Welcome, California Educators!

Benchmark Adelante is a comprehensive, integrated curriculum that was designed to support the successful implementation of the California Common Core State Standards en Español. This guide will provide you with direction on how to review the program and contains our program descriptions, a visual overview of the program components for each grade; and information on accessing our digital platform, Benchmark Universe.

As you review Benchmark Adelante, you will notice that we have carefully woven together the five key themes of the ELA/ELD Framework: meaning making, language development, effective expression, content knowledge, and foundational skills, to support the building of skills for creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, communication, and knowledge across content areas.

Benchmark Adelante addresses the needs of all learners, from gifted and talented to those working below grade level, and supports independent reading outside the classroom, with the goal of developing the capacities of all California students to be broadly literate and ready for college, career, and citizenship.

We understand that high-quality instructional materials are only one resource to help teachers instruct and all students to learn. We thank you for your time in reviewing our materials.

Sincerely,

Tom Reycraft
President
Program Guide

Table of Contents

Program Description  pages 2–7

Grades K–6 Components

Grade K Components . . . . . . . . Page 8
Grade 1 Components . . . . . . . Page 10
Grade 2 Components . . . . . . . Page 12
Grade 3 Components . . . . . . . Page 14
Grade 4 Components . . . . . . . Page 16
Grade 5 Components . . . . . . . Page 18
Grade 6 Components . . . . . . . Page 20

Benchmark Adelante Digital

pages 22–33

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Benchmark Adelante™ for Grades K–6

Benchmark Adelante ©2017 is a brand-new comprehensive Spanish Language Arts/Spanish Language Development program from Benchmark Education Company. Benchmark Adelante was designed to address the goals, context, and themes of ELA/Literacy and ELD through SLA instruction embodied in the English Language Arts/English Language Development Framework. It integrates seamlessly with the California Common Core ELA and California English Language Development Standards and addresses all of the augmentations and modifications outlined in the California Common Core en Español.

The program embraces the California ELA Framework's vision and commitment to bilingualism, biliteracy, and biculturalism, providing not only English language development resources for English Learners but also Spanish language development resources for Spanish Learners. Through contrastive analysis and explicit transfer lessons, students use their strengths in their first language to support their second language acquisition.

Meaning Making

Complex, high-quality texts are at the heart of each three-week unit in Benchmark Adelante. The program recognizes that readers orchestrate many strategies as they listen to, discuss, read, and write texts. Therefore, the strategies taught in any given unit are based on the meaning-making demands of the texts in that unit. In Week 1, students encounter “Short Reads” that prepare them for “Extended Reads” in Weeks 2 and 3.

A careful backward-mapping process was applied in the creation of lessons that promote meaning-making strategies in Week 1 and close reading opportunities in Weeks 2 and 3:

1. In Weeks 2 and 3 of each unit, students read and reread high-quality, complex Extended Reads to find textual evidence and answer a series of text-dependent questions, applying the strategies necessary to support meaning making. These Extended Reads were selected first in our program development.

2. The Extended Reads were analyzed and ranked based on the four dimensions of qualitative text complexity (purpose or levels of meaning, language conventionality and clarity, structure, knowledge demand) to determine potential challenges and opportunities for instruction.

3. Based on this analysis, Week 1 strategy and skill lessons to unlock potential barriers to the Extended Reads were identified.

4. Finally, appropriate Short Reads were selected as the context of Week 1 strategy lessons.

Benchmark Adelante embodies the five themes of the California Framework through its rigorous, integrated reading, writing, speaking, and listening instruction. To meet the needs of districts implementing a reading collaborative, balanced approach, or workshop model for Spanish literacy instruction, enables all students to master rigorous learning goals with the support of meaningful differentiated instruction and responsive teaching based on ongoing assessments.

Benchmark Adelante is a parallel program to Benchmark Advance for English Language Arts/English Language Development, but it is not a direct translation. At every grade level, the program includes authentic, engaging literature by recognized, Spanish-speaking authors from all over the Spanish-speaking world.
Additional backward mapping drove the design of the program’s designated English and Spanish language development instruction. While the program’s instruction places the same rigorous cognitive demands on English and Spanish language learners as it does on non-English and Spanish Learners, it provides additional scaffolds and explicit language development to support all Learners’ access to meaning making.

