

ALIGNMENT GUIDE



The purpose of Title I, Part A – Improving Basic Programs Operated by Local Education Agencies is to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments. Schools receiving Title I funds must develop a plan to improve teaching and learning.

System 44® is a proven foundational reading program designed to place the most challenged readers in Grades 3–12 on the path to college and career. *System 44* meets the guidelines to support a Title I program.

| Title I Components | <i>System 44</i> |
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| <p>Provide opportunities for all students to meet grade-level proficiency, particularly in the areas of math, reading/language arts, and science</p> | <p>System 44 combines the best thinking on research-based phonics instruction for older students with the power of adaptive technology and age-appropriate, supportive fiction and nonfiction text. An explicit, personalized learning progression engages students in reading, writing, and language, as well as in speaking and listening. Educator Dashboards deliver unparalleled access to critical student performance and implementation data while the <i>Groupinator</i>® simplifies differentiated instruction.</p> <p>READING</p> <p><i>System 44</i> gives students access to multiple text types, allowing them to develop word knowledge across a range of contexts. The software is 100% nonfiction and provides opportunities for students to connect with text that is relevant to their content-area classes, including science, social studies, math, and art. The <i>44Book</i> includes eight modules of nonfiction readings that cover a broad range of genres and text types, including content from Science, Social Studies, and Life Skills. Each <i>44Book</i> Module includes a fiction and nonfiction <i>Stretch</i> text, exposing students to thought-provoking, grade-level text. Students are encouraged to find the key idea of the text and respond both orally and in writing to text-based questions. The <i>System 44</i> Library includes a range of high-interest, age-appropriate Paperbacks, Audiobooks, and <i>eBooks</i>, ranging from a Lexile® measure of 100L to 450L. Additionally, the <i>System 44 eBook</i> Library recommends titles “To Read” and allows students to search by Lexile, author, and genre.</p> <p>WRITING</p> <p><i>System 44</i> scaffolds instruction and practice in argument writing. The <i>44Book</i> builds competence with evidence-based writing, while the Student Software develops fluency in summary writing. In the <i>44Book</i>, students write evidence-based responses about what they are reading. Each module includes two writing tasks focused around the writing skills at the heart of rigorous state standards—informational and argument writing. As students progress through the <i>44Book</i>, writing scaffolds decrease. The writing component of the <i>System 44</i> software provides students with independent practice in writing summaries tied to content in the <i>Success</i> passage, helping students build comprehension and writing fluency. Writing prompts and scaffolds, such as sentence frames, echo those tools students encounter through teacher-mediated practice in the <i>44Book</i>, which helps students increase competence and confidence in writing.</p> <p>LANGUAGE</p> <p>The <i>44Book</i> helps students meet grade-level expectations by asking them to apply rigorous comprehension and higher order thinking skills such as synthesis, analysis, and evaluation as they read. The <i>44Book</i> exposes students to higher-level, content-rich texts while scaffolding close reading and</p> |

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| | <p>comprehension through text-based questions. The text-based questions that accompany each text require students to think carefully about what they are reading and find evidence from the text to support their response. <i>Success Zone</i> passages on the software require students to evaluate texts and their meaning. Additionally, the software helps students to unlock multi-syllabic words through word analysis activities.</p> <p>SPEAKING & LISTENING</p> <p><i>System 44</i> includes systematic phonics instruction and word analysis strategies. The <i>Word Zone</i> develops fluent decoding of words through modeling, individualized blending practice, and explicit instruction on common syllable types and word parts. The <i>Fluency Zone</i> presents reading tasks that promote skills transfer and require students to read and think about the meaning of text. Instructional routines provide support for practicing correct phrasing, speed, and expression. Audio recordings accompany every paperback to promote listening comprehension. Students engage in academic discussion one-on-one with both the teacher and other students during small-group instruction, developing their oral language skills that they can use to communicate across the content areas. Additionally, the <i>Smart Zone</i> builds academic vocabulary through explicit instruction.</p> |
| <p>Use of academic assessments in order to provide information on, and to improve, the achievement of individual students and the overall instructional program</p> | <p>Ensuring students are placed at the proper level is critical, which is why <i>System 44</i> includes two computer-based assessments that are reliable and valid. Both the HMH <i>Phonics Inventory™</i> and HMH <i>Reading Inventory®</i> can be used for placement and progress monitoring.</p> <p><i>Phonics Inventory</i> is an effective screening tool designed to determine if the root cause of reading difficulty is decoding. Students who score around or below the 25th percentile on the <i>Reading Inventory</i>, who in the judgment of an educator have decoding issues, should be further assessed with <i>Phonics Inventory</i>.</p> <p>Based on the students' score, <i>Phonics Inventory</i> generates three possible prescriptions for the student:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student requires instruction in phonemic awareness and basic decoding instruction and should be placed in the beginning of <i>System 44</i>. 2. The student requires phonics and decoding instruction and should be placed in <i>System 44</i>; however, the student can skip the most foundational topics. 3. The student can decode adequately and needs an intervention that focuses on reading comprehension, such as <i>READ 180®</i>. <p><i>Reading Inventory</i> is used to determine a student's Lexile measure, based on the Lexile Framework for Reading. <i>Reading Inventory</i> also determines the appropriate instructional level in the <i>System 44</i> software for each student. After placing students at the correct level, <i>Reading Inventory</i> is used to monitor progress in reading comprehension development. In addition, as students work independently on the computer, the <i>System 44</i> software is automatically and continuously collecting student performance data, which feeds multiple reports that teachers use to inform small-group instruction.</p> <p>The Teacher and Leadership Dashboards provide easy access to data from these ongoing assessments, allowing teachers and administrators to efficiently monitor student progress in real time, quickly identify problems, and inform decision-making about instruction. The SAM Student Digital Portfolio compiles student work and includes rubrics for teachers to score fluency recordings, writing prompts, and open-response items from the <i>rSkills Tests</i> and <i>Writing Zone</i>.</p> <p>The Student Achievement Manager (SAM) captures performance data each time students use the <i>System 44</i> software. SAM aggregates the performance data into reports for individual students, groups, or an entire class. The reports allow teachers to monitor students' progress, target instruction, and share results with administrators or families. The SAM system provides powerful reports that educators can use to fine-tune instruction and improve student performance. These filters allow sorting by ethnicity, Free-Reduced lunch status, English learners, and special education student populations.</p> |

