

HMH, in coordination with author Lorna Simmons strongly disagree with EdReports rating of *Saxon Phonics & Spelling*. For decades, *Saxon Phonics & Spelling* has proven to aid teachers in developing young readers. Efficacy studies and the research-base for the program can be found here:

<https://www.hmhco.com/programs/saxon-phonics-and-spelling#research-results>

In a blind survey sent to current program users in April, 2022, over 75% of respondents said they would recommend *Saxon* to a colleague. Between the efficacy studies and clear educator support for *Saxon*, we know that it can be used as a powerful classroom tool.

HMH put forth in our original submission that *Saxon Phonics and Spelling* is a supplemental program intended to support ELA foundational skills development. We reiterated this positioning in our counterevidence report. We are disappointed that EdReports has failed to recognize the intended implementation of *Saxon* as a supplemental solution and thus, detracting from the program's rating.

Fluency Readers are an essential instructional component of *Saxon Phonics and Spelling*, whether one chooses to use those included with the program or other materials. The findings by EdReports discount the intended use of readers as critical to the curriculum.

As a part of the EdReports review process, HMH submitted 256 pages of counter evidence, including narrative, screenshots and source materials in order to help the panel better understand classroom implementation of the program. We encourage you to review the submission and counterevidence report in its entirety.

The passion behind this response to EdReports comes from knowing that *Saxon Phonics and Spelling* has been proven to help teachers support children in developing foundational ELA skills for decades. Our goal is to encourage educators to take a closer look at the program and its proven efficacy to determine if it is the right fit for you, your teachers, and your students.

Thank you for your time and consideration.