INTRODUCTION TO READTOPIA SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

Readtopia is a digital special education curriculum designed for teachers who work with late elementary, middle, high school, and transitional students with autism and other complex needs. It serves as an integrated comprehensive reading curriculum across several domains of study including ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science and Life Skills.

Integrated Thematic Units connect literacy with content area learning and life skills around central themes, which increases engagement. They integrate subject areas and skill development into a unified whole that provides the guidance and materials to help teachers fully reach students with all kinds of abilities, backgrounds, and knowledge.

Age-respectful topics and graphic design engage students at the Upper Elementary (Grades 3 through 5) and Middle School / High School special needs classrooms. Teachers have the flexibility to select any unit that meets the needs/interests of the students and aligns with the general education curriculum.

Thematic Unit Teacher Guides provide lessons in sequential order, while still allowing for flexibility to deal with daily schedules.

Leveled instructional materials give teachers the ability to cover the widest range of student needs—from non-readers to beginning readers--including students at multiple ability levels in a common learning experience. As students learning needs change, teachers can respond quickly to provide instruction at the most appropriate level to ensure success. Students will not be left behind on any given unit as they might be in traditional curricula where expectations continue to increase. This makes classroom management and planning super easy.

This chart describes the **Sequence** of skills development across Readtopia's leveled curriculum. Skills are taught throughout every unit using repetition with variety.

The **Scope** of the content included in each Readtopia unit is provided in the **Instructional Elements** documents that follow this chart.

COMMUNICATION / SPEAKING AND LISTENING

Emergent Levels 1 & 2	Transitional Levels 3 & 4	Conventional Levels 5, 6 & 7
• Use behaviors (e.g., arm movements, facial expressions, vocalizations) to communicate with others • Make choices regarding personal preferences from arrays of 2 or 3 items • Use single words, signs or symbols for a restricted range of purposes (e.g., express wants or needs) • Communicate basic ideas in context, understand that symbols can represent things • Name, label, and/or identify objects, people actions in academic contexts • Spontaneously comment • Respond to direct questions by choosing from picture and/or spoken options or communicating with single words (or phrases on a communication device) • Respond to yes/no questions about curriculum content	• Use speech, sign and/or symbols /communication device to offer extended responses to direct questions or requests • Communicate about concepts and conceptual understandings • Initiate and maintain an interaction taking two or more turns • Relate the current topic to a prior experience or prior knowledge by combining 3 or more words • Select images or other visual or tactual displays related to curricular content. • During shared reading and interactive read aloud activities, answer questions about details presented orally or through images	• Use speech, sign and/or symbols/ communication device to offer extended responses to direct questions or requests • Communicate about concepts and conceptual understandings and misunderstandings • Initiate and engage in more extended discussions about text • Ask and answer questions about curriculum content • Relate the current topic to a prior experience or prior knowledge using complete sentences • Build on others' comments by linking responses to the comments of others • Engage in collaborative discussions, following classroom speaking and listening conventions

ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS

Emergent Levels 1 & 2	Transitional Levels 3 & 4	Conventional Levels 5, 6 & 7
• Show interest in or attend to books, graphics, and images	• Identify individual words in text • Successfully identify the order to read	• Use and develop an extensive sight word vocabulary.

- Differentiate between texts and pictures during shared reading
- Recognize when text and/or books are upside down or backwards
- Demonstrate understanding of book sharing routines
- Demonstrate understanding of directionality (left-to-right; top-to-bottom)
- Demonstrate understanding of text reading process (page turning/clicking next; waiting for reading to finish on each page; commenting)
- Demonstrate understanding of concept of word (one-to-one correspondence between spoken and written word)

- text in graphic novels and other familiar text types
- Read parts of familiar text word-by-word
  - simple sentences (Noun + Verb + Noun + Noun) and early complex sentences (average sentence length, 6 to 8 words)
- Independently read predictable sentences that are repeated within a text (This story is about...)
- Use labeled and captioned pictures to support comprehension of text

- Participate in guided and/or independent reading of unfamiliar texts at a 2nd or 3rd grade reading level with comprehension
  - read longer sentences that include a variety of complex sentences (average sentence length 8 to 12 words)
- Use pictures and illustrations to support the text
- Uses intonation and expression when reading

Phonics / Morphology		
• Recognize or provide rhyming words during shared reading of familiar texts • Identify sounds in the environment and associate specific sounds with actions, objects, people, or animals during shared reading • Demonstrate understanding of the number of words in a spoken sentence by clapping, counting, vocalizing, etc. • Recognize when two or more words begin with the same sound • Correctly represent initial sounds in words when writing	• Represent initial and final sounds in words when writing and during phonics/word study instruction • Place the vowel in the correct location in words when writing and during word phonics/word study instruction • Decode words with a CVC pattern when reading • Begin to recognize that the letters chosen and the order in which they are placed makes a difference • Begin to recognize spelling patterns • Begin to use words they know to read and spell new words	• Recognize common spelling patterns • Use words they know to read and spell new words • Identify the meaning of simple idioms • Combine two words to build compound words • Select common prefixes and suffixes to build new words. Use new words correctly in sentences.

