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| **Picture of 5 students reading****Mass Literacy: Where to Start?** |
| The [**Mass Literacy Guide**](https://www.doe.mass.edu/massliteracy/)highlights evidence-based practices for early literacy across curriculum, instruction, and leadership. Wondering where to start? Here are **six practices to prioritize** for an early literacy program based on evidence of what works, to support and cultivate the literacy talents of ALL our students in grades preK-3. |
| Daily calendar with solid fillSchedule time for a core literacy block in every grade, allocating sufficient time for all the components of the core literacy block with whole group and differentiated instruction.[***Read more about this practice***](https://www.doe.mass.edu/massliteracy/leading-mtss/scheduling-staffing-materials.html)Lightbulb with solid fillInvest in building a culturally responsive and sustaining school in which diverse students are equitably welcomed, challenged, supported, and inspired to reach their full potential.[***Read more about this practice***](https://www.doe.mass.edu/massliteracy/pathway-to-equity.html)Books with solid fillTeach literacy using evidence-based instructional practices for foundational skills, engaging with complex text, writing, and oral language. Phase out unsupported practices.[***Read more about these practices***](https://www.doe.mass.edu/massliteracy/literacy-block/)Statistics with solid fillUtilize a valid and reliable universal screening assessment three times per year to identify children who need enhanced instruction to ensure their success.[***Read more about this practice***](https://www.doe.mass.edu/massliteracy/leading-mtss/data-based-decision.html)Chat with solid fillEstablish a school Literacy Leadership Team to manage all the pieces of the school’s literacy program, including setting specific literacy goals and determining professional development needs. [***Read more about this practice***](https://www.doe.mass.edu/massliteracy/leading-mtss/leadership-team.html)Checkmark with solid fillCreate routines for data-based decision making, including protected time for all the adults who serve each group of students to review learning data and plan responsive instruction.[***Read more about this practice***](https://www.doe.mass.edu/massliteracy/leading-mtss/data-based-decision.html) |
| *High-quality curricular materials are a necessary basis of a strong K-3 literacy program. Teachers need access to high-quality core curricular materials from which to plan.* [***Visit CURATE to learn more about high-quality instructional materials***](https://www.doe.mass.edu/instruction/curate/)**.** |