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| <p>Use effective methods and instructional practices that are evidence based and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen the core academic program ▪ Provide an enriched and accelerated curriculum ▪ Increase the amount and quality of learning time | <p><i>System 44</i> is designed to offer the most challenged readers and their teachers a comprehensive system for mastering the foundational reading skills. Since its inception, <i>System 44</i> has relied on the research-based design of Dr. Ted Hasselbring and his work through Vanderbilt University.</p> <p><i>System 44</i> leverages the power of research-based instructional practices and adaptive, personalized technology driven by the FASTT—Fluency and Automaticity through Systematic Teaching with Technology—algorithm, in order to deliver the precise foundational literacy instruction each student needs to achieve mastery. Since its launch in 2008, <i>System 44</i> has earned a history of success, including an endorsement by the Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE) and countless successes across varying implementations nationwide.</p> <p><i>System 44</i> is informed by an extensive body of literature about best practices for accelerating challenged readers to reading independence. The <i>System 44</i> Research Foundation Paper presents relevant information from the research base and expert opinions alongside how these research foundations have been translated into the program design and curriculum.</p> <p><i>System 44</i> efficacy studies meet the strong evidence rating as defined by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). To review research papers and impact reports, visit www.hmhco.com/system44</p> <p>STRENGTHEN THE CORE ACADEMIC PROGRAM</p> <p>The <i>System 44</i> instructional software is intelligent and adaptive; it collects data based on individual responses and adjusts instruction to meet each student's needs. Students' learning experiences are unique as they are systematically guided through five learning Zones, engaging in differentiated skill instruction and practice in each Zone. These Learning Zones include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Code—Students move from letter-sound correspondence through fluent word recognition with direct instruction and intensive adaptive practice. Dictation activities provide students with the opportunity to apply decoding skills while building writing fluency. • Word Strategies—Students become effective and efficient decoders of multi-syllabic words. These lessons offer immediate, corrective feedback as students learn to consciously apply strategies and use morphology to read and understand multi-syllabic words. • Sight Words—Students focus on building fast and automatic recognition of the highest-utility sight words in these lessons. Each lesson begins with an assessment that is used to customize instruction. • Success Strand—Students watch a video and read 100% nonfiction connected texts with scaffolds. Cloze activities support the application of comprehension and vocabulary skills. • Writing Strand—Students engage in independent practice in writing evidence-based summaries tied to Software content, with scaffolds that reinforce teacher-mediated practice in the <i>44Book</i>. <p>PROVIDE AN ENRICHED AND ACCELERATED CURRICULUM</p> <p><i>System 44</i> includes personalized learning technology that is designed to increase students' intrinsic motivation, as well as their ability to read. The program provides multiple opportunities for students to take ownership over their learning by setting goals and carefully tracking their mastery of lesson content.</p> <p>The Student Dashboard allows students to track their overall progress while motivating and supporting them to build executive function skills. Before beginning instruction, students are reminded of their current progress in the Software. From the Dashboard, students can explore items of interest, including their total number of words mastered and unlocked <i>Success</i> videos. The Dashboard's on-screen graphics encourage students to celebrate their successes and keep working toward their goals. Digital stickers</p> |