**ONE UNIT**

**Model and Guide**

**Week 1**

*Resolver problemas*

*Extended texts for building knowledge and making meaning*

**Apply and Extend**

**Week 2**

*El gobierno estatal y sus ciudadanos*

**Week 3**

*La carretera*

*Short reads for accessing complex text*

*Every text in a unit focuses on a single topic.*
The Benchmark Adelante program architecture provides a cohesive K–6 framework for the development of content knowledge over time. All SLA and SLD instruction occurs in the context of 10 content-focused strands that increase in complexity and build knowledge over time from Grade K to Grade 6. At each grade level, students revisit these strands through the lens of a grade-level topic and an Essential Question that builds from prior years of instruction and supports grade-level standards and expectations. Each Essential Question, crafted to support the tenets of Understanding by Design, promotes thinking about a topic or concept from many perspectives simultaneously. Engaging, multi-genre reading selections, complex read-alouds, decodable texts, differentiated leveled texts, and reader’s theater experiences in each three-week unit immerse students deeply in the topic, expanding their academic knowledge and vocabulary as they build Spanish literacy and language skills.

### K–6 Vertical Alignment of Unit Topics and Essential Questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Knowledge Strand</th>
<th>K</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Government and Citizenship</td>
<td>Why do we have rules?</td>
<td>Being a Good Community Member</td>
<td>Government at Work</td>
<td>Government for the People</td>
<td>Government in Action</td>
<td>The U.S. Constitution: Then and Now</td>
<td>Beyond Democracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Character</td>
<td>Every story has characters</td>
<td>Many Kinds of Characters</td>
<td>Characters Facing Challenges</td>
<td>Ways Characters Shape Stories</td>
<td>Characters’ Actions and Reactions</td>
<td>Developing Characters’ Relationships</td>
<td>Characters at Crossroads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Life Science</td>
<td>Plants and Animals Have Needs</td>
<td>Plants and Animals Grow and Change</td>
<td>Plants and Animals in Their Habitats</td>
<td>Animal Adaptations</td>
<td>Observing Nature</td>
<td>Cultivating Natural Resources</td>
<td>Relationships in Nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Point of View</td>
<td>Writers Tell Many Stories</td>
<td>Storie Have a Narrator</td>
<td>Many Characters, Many Points of View</td>
<td>Comparing Points of View</td>
<td>Understanding Different Points of View</td>
<td>Recognizing Author’s Point of View</td>
<td>The Reader’s Perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Technology and Society</td>
<td>Technology at Home and School</td>
<td>Technology at Work</td>
<td>Solving Problems Through Technology</td>
<td>Advancements in Technology</td>
<td>Technology for a Greener Future</td>
<td>Technology’s Impact on Society</td>
<td>Technology in the 21st Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Theme</td>
<td>Storie Have a Message</td>
<td>Storie Tell Many Lessons</td>
<td>Tales to Live By</td>
<td>Making Decisions</td>
<td>Confronting Challenges</td>
<td>Up Against the Wild</td>
<td>Legendary Journeys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>History and Culture</td>
<td>Holidays and Celebrations</td>
<td>Past, Present, and Future</td>
<td>Investigating the Past</td>
<td>Communities Then and Now</td>
<td>Developing a Nation</td>
<td>Civil War Era</td>
<td>Achievements of Ancient Cultures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Earth Science</td>
<td>Weather and Seasons</td>
<td>Observing the Sky</td>
<td>Wind and Water Change Earth</td>
<td>The Solar System</td>
<td>Earth Changes</td>
<td>Water: Fact and Fiction</td>
<td>Exploring Earth’s Structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Meeting Our Needs and Wants</td>
<td>Why do we make choices?</td>
<td>Buyers and Sellers</td>
<td>Spending Time and Money</td>
<td>Resources and Their Impact</td>
<td>The Economic Development of Cities</td>
<td>Economic Expansion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Physical Science</td>
<td>Forces and Motion</td>
<td>Exploring Sound and Light</td>
<td>States of Matter</td>
<td>Transforming Matter</td>
<td>The Power of Electricity</td>
<td>Physics and Invention</td>
<td>Understanding Our Energy Resources</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Foundational Skills

*Benchmark Adelante* reflects the California framework’s emphasis on foundational literacy skills. Throughout the literacy block, the four key foundational areas of print concepts, phonological awareness, phonics and word recognition, and fluency are integrated into the meaningful context of the unit. Foundational skills screeners and quick-check assessments help teachers formatively assess students’ needs and track their progress.

**Print Concepts**

Daily shared reading and shared writing in Grades K–1 are the primary contexts in which print concepts are modeled and practiced with the whole class. Engaging rhymes, poems, stories, and short informational text connected to the unit topic provide the context for teachers to model print concepts. As students participate in shared writing activities each day, they begin to understand how writers also use print concepts. Intervention lessons are also provided.

