high-quality, research-based foundational skills program therefore the majority of the foundational skills standards will fall into this category. With strategic placement of supplemental materials, students can be successful in achieving the proficiencies of the Virginia Standards of Learning for English while benefiting from the rich texts and knowledge building of *Wit & Wisdom*. For more information on *Wit & Wisdom*'s alignment to the science of reading, please see [The Science of Reading and \*Wit & Wisdom\*](#) and [Examining Scarborough's Rope: Background Knowledge](#). A detailed analysis of the alignment between the Virginia Standards of Learning for English is provided in the table on the pages that follow this introduction.

An adoption of *Wit & Wisdom* brings to your classroom:

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### HIGH RATINGS

The independent, nonprofit reviewer EdReports.org gives *Wit & Wisdom* top ratings for text quality, building knowledge, and usability. *Wit & Wisdom* received a Tier 1 designation for all grades, Kindergarten through Grade 8, from the Louisiana Department of Education.

### PROVEN RESULTS

Schools and districts nationwide are experiencing increased student engagement and growth with *Wit & Wisdom*. See their stories and data at <https://greatminds.org/research>. Data stories from districts can be found at <https://greatminds.org/case-studies>. Finally, we are proud to share *The Knowledge Map Project*, an initiative of the Institute of Educational Policy at Johns Hopkins University and Chiefs for Change. This study provided *Wit & Wisdom* with high marks, saying it contains “high-quality texts with extensive topical coverage,” and “makes especially good use of the visual arts.” Read more at <https://edpolicy.education.jhu.edu/knowledge-map/>.

### ONGOING SUPPORT

Great Minds offers *Wit & Wisdom* curriculum-specific professional development that values educators’ experiences and unique contexts. Our professional development helps teachers build their content knowledge and instructional practices to guide them in how to develop habits of inquiry in their students through rich experiences with the curriculum’s complex texts. Ongoing support includes:

#### **Introducing *Wit & Wisdom***

- *Wit & Wisdom* Blog and Online Resources Implementation Guide
- Module Zero (GK–2, G3–5, G6–8)
- *Wit & Wisdom* Preparation Protocols
- On-Demand Professional Development and Implementation Support Videos

#### **Extending *Wit & Wisdom***

- Family Tip Sheets
- Multilingual Glossary
- Volume of Reading text list
- *Wit & Wisdom* assessment resources (Standards Trackers and Question Sets)
- The Art of *Wit & Wisdom* (lessons and vocabulary relating to the curriculum’s rich artwork)

## Communication and Multimodal Literacies

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>CM.K.1</b> The student will build oral communication skills.</p>	<p>See CM.K.1a-j below</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1a</b> Listen actively and speak using agreed-upon rules for discussion.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1, 6–7, 11, 16, 25, 27, 29, 31 Grade K Module 2 Lessons 17, 20, 23, 25–26, 29–30, 32 Grade K Module 3 Lessons 1, 7, 17</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1b</b> Express ideas in complete sentences and express needs through direct requests.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 4DD, 5, 14DD, 15, 15DD, 19DD, 27DD, 28DD, 30DD, 31DD Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 1DD, 2DD, 3DD, 4–8, 10–12, 12DD, 14DD, 16, 16DD, 17, 17DD, 31–32, 32DD Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 34DD, 35DD</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1c</b> Initiate conversations.</p>	<p>GKM1 Lessons 3, 5–6, 11–12, 16, 25, 27, 29</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1d</b> Follow implicit rules for conversation, including taking turns and staying on topic.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 6, 16, 25, 27, 29, 31</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1e</b> Listen and speak in informal conversations with peers and adults.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 25, 29 Grade K, Module 2 Lesson 28</p>

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>CM.K.1f</b> Discuss various texts and topics collaboratively and with partners.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 6, 19, 29 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 25–26, 29–30, 32 Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 1, 17</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1g</b> Use voice level, phrasing, and intonation appropriate for various language situations.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lesson 20 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 2–4, 6, 32</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1h</b> Follow one- and two-step directions.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lesson 1</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1i</b> Ask how and why questions to seek help, get information, or clarify information.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1, 6 Grade K, Module 3 Lesson 1</p>
<p><b>CM.K.1j</b> Work respectfully with others.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 3, 5–6, 11–12, 16, 25, 27, 29</p>
<p><b>CM.K.2</b> The student will demonstrate growth in oral, early literacy skills.</p>	<p>See CM.K.2a-d below.</p>
<p><b>CM.K.2a</b> Listen and respond to a variety of text and media.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 19, 29 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 28, 30–32 Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 9–20, 22, 23–28, 30, 32</p>



Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>CM.K.2b</b> Participate in a variety of oral language activities including choral and echo speaking and recitation.</p>	<p>Most Grade K lessons feature oral language activities. The following lessons provide examples of choral and echo speaking and recitation. Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1, 1DD, 2, 2DD, 3, 3DD, 11, 15, 17, 20, 25–26, 27DD</p>
<p><b>CM.K.2c</b> Tell stories orally.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 22, 24, 26, 30</p>
<p><b>CM.K.2d</b> Participate in creative dramatics.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 8–9</p>

## Reading

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>R.K.3</b> The student will orally identify, segment, and blend various phonemes to develop phonological and phonemic awareness.</p>	<p>See R.K.3a-g below.</p>
<p><b>R.K.3a</b> Begin to discriminate between spoken sentences, words, and syllables.</p>	<p>General Statement Regarding Foundational Skills in <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> is designed to pair with an explicit and systematic foundational skills program. Geodes®, our accessible and information-rich books for emerging and developing readers, allow students to apply their growing decoding skills while building knowledge on topics that align with <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> modules.</p>

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>R.K.3b</b> Identify and produce words that rhyme.</p>	<p>Supplemental material is necessary to address producing rhyming words. The following lesson addresses identifying rhyming words. Grade K, Module 1 Lesson 26</p>
<p><b>R.K.3c</b> Blend and segment multisyllabic words at the syllable level.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.3d</b> Blend and segment one-syllable words into phonemes including onset and rime.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.3e</b> Identify words according to shared beginning and/or ending sounds.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.3f</b> Blend sounds to make one-syllable words.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.3g</b> Segment one-syllable words into individual phonemes.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.4</b> The student will understand how print is organized and read.</p>	<p>See R.K.4a-e below.</p>

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>R.K.4a</b> Hold print materials in the correct position.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.4b</b> Identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1, 6, 10, 17, 23–24 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 1–2</p>
<p><b>R.K.4c</b> Distinguish between print and pictures.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 8, 13–14, 15DD, 17DD, 18–20, 23, 23DD, 24DD, 25–27 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 1, 1DD, 2–4, 8, 10–11, 14–15 Grade K, Module 3 Lesson 13 Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 5–6</p>
<p><b>R.K.4d</b> Follow words from left to right and from top to bottom on a printed page.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.4e</b> Match voice with print.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.5</b> The student will demonstrate an understanding that print conveys meaning.</p>	<p>See R.K.5a-d below.</p>



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<p><b>R.K.5a</b> Identify common signs and logos.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.5b</b> Explain that printed materials provide information.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.5c</b> Read and explain own writing and drawings.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.5d</b> Read his/her name and commonly used high-frequency words.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.6</b> The student will develop an understanding of basic phonetic principles.</p>	<p>See R.K.6a-e below.</p>
<p><b>R.K.6a</b> Identify and name the capital and lowercase letters of the alphabet.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.6b</b> Match consonant, short vowel, and initial consonant digraph sounds to appropriate letters.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>R.K.6c</b> Demonstrate a speech-to-print match through accurate finger-point reading in familiar text that includes words with more than one syllable.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.6d</b> Identify initial consonant sounds in one-syllable words.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.6e</b> Identify final consonant sounds in one-syllable words.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>R.K.7</b> The student will expand vocabulary and use of word meanings.</p>	<p>See R.K.7a-h below.</p>
<p><b>R.K.7a</b> Discuss meanings of words.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 11DD, 12DD, 18DD Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 18DD, 19DD</p>
<p><b>R.K.7b</b> Increase vocabulary by listening to a variety of texts read aloud.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 11DD, 16DD, 21DD, 29DD Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 22DD</p>
<p><b>R.K.7c</b> Use vocabulary from other content areas.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 1, 1DD, 2, 4–5, 8, 11, 24, 26, 29–30, 30DD, 31DD</p>
<p><b>R.K.7d</b> Ask about words not understood.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1, 1DD, 2–3, 3DD, 4, 6, 11DD</p>

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<p><b>R.K.7e</b> Use number words.</p>	<p><i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> does not address number words</p>
<p><b>R.K.7f</b> Use nouns to identify and name people, places, and things.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lesson 11DD Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 13DD, 15DD, 17DD, 20</p>
<p><b>R.K.7g</b> Use adjectives to describe location, size, color, and shape.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 3, 4DD, 8DD, 9DD, 10DD, 17 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 11DD, 13DD, 26DD Grade K, Module 3 Lesson 2DD Grade K, Module 4 Lesson 2DD</p>
<p><b>R.K.7h</b> Use verbs to identify actions.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lesson 14DD Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 2DD, 4DD, 15DD Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 3DD, 12DD, 14DD, 15DD, 17DD, 22DD Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 3DD, 6DD, 7DD</p>
<p><b>R.K.8</b> The student will demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts</p>	<p>See R.K.8a-e below.</p>
<p><b>R.K.8a</b> Identify the role of an author and an illustrator.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 13, 17 Grade K, Module 3 Lesson 20</p>
<p><b>R.K.8b</b> Relate previous experiences to what is read.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 9, 13, 18, 18DD</p>

