

# Supporting Educators Through the Transition to the New TEKS



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As we close the chapter on one school year and look forward to beginning the next, Texas educators have one more thing to ponder. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has announced updates to the learning standards for reading and writing.

The revisions to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for grades K–8 will be implemented in the upcoming 2019–2020 school year (TEA, 2019), which may cause angst as educators seek practical ways to make the transition smoothly and ensure that all learning gaps are sealed.

Curriculum and instruction directors, principals, instructional coaches, and teachers are in search of instructional strategies and research-based resources to assist in implementing the revised English and Spanish language arts and reading TEKS, adopted by the State Board of Education (SBOE). This means that Texas educators are tasked with identifying and ensuring that resources, instructional strategies, and assessments are aligned to the new standards.

Reflect upon the following questions when embarking on the TEKS implementation planning process for the instructional program in your school or district.

Have you:

1. Reviewed a side-by-side comparison of the current and revised TEKS;
2. Examined the vertical alignment similarities and differences between the old and new TEKS;
3. Created an instructional calendar that encompasses the updated standards;
4. Designed a rigorous interim and formative assessment plan to identify student strengths and pinpoint deficits in the overlapping TEKS scheduled to be tested in 2020; and
5. Identified research-based instructional tools to help fill gaps?

## References

Texas Education Agency. (2019). *Resources for the revised English and Spanish language arts and reading TEKS*. Retrieved from [https://tea.texas.gov/academics/subject\\_areas/English\\_language\\_arts\\_and\\_reading/resources\\_for\\_the\\_revised\\_English\\_and\\_Spanish\\_language\\_arts\\_and\\_reading\\_TEKS/](https://tea.texas.gov/academics/subject_areas/English_language_arts_and_reading/resources_for_the_revised_English_and_Spanish_language_arts_and_reading_TEKS/)

**Measuring Up** is a Texas customized blended solution that offers TEKS-based print instruction as well as a digital component that delivers diagnostic/formative assessment and adaptive practice. **Measuring Up** supports teachers in the classroom, generating data to inform instruction and research-based supplemental lessons to support the teaching to close the achievement gaps. Committed to provide the most updated content, **Measuring Up** now offers new instructional worktexts for the revised reading and writing standards in both English and Spanish.

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