**Phonological Awareness**

Explicit, systematic phonological and phonemic awareness instruction occurs daily during the phonics components of the literacy block. This explicit instruction is reinforced by the daily shared reading experiences with rich poems and rhymes. Intervention lessons are also provided.

**Phonics and Word Recognition**

Explicit, systematic Spanish phonics and high-frequency word instruction occurs daily in Grades K–2. Students have hands-on tools to support their learning, and they read both fiction and nonfiction decodable texts to develop automaticity with new sound-spellings and sight words. *Benchmark Adelante* decodable texts support each unit topic.

In Grades 3–6, two explicit word study lessons per week continue students’ word analysis skills, and support vocabulary and language development. Instruction is always grounded in the core texts and topics.

**Fluency Development**

Fluency development begins in Kindergarten and continues throughout the program, supporting students to read with accuracy, at an appropriate rate, and with expression. The chart below summarizes the fluency-building modeling, instruction, and practice opportunities built into *Benchmark Adelante*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Fluency</th>
<th>Instruction and Support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read-Aloud Handbooks</td>
<td>K–6</td>
<td>Students listen to fluent, expressive readings of poems, myths, folktales, stories, biographies, speeches, interviews, and other genre texts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shared Readings</td>
<td>K–2</td>
<td>Each week, teachers model and students practice on a specific fluency skill using a familiar text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decodable texts</td>
<td>K–6</td>
<td>Decodable reading supports students to gain automaticity with sight words and improve their reading rate and accuracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reader’s Theater</td>
<td>K–6</td>
<td>Reader’s Theater places repeated oral reading in a meaningful context as small groups rehearse and then perform in front of peers, teachers, or parents. Multi-leveled scripts allow heterogeneous groups of students to practice fluency together.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intervention Lessons</td>
<td>K–6</td>
<td>Fluency lessons for K, 1, 2, 3, and 4–6 target rate, accuracy, prosody and self-correction strategies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interactive E-Books</td>
<td>K–6</td>
<td>The audio-highlighted function of the <em>Benchmark Adelante</em> e-book collection allows all students to listen and read along with texts to build fluency and comprehension together.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Benchmark Adelante also provides Spanish language development resources to build the Spanish language skills of Spanish Learners in a biliteracy or dual language learning environment. Spanish language development lessons are designed focusing on language development standards in ways that build into and from Spanish core content instruction. Observation rubrics in Spanish for the three modes of communication—collaborative, interpretive, and productive—serve as ongoing tools to help teachers monitor student progress and make instructional decisions.

Lessons for Grades K–1 provide support for accessing Spanish core lesson complex text through enhanced visual support and scaffolded instructional strategies for unpacking meaning, deconstructing text, and learning vocabulary. SLD lessons support Spanish Learners in making informed choices on how to use language appropriately through engaging activities that demonstrate how the Spanish language works.

Lessons for Grades 2–6 focus on written production and oral language expression across content areas. SLD lessons support students in making purposeful and effective choices about how to use language appropriately based on discipline, topic, purpose, audience, and task. Students learn Spanish grammar and syntax in context by structuring cohesive texts and expanding or condensing ideas orally and in writing.

**Cross Linguistic / Two Way Transfer**

Benchmark Adelante recognizes current research by affirming the use of primary language (English to Spanish, Spanish to English) to promote second language acquisition. Language Learners can draw upon their primary language, literacy skills, and content knowledge developed in their primary language to inform language development in an additional language.

Benchmark Adelante supports the California ELA/ELD Framework position that cross-linguistic transfer should be approached intentionally and strategically. Cross-linguistic transfer lessons are standards aligned and correlated to the scope and sequence of both programs, and provide direct and explicit instruction of transfer and non-transfer skills. Students are guided in cross-linguistic transfer analysis and encouraged to draw upon the literacy and language skills they already possess to promote biliteracy development. Most importantly, transfer lessons elicit metalinguistic awareness that enables students to understand the similarities and differences between their primary language and their new language and to self-monitor and analyze misconceptions as students engage in oral and written production.

In addition, the program provides both Spanish-to-English and English-to-Spanish contrastive analysis charts and transfer support embedded in core lessons to help teachers recognize the distinctions between the Spanish and English languages.

