

Open Up Resources' Publisher Response

Odell Education High School Literacy Program

Open Up Resources is grateful for the positive review awarded by EdReports for the Odell Education High School Literacy Program curriculum. We appreciate and value the evidence and insight the EdReports team has provided. We do want to respond and highlight two areas in which the curriculum may not fully align with the EdReports review philosophy.

Open Up Resources' Odell Education High School Literacy Program (HSLP) is centered around building knowledge about the world through engagement with vast, high-quality, and rich works. The Odell Education High School Literacy Program inspires creativity, builds knowledge, and enhances students' skills through student-centered and student-led analyses of robust texts and topics. The instructional units empower students to pose questions, inquire deeply, reflect, and evolve as independent thinkers and engaged participants in a learning community. Literacy is firmly rooted in texts and ideas. Students explore texts worth reading and ideas worth considering.

Building an understanding of grammar and conventions is essential to literacy development and college and career readiness. Throughout the HSLP, students are given opportunities to explore and mimic grammar, syntax, and usage in text. Grammar is examined with the goal of improving students' reading and writing skills. There is a clear relationship between syntactic or grammatical sophistication and reading comprehension; as students construct more grammatically complex sentences, their ability to read more complex grammatical sentences increases. Odell HSLP is adaptive and flexible, intentionally designed for teachers to meet their students and classrooms' unique needs and interests. Teachers choose from a variety of Development Units to use throughout the year. Teachers can use the curriculum as written, selecting lessons and activities that meet the needs of their students. The HSLP supports grammar and syntax development with a robust suite of tools and reference guides, which is not always explicit teacher instruction.

The curriculum is designed to include one Foundation Unit that begins the year, three to four Development Units, and one Application Unit that ends the year. All units present a combination of optional lessons and activities. While the lessons are designed to span 45-90 minutes, the total length depends on how many activities are included in each lesson. The number of optional lessons to core lessons does not distract core learning but allows teachers to make pacing decisions and eliminate the need to use an explicit scope and sequence. Lessons are intended to be a sequence of activities that address aligned standards cumulatively. Each lesson identifies Reading, Writing, Language, and Speaking and Listening standards; College, Career, and Civic Life (C3) Framework for Social Studies; and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).



Open Up Resources is delighted to be giving schools across the country the opportunity to benefit from Odell Education High School Literacy Program's student-centered literacy curriculum in order to build critical literacy skills and knowledge for success in life.