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| | <p>enable students to track their progress on the <i>My Software Tracking Log</i>. For example, red stickers celebrate a FastTrack, which denotes when students demonstrate mastery of content allowing them to move quickly past a software topic.</p> <p>The Student Digital Portfolio includes a goal-setting tool to help teachers and students evaluate progress towards yearly academic and behavioral goals. Tracking academic goals increases students' intrinsic motivation, classroom engagement, and the desire to continue to succeed.</p> <p>INCREASE THE AMOUNT AND QUALITY OF LEARNING TIME</p> <p>The <i>System 44</i> classroom is designed to maximize student engagement with technology, text, and the teacher as well as with other students. Students use the software daily and alternate between small-group differentiated instruction and modeled and independent reading. The program can be used effectively during a regular class period, in a resource room, and in after- and summer school programs.</p> <p>Teachers begin each day with whole-group instruction to motivate and engage students. Daily "Do Now" activities provide language warm-up practice and set daily learning goals. In small-group instruction, teachers use the <i>44Book</i> to teach lessons in phonemic awareness, phonics, comprehension, and writing. The <i>Groupinator</i> supports data-based differentiation by recommending groups and suggested lessons.</p> |
| <p>Address the needs of low-achieving students and those at risk of not meeting the State student academic achievement standards</p> | <p><i>System 44</i> provides students with a personalized progression through the software and explicit instruction in comprehension and writing. As students work independently on the computer, the <i>System 44</i> software automatically and continuously collects student performance data and feeds multiple reports teachers use to inform small-group instruction.</p> <p>SUPPORTING ENGLISH LEARNERS</p> <p><i>System 44</i> has been proven to effectively raise reading achievement for English learners. The program is particularly suited to address the needs of students who are in Levels One and Two of English language proficiency. <i>System 44</i> can also address decoding gaps that Level Three students may have and help more advanced students master standard classroom English. Specific features to support these students include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anchor Videos introduce each <i>44Book</i> workshop, helping students build background knowledge and develop mental models. • Explicit instruction and routines develop academic language proficiency with both domain-specific and high-utility words that students need to participate and succeed across content areas. • Targeted oral and academic language goals are built into each <i>44Book</i> lesson with structured, accountable speaking and listening as well as writing routines. • Images are provided for over 2,000 words in the instructional technology to support word knowledge. Additional support is provided for words that are difficult to image, such as concept words and verbs. • For Spanish-speaking students, at any point during software instruction students can click on any word and receive a translation. • Students have daily opportunities for oral reading and academic listening practice with the instructional technology, including pronunciation modeling, recording, and playback for self-assessment. • Age-appropriate, multicultural content in the <i>44Book</i> readings, student library, and instructional technology reflects ethnic, cultural, and linguistic diversity. |

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| | <p>SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS</p> <p><i>System 44</i> has a proven track record of raising reading achievement for students with special needs, including those with learning disabilities, through highly engaging instructional and classroom management tools and differentiated instruction to accelerate individual students at their own pace. Endorsed by the Council of Administrators of Special Education (CASE), <i>System 44</i> supports readers who have unique learning challenges and those who have been identified as being in need of special education services. Specific features to support these students include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age-appropriate, adaptive software and Small-Group Differentiated Instruction allow students to move at their own pace and receive individualized, targeted instruction. • A multimodal curriculum with visual, auditory, tactile, and kinesthetic tools encourages student growth through multiple modes of communication. • <i>System 44</i> for iPad® includes new accessibility features, such as dynamic type, high contrast, and guided access designed to serve students with audiovisual needs. • Universal Design features and 508 compliance, such as closed-captioning for Topic Software and Anchor Videos, enable students with certain physical disabilities to access the instructional content. • Point-of-use data and reports allow teachers and parents to measure student progress toward annual Individualized Education Program (IEP) goals, both academic and behavioral. |
| High-quality and ongoing professional development for teachers and principals | <p>System 44 Getting Started—Day 1</p> <p>Participants are introduced to the clear instructional path in <i>System 44</i> and how it helps struggling readers achieve mastery of foundational skills in phonics, comprehension, and writing. This training also includes a differentiated path for participants using <i>System 44</i> in a <i>READ 180</i> classroom.</p> <p>System 44 Getting Started—Day 2</p> <p>Participants deepen their knowledge of the <i>System 44</i> instructional model and analyze class data to further increase student achievement.</p> <p>System 44 Leadership Professional Learning</p> <p>District leaders, coaches, and principals learn how to successfully implement <i>System 44</i> to create an ongoing implementation plan for supporting the program, and they also learn to analyze report data to support accountability targets.</p> <p>Individual and Team Coaching (available separately)</p> <p>As teachers grow in their understanding of how to use <i>System 44</i> to support student achievement, one-on-one and team coaching provides opportunities to gain knowledge from a program expert firsthand. HMH Professional Learning Consultants help teachers develop instructional expertise by modeling effective instruction, leading grade-level program sessions centered on evidence of student learning, helping teachers select and achieve instructional goals, and answering program questions. Teachers, coaches, and leaders benefit from this in-person service.</p> |

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| Involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the schoolwide program plan | The <i>System 44</i> bilingual Family Portal supports the diversity of family members and caregivers. The Family Portal includes a wide variety of information and resources to support phonics instruction at home for all families, including those of special needs students and English learners. Reports generated by the management system also help teachers communicate students' progress and offer suggestions to support reading at home. |
| Coordination and integration of Federal, State, and local services and programs | <i>System 44</i> can be obtained using various blended and braided funds from federal, state, local, private, and other sources. |

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