**Designated English Language Development**

Designated English language development components are provided for a protected instructional time. In Benchmark Advance, all ELD instruction focuses on language development standards in ways that build into and from content instruction. English Learners do not read adapted texts. Instead they read shorter sections of the core complex text with enhanced visual support, and they unpack meaning as they deconstruct key sections to learn how English grammar and syntax work. All lessons serve as a preview or review of core instruction. Observation rubrics for the three modes of communication—collaborative, interpretive, and productive—serve as ongoing tools to help teachers monitor student progress and make instructional decisions.
Effective Expression

Effective Oral Expression
Strong speaking skills are essential for college and career readiness, and they are a key instructional focus in Benchmark Adelante. Structured academic conversations take place as students analyze texts, build ideas around the Essential Question, compare and contrast texts, and state and support opinions. A framework for collaborative conversation and hands-on student tools for academic talk have been provided with input from contributing author Jeff Zwiers, senior researcher in the Stanford University Graduate School of Education. These tools include linguistic frames students may use to adapt and make language choices as they create, clarify, fortify, and evaluate ideas.

Effective Written Expression
A carefully scaffolded approach to writing instruction supports the California framework’s goal of ensuring that all students graduate from high school with the ability to develop opinions and arguments, informative/explanatory texts, and narratives as appropriate to the tasks and purposes they are given.

In Grades K–1, students participate in daily shared writing experiences during which teachers model how students think as writers, support ideas with text evidence, and orchestrate their knowledge of print concepts, sound-spelling correspondences, vocabulary and Spanish language conventions to produce coherent narrative, informative, and opinion texts. During independent time, students practice these writing skills as they produce written artifacts across a developmental continuum.

In Grades 2–6, daily writing mini-lessons support students’ independent writing based on the writing-to-source or research-to-write prompts built into each unit. These mini-lessons explicitly show students how to:

- Analyze a prompt by deconstructing its language;
- Reread to find text evidence to support a topic, opinion, or thesis;
- Plan a well-structured text;
- Draft key sections of text, such as an introduction, a story event, or a conclusion;
- Revise to improve text structure, strengthen the connection between ideas and evidence, and choose words and phrases effectively;
- Edit spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

A 21st-Century Program
Benchmark Adelante is a forward-thinking program that reflects the 21st-century vision of the California framework. A state of the art digital portal provides access to online planning tools, interactive, customizable e-books built for annotation and accessible on any device, weekly teacher presentations, online assessments that prepare students for tech-enabled and tech-enhanced SBAC tests, and reporting features that enable teachers to identify and respond to the learning needs of every student.
Grado 1 Digital & Print Components

**Whole Group**

- **e-Teacher’s Resource System**
  - Vol. 1: Units 1 & 2
  - Vol. 2: Units 3 & 4
  - Vol. 3: Units 5 & 6
  - Vol. 4: Units 7 & 8
  - Vol. 5: Units 9 & 10

- **e-Shared Readings**
  - Vol. 1 Big Book: Units 1-5
  - Vol. 2 Big Book: Units 6-10

- **e-Read-Aloud**
  - My Shared Readings: Vol. 1
  - Big Book: Units 7-10

- **e-Review and Routines**
  - Our Family Stories: Big Book

- **e-“Extended Read” Big Books**
  - Unit 1
  - Unit 2
  - Unit 3
  - Unit 4
  - Unit 5
  - Unit 6
  - Unit 7

- **Weekly Presentations**

- **Standards Flip Book**

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**e-Phonics Components**

- Decodable Readers and Lap Books
  - Unit 1: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 2: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 3: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 4: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 5: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 6: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 7: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 8: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 9: Decodable Lap Book
  - Unit 10: Decodable Lap Book

- **e-Phonics Resources**
  - Letter Card Sheets
  - High-Frequency Word Card Sheets
  - Sound-Spelling Cards
  - WORK MATS
  - Picture Cards
  - Phonics & High-Frequency Word Activity Book

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**e-Assessment**

- Weekly and Unit Assessments
- Interim Assessments
- Foundational Skills Assessments
- Informal Assessments
- Assessment Reporting Platform

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**e-Designated ELD**

- English Language Development Assessment
- Teacher’s Resource System
- Texts for English Language Development
- Think-Speak-Listen Bookmarks

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**e-Intervention**

- Fluency
- Phonics Recognition
- Phonological Awareness
- Print Concepts
- Language Mini-Lesson Handbook
120 Leveled Texts

Unit 1

Unit 2

Unit 3

Unit 4

Unit 5

Unit 6

Unit 7

Unit 8

Unit 9

Unit 10

120 Teacher’s Guides
(1 per text)
120 Test Evidence Question Cards
(1 per text)

Reader’s Theater

Unit 1

Unit 2

Unit 3

Unit 4

Unit 5

Unit 6

Unit 7

Unit 8

Unit 9

Unit 10

Reader’s Theater Handbook
Small Group

70 Leveled Texts

Unit 1
Unit 2
Unit 3
Unit 4
Unit 5
Unit 6
Unit 7
Unit 8
Unit 9
Unit 10

Reader's Theater

Unit 1
Unit 2
Unit 3
Unit 4
Unit 5
Unit 6
Unit 7
Unit 8
Unit 9
Unit 10

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Grado 4 Digital & Print Components