Alphabetic Principle/ Word Identification

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
• Distinguish letters from other shapes and symbols • Recognize first letter of own first name • Identify 8 or more upper or lower-case letters of the alphabet • Identify all upper- and lower-case letters of the alphabet • Identify 10 or more letter-sound relationships • Represent initial sounds in words when writing	• Identify all letter-sound relationships consonants and short vowels • Represent initial and final sounds in words when writing • Read 10 or more common sight words • Read parts of familiar text word-by-word	• Recognize an extensive number of sight words and common words • Use a variety of strategies to decode words • Knowledge of sound letter associations and willing to sound words out • Make text predictions based on language knowledge (For example: Know enough language to expect a noun or an adjective following the word "the.")

Listening & Reading Comprehension

- Participate in shared reading
- Recognize the spoken names or labels for objects, people, and actions in familiar texts
- Distinguish between the characters (who) and settings (where) in familiar texts
- Demonstrate understanding of common adjectives (big/little, color) used to describe objects, people, and actions in familiar texts
- Make simple predictions about next steps or next events in texts with a clear sequence
- Identify what comes first and next in a text
- Identify concrete details in a familiar text
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken words used to describe objects, people, and actions in texts
- Begin to understand simple Noun + Verb + Noun sentences averaging 4 to 6 words
- Use labeled pictures to support comprehension
- Usee high quality, engaging pictures to support vocabulary

- Participate in shared, interactive read alouds and/or guided reading
- Retell a text after the first shared or guided reading
- Sequence three or more events in a text after the first shared, interactive or guided reading
- Relate information from texts to own experience or prior knowledge
- Complete some Apply activities after group Anchor-Read-Apply lessons.
- Understand early complex sentences with average sentence lengths of 6 to 8 words
- Understand some higher level vocabulary
- Use labeled and captioned pictures to support comprehension
- Begin to identify facts, details, and make predictions

- Participate in guided and/or independent reading of unfamiliar text with comprehension
- Make text to self, text to text, and text to world connections
- Understand longer sentences of 8 to 12 words that include a variety of complex sentences
- Use pictures and illustrations to support text comprehension
- Build stamina to read chapter books
- Begin to make pictures in their mind about what they read
- Use details and clues to answer questions and make simple inferences

Writing

- Participate in Predictable chart writing by contributing a word to a sentence stem
- Make marks on paper or select letters from keyboard or alternate pencil when asked to write
- Write recognizable letters or select letters—not other characters—from keyboard or alternate pencil when asked to write
- Demonstrate understanding that writing conveys a message that others can read
- Generate text using letters grouped in word-like groupings with occasional real words that have not been copied
- Demonstrate concept of word by using spaces between words (words are not spelled correctly)
- Use familiar patterns (I like; I want; I went) in writing
- Participate in shared writing, to use words to describe an image from text
- Participate in shared writing to express an opinion and support the opinion by answering why.

- Generate own ideas for writing
- Produce text with spaces between words
- Write 1 or more complete sentences about curriculum-relevant topic without depending on repeated patterns (I like; I want; I went)
- With guidance and support, given a quote from text, express an opinion and support the opinion with reasons.
- With guidance and support, use words or phrases to complete a graphic organizer to describe an image from text.
- With guidance and support, given a simple sentence structure (Who? And Did What?), write a simple sentence to describe an image from text.

- Given a quote from text, write to express an opinion and support the opinion with two reasons
- Provided with an illustration from the text and a graphic organizer, write 4 sentences to describe what is happening in the image.
- Write a short answer in response to a question related to Close Reading topic

MATH

	Emergent Levels 1 & 2	Transitional Levels 3 & 4	Conventional Levels 5, 6 & 7
	Number Sense • Develop understandings of 1:1 correspondence and counting • Count and understand basic concepts such as some, none, and set • Count items using an understanding of 1:1 correspondence • Understand the number of items in a set • Using manipulatives, sort items into equal sets	**Number Sense** • Sort items into equal sets, Identify and write fractions including halves, thirds, fourths, and tenths • Recognize fractions of sets of items • Recognize fractions of area • Divide a shape or set into halves or quarters • Recognize and add fractions -- halves, thirds, fourths, and tenths	**Number Sense** • Recognize and subtract fractions with like denominators and numerators less than or equal to one • Express fraction with denominator of 100 as a decimal and model in base 10
	Numbers & Operations in Base 10 • Categorize visual symbols (pictures, shapes) into sets according to specific characteristics	**Numbers & Operations in Base 10** • Count single numbers in three groups and add	
	Numbers & Operations - Fractions • Recognize separate, set and whole • Recognize and divide sets and areas into whole and half		
	Addition • Using manipulatives, count numbers in two groups and add	**Addition** • Using manipulatives, count numbers in two groups and add single digit numbers • Add two-digit whole numbers (up to 100)	