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>R.K.8c</b> Use pictures to make predictions.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lesson 11 Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 13, 15, 20, 24 Grade K, Module 4 Lesson 3</p>
<p><b>R.K.8d</b> Ask and answer questions about what is read.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1DD, 2–3, 3DD, 4, 13DD Grade K, Module 4 Lesson 36</p>
<p><b>R.K.8e</b> Use story elements of characters, settings, and events to retell stories sequentially using beginning, middle, and end.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 12, 17 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 19–22, 24, 24DD, 25–26, 28, 29, 29DD, 30–31 Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 12–17</p>
<p><b>R.K.9</b> The student will demonstrate comprehension of nonfiction texts.</p>	<p>See R.K.9a-c below</p>
<p><b>R.K.9a</b> Use pictures to identify topic and make predictions.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 5, 7, 9, 24, 27 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 3, 5, 8–9, 11 Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 3–10, 19–22, 24–25 Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 3–4, 6</p>
<p><b>R.K.9b</b> Identify text features specific to the topic, such as titles, headings, and pictures.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 8, 23, 23DD, 24–25, 25DD Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 3–5, 9–11, 18, 20, 24–26 Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 3–4, 8, 10, 23–24, 26, 29</p>
<p><b>R.K.9c</b> Ask and answer questions about what is read.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1, 1DD, 2–3, 3DD, 4–6, 7DD Grade K, Module 4 Lesson 36</p>

**Writing**

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>W.K.10</b> The student will print in manuscript.</p>	<p>See W.K.10a-b below.</p>
<p><b>W.K.10a</b> Print capital and lowercase letters of the alphabet independently.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 28, 31–32</p>
<p><b>W.K.10b</b> Print his/her first and last names.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>W.K.11</b> The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative and descriptive.</p>	<p>See W.K.11a-g below.</p>
<p><b>W.K.11a</b> Differentiate pictures from writing.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 2, 9–10, 13, 17DD, 18–19, 31                      Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 4–5, 26–28, 28DD, 30–32                      Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 5, 12, 16–18, 24–27                      Grade K, Module 4 Lesson 6</p>

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>W.K.11b</b> Use prewriting activities to generate ideas including drawing pictures.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 2, 10, 13, 19 Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 4–5, 26–28, 28DD, 30–32 Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 5, 9, 12, 16–18, 23–29 Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 4, 6</p>
<p><b>W.K.11c</b> Use letters to phonetically spell words that describe pictures or experiences.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 17DD, 18–19, 21–24, 25DD Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 4–5, 5DD, 6DD, 7, 8DD, 10DD, 11–12, 17, 17DD, 23, 27–28, 28DD, 31–32 Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 4–5</p>
<p><b>W.K.11d</b> Write left to right and top to bottom.</p>	<p>Wit &amp; Wisdom intentionally does not address foundational skills within their core materials. Please see the General Statement above regarding recommendations for foundational skills instruction and the use of Geodes to support critical foundational skills instruction.</p>
<p><b>W.K.11e</b> Compose simple sentences.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 23DD Grade K, Module 3 Lesson 14</p>
<p><b>W.K.11f</b> Begin each sentence with a capital letter and use ending punctuation.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 2 Lessons 11–12, 16–17, 23DD, 28, 30–31, 31DD, 32, 32DD Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 4, 5DD, 7DD, 9DD, 11, 11DD, 14–15, 18DD, 20DD, 21, 28–29, 29DD, 30DD Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 24DD, 25DD, 27DD, 29DD, 30, 30DD, 31, 32DD, 33–35</p>



Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>W.K.11g</b> Share writing with others.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 17–18, 25, 27</p>

## Research

Virginia Standards	Aligned Components of <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i>
<p><b>RS.K.12</b> The student will conduct research to answer questions or solve problems using available resources.</p>	<p>See RS.K.12a-d</p>
<p><b>RS.K.12a</b> Generate topics of interest.</p>	<p><i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> does not explicitly address generating topics of interest for research purposes in the lower elementary grades. <i>Wit &amp; Wisdom</i> addresses this standard in Grade 3.</p>
<p><b>RS.K.12b</b> Generate questions to gather information.</p>	<p>Supplemental material is necessary to thoroughly address this standard. In the following lessons, students generate questions about a text. Grade K, Module 1 Lessons 1, 6, 11, 23</p>
<p><b>RS.K.12c</b> Identify pictures, texts, or people as sources of information.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 3 Lessons 27–29</p>
<p><b>RS.K.12d</b> Find information from provided sources.</p>	<p>Grade K, Module 4 Lessons 11–15, 20, 25–27, 29–30, 32</p>