Teacher's Resource System

Vol. 1 Unit 1 & 2
Vol. 2 Unit 3 & 4
Vol. 3 Unit 5 & 6
Vol. 4 Unit 7 & 8
Vol. 5 Unit 9 & 10

Read-Aloud

Guía de lecturas en voz alta
Read-Aloud Handbook

Texts for Close Reading

El gobierno en acción
Unit 1

Observar la naturaleza
Unit 3

Técnicas de futuros diferentes
Unit 5

Hacer frente a los retos
Unit 6

Desarrollar la creatividad
Unit 7

Cambios terrestres
Unit 8

Los recursos y el impacto
Unit 9

El poder de la electricidad
Unit 10

Unit Introduction Videos
Weekly Presentations
Standards Flip Book

Assessment

Weekly and Unit Assessments
Interim Assessments
Foundational Skills Assessments
Informal Assessments
Assessment Reporting Platform

Intervention

Fluency
Phonics and Word Recognition
Sound-Spelling Cards

Designated ELD

English Language Development Assessment
English Language Development Teacher's Resource System
English Language Development
Think-Speak-Listen Flip Books
Advancing Foundational Skills for English Learners

Writing and Language Handbook
Mentor Text

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Alignment to Standards
Correlations
Program Research

Program Organization
Skills Matrices
Selection Lists
Balance of Instructional Time
Progression of Text Complexity
Pre-Decodable and Decodable Text Guide

Instructional Planning and Teacher Support
Combination Classes Support
Managing Your Independent Reading Program

Parent Support
Home/School Connection

e 60 Leveled Texts
Unit 1
Unit 2
Unit 3
Unit 4
Unit 5
Unit 6
Unit 7
Unit 8
Unit 9
Unit 10

Unit 4: Novel Guide

60 Teacher's Guides (1 per test)
60 Text Evidence Question Cards (1 per test)

e Reader's Theater
Unit 1
Unit 2
Unit 3
Unit 4
Unit 5
Unit 6
Unit 7
Unit 8
Unit 9
Unit 10

Reader's Theater Handbook

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Grado 5 Digital & Print Components

**Whole Group**

**Teacher’s Resource System**
- **Vol. 1** Units 1 & 2
- **Vol. 2** Units 3 & 4
- **Vol. 3** Units 5 & 6
- **Vol. 4** Units 7 & 8
- **Vol. 5** Units 9 & 10

**Read-Aloud**
- **GUIDA DE LEITURAS EN VÁR ALTA**
- **Read-Aloud Handbook**

**Texts for Close Reading**
- **Unit 1**
- **Unit 2**
- **Unit 3**
- **Unit 4**
- **Unit 5**
- **Unit 6**
- **Unit 7**
- **Unit 8**
- **Unit 9**

**Unit Introduction Videos**
- **Weekly Presentations**
- **Standards Flip Book**

**Assessment**
- **Weekly and Unit Assessments**
- **Interim Assessments**
- **Foundational Skills Assessments**
- **Informal Assessments**
- **Assessment Reporting Platform**

**Intervention**
- **Fluency**
- **Phonics and Word Recognition**
- **Sound-Spelling Cards**

**Designated ELD**
- **English Language Development Assessment**
- **English Language Development Teacher’s Resource System**
- **Texts for English Language Development**
- **Think-Speak-Listen Flip Book**
- **Advancing Foundational Skills for English Learners**

**Handbook**

18 Benchmark Adelante • Program Guide • ©2017 Benchmark Education Company, LLC
Program Support

Alignment to Standards
- Correlations
- Program Research

Program Organization
- Skills Matrices
- Selection Lists
- Balance of Instructional Time
- Progression of Text Complexity
- Pre-Decodable and Decodable Text Guide

Instructional Planning and Teacher Support
- Combination Classes Support
- Managing Your Independent Reading Program

Parent Support
- Home/School Connection

Small Group

e 60 Leveled Texts

Unit 1

Unit 2

Unit 3

Unit 4

Unit 5

Unit 6

Unit 7

Unit 8

Unit 9

Unit 10

Unit 6 Novel Guide

60 Teacher's Guides (1 per 6-pk)

60 Text Evidence Question Cards (1 per 6-pk)

Reader’s Theater

Unit 1

Unit 2

Unit 3

Unit 5

Unit 4

Unit 5

Unit 6

Unit 7

Unit 8

Unit 9

Unit 10

Reader’s Theater Handbook

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