Subtraction
- Using manipulatives, combine and separate sets and count to subtract

Subtraction
- Subtract single digit numbers
- Subtract two-digit whole numbers (within 100)

Operations & Algebraic Thinking
- Demonstrate simple AB patterns with pictures and/or manipulatives
- Complete simple patterns using pictures of objects
- Complete simple patterns using shapes that differ in one feature (e.g. color, size)

Operations & Algebraic Thinking
- Complete simple patterns using numbers
- Complete complex patterns using numbers

Time
- Recognize differences in time
- Sort/sequence activities/events by before, during and after

Time
- Use digital and analog clocks to tell time to the hour, half-hour and minute

Time
- Use digital and analog clocks to tell time to the quarter hour and minute
- Use addition to determine the total amount of time (in minutes) required
- Use subtraction to determine the total amount of time (in minutes) elapsed

Money
- Recognize money
- Identify coins/dollar
- Identify money values

Money
- Dollar up method / more or less
- Identify amount needed to purchase an item

Money
- Matching money values
- Counting/Adding on coins

Multiplication
- Sort objects into two groups
- Identify equal sets
- Count the number in each set, combine sets and count total

Multiplication
- Use repeated addition to solve problems
- Multiply whole numbers up to 5 x 5

Multiplication
- Solve two-factor multiplication problems with products up to 50 (using objects and/or calculator)
- Solve multiplication problems with products up to 100 (with or without a calculator)

Division	Division	Division
• Identify groups and subgroups	• Partition into equal groups • Use repeated subtraction to solve problems	• Apply fair share and equal share to divide • Solve division problems with divisors up to 10 and no remainder
Geometry	**Geometry**	**Geometry**
• Identify some • Match same shapes in same orientations	• Identify length and perimeter • Analyze shapes to identify common attributes • Calculate perimeter	• Match 2D and 3D shapes in same and different size and orientation • Calculate perimeter • Calculate area
Expressions & Equations	**Expressions & Equations**	**Expressions & Equations**
• Identify less • Create, compare, and combine sets • Recognize symbolic patterns and sequences • Add and subtract whole numbers up to 9	• Find unknown in addition or subtraction equation with single digit numbers • Recognize and create equivalent algebraic expression	• Identify missing variable • Identify/plot ratio • Determine unknown in a multiplication or division equation up to 5 x 5 or divisors up to 5 • Solve simple algebraic equations
Statistics & Probability	**Statistics & Probability**	**Statistics & Probability**
• Classify and order objects • Complete a bar graph/picture graph	• Complete a bar graph • Interpret bar graph • Compare bar graph and other data displays	• Label bar graph • Construct and compare bar graphs • Represent data using a tally chart

Readtopia® THEMATIC UNIT LISTING

UPPER ELEMENTARY UNITS	ANCHORED BY
A Story of Survival	The Swiss Family Robinson
Birds, Mammals, and Reptiles	The Story of Dr. Dolittle
Mysteries and Mummies	King Tut's Tomb
Values and Responsibilities	Black Beauty
MIDDLE / HIGH SCHOOL UNITS	**ANCHORED BY**
Working Together [Implementation Unit]	The Gold Bug
Age of Exploration / Copernicus	The Prince and the Pauper
American Civil War	The Red Badge of Courage
Ancient Earth	Journey to the Center of the Earth
Ancient Egypt / Roman Empire	Cleopatra: Queen of the Nile
Ancient Mayans / The Solar System	The Secret of Old Mexico
Bodies that Work	Jane Goodall and the Chimpanzees of Gombe
Building a Free Nation	Harriet Tubman: The Moses of Her People
Earth and Life Sciences	Frankenstein
Empathy, Grit, and Kindness	Anne of Green Gables
Gravity, Force, and Motion	The Tuskegee Airmen
Marine Life	20,000 Leagues Under the Sea
Middle Ages / Renaissance	Romeo and Juliet
States of Matter / Gold Rush	The Call of the Wild
The Earth's Oceans	Treasure Island
The Solar System / Weather	Huck Finn
Westward Expansion	Sacagawea: The Trip to the West
World War II	The Story of Anne Frank

We are continually adding Thematic Units to the Readtopia library.
(Updated list as of February 2021.)