Your Educational Equity Lens on Core5 and PowerUp

Evaluation Guide

Lexia®
ALL FOR LITERACY

Table of Contents

Literacy is essential to an individual's ability to communicate, express themselves, and engage with the world around them. All students deserve the same opportunity to become successful readers and confident learners.

At Lexia®, we believe literacy can and should be for all. Our products offer equitable opportunities for elementary and secondary students that no other programs on the market can. From prevention to intervention to acceleration, Lexia® Core5® Reading and Lexia® PowerUp Literacy® are vital tools that can help students improve their reading skills:

LEXIA CORE5 READING	LEXIA POWERUP LITERACY
FOR ELEMENTARY	**FOR SECONDARY**
Lexia Core5 Reading is a research-proven, technology-based program that accelerates the development of fundamental literacy skills for students of all abilities in grades pre-K–5. Core5 provides explicit, systematic instruction through personalized learning paths in six areas of reading, helping students make that critical shift from learning to read to reading to learn.	**Lexia PowerUp Literacy accelerates literacy gains for students in grades 6–12 who are at risk of not meeting College- and Career-Ready Standards. Proven to be up to 5x as effective as the average middle school intervention, PowerUp enables students to make multiple years of growth in a single academic year.**

As administrators and teachers face the unique challenges of this moment, there is no time to waste in identifying and implementing proven, evidence-based solutions that deliver the systematic and explicit instruction learners need to truly comprehend, retain, and apply literacy foundations.

In this guide, we explore point-by-point why Lexia solutions are uniquely suited to support educators in accelerating learning and advancing educational equity.

Opportunity gaps are widening. Students need to be able to read to learn, which puts literacy at the core of the educational equity gap.

Your Program Requirement:

Educators need rigorous curriculum founded in the science of reading. When applied in the classroom through a Structured Literacy program, learning can be accelerated for all students, especially those at risk for reading difficulties.

How does your elementary program stack up?

Feature Comparison	Core5	competitor 1*	competitor 2*	competitor 3*	competitor 4*	competitor 5*	competitor 6*	competitor 7*	competitor 8*	competitor 9*
Rigorous content	✓	✓	✓	◐	◐	✓	◐	✓	◐	✓
Quality of text selection and genres	✓	◐	✓	◐	◐	◐	✓	✓	◐	✓
Demonstrated efficacy	✓	◐	✗	✗	✗	◐	✗	◐	✗	✗
Adaptive learning path	✓	✓	◐	✓	✓	◐	✓	◐	✓	◐
Support for students learning English	✓	◐	◐	✗	✗	✓	✗	◐	◐	◐
Integrated instruction	✓	◐	◐	✓	◐	✓	✓	◐	◐	◐
Embedded assessment	✓	✓	✓	◐	✓	✓	◐	◐	✓	◐

Contact a representative for more details

✓ = Great   ◐ = Fair   ✗ = Poor

Core5 was developed with a mission to mitigate that opportunity gap and help provide equitable learning opportunities for all students. The research-proven program is based on the science of reading, and delivers the systematic, explicit instruction learners need to comprehend, retain, and apply both foundational and advanced literacy skills. This skill development is supported in a sequential and scaffolded manner across the six critical areas of reading, as seen in the depth and breadth of Core5's scope and sequence.

The program's Structured Literacy approach also works for students learning English. A group of Emergent Bilingual first- and second-grade students who used Core5 for a year demonstrated large gains on a standardized reading measure, closing the gap in reading performance relative to non-emergent bilingual peers. In fact, Core5 is proven to help accelerate literacy learning for all students, no matter where they start or what disruptions they may have faced.

How does your secondary program stack up?

Feature Comparison	PowerUp	competitor 1*	competitor 2*	competitor 3*	competitor 4*	competitor 5*
Rigorous content	✓	◓	◓	◓	✓	◓
Designed to accelerate literacy for students in grades 6-12 reading below grade level	✓	◓	◓	⊗	◓	◓
Offers personalized learning paths	✓	◓	⊗	◓	◓	◓
Age-appropriate, high-interest texts and elements	✓	✓	◓	◓	◓	✓
Engaging and motivating	✓	✓	⊗	◓	◓	✓

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Like Core5, PowerUp is based on the science of reading, with individualized, scaffolded instruction based on real-time student performance data. PowerUp's scope and sequence provides added support for a broad range of students, whether students are several grade levels behind or show some risk of not meeting College- and Career-Ready Standards.

A recent study on PowerUp found the program was more than 2.5 times more effective than typical interventions for both Emergent Bilingual and non-emergent bilingual middle school students.

With equitable results across all student populations, PowerUp's time-efficient instructional model enables students to make multiple years of growth in a single academic year.

> "
> ## We implemented Lexia's programs and saw the results in just a couple of months.
> **–Chuck Bomboy, Principal**
> **Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit**
> **Pennsylvania**
> "

Schools are looking for ways to improve the instructional support and tools they have to better teach literacy to a diverse student body.

Your Program Requirement:

Programs need to incorporate a differentiated instruction model that adapts to each student. Instruction should meet students where they are and offer individualized learning paths and intensities. Adaptive blended learning programs should provide the teacher with on-demand student progress data and action plan recommendations to ensure all students learn to read with confidence.

How does your elementary program stack up?

Feature Comparison	Core5	competitor 1*	competitor 2*	competitor 3*	competitor 4*	competitor 5*	competitor 6*	competitor 7*	competitor 8*	competitor 9*
Rigorous content	Great	Great	Great	Fair	Fair	Great	Fair	Great	Fair	Great
Quality of text selection and genres	Great	Fair	Great	Fair	Fair	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Great
Demonstrated efficacy	Great	Fair	Poor	Poor	Poor	Fair	Poor	Fair	Poor	Poor
Adaptive learning path	Great	Great	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Great	Fair	Great	Fair
Support for students learning English	Great	Fair	Fair	Poor	Poor	Great	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair
Integrated instruction	Great	Fair	Fair	Great	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Fair	Fair
Embedded assessment	Great	Great	Great	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Fair	Great	Fair

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✔ = Great ⬤ = Fair ⊗ = Poor

Core5 helps all students—whether they are struggling, on level, or even above level—boost their reading achievement through just-right instruction. The program utilizes an adaptive blended learning model to provide that targeted and individualized instruction.

Through data-driven branching, students make progress along their personalized learning path and are offered scaffolded activities, guided practice, or explicit instruction when it is needed. By empowering educators to provide individualized instruction, the program helps substantially reduce students' risk of not meeting grade-level standards while still being able to give accelerated and on-track students the instruction they need to thrive.

> **"It felt good to see that students using the online portion of the program were receiving effective, differentiated instruction while I worked with students individually delivering lessons that targeted their specific literacy needs.**
> **—Chrissy Yonkey, Reading Specialist**

How does your secondary program stack up?

Feature Comparison	PowerUp	competitor 1*	competitor 2*	competitor 3*	competitor 4*	competitor 5*
Rigorous content	✔ Great	◒ Fair	◒ Fair	◒ Fair	✔ Great	◒ Fair
Designed to accelerate literacy for students in grades 6-12 reading below grade level	✔ Great	◒ Fair	◒ Fair	⊗ Poor	◒ Fair	◒ Fair
Offers personalized learning paths	✔ Great	◒ Fair	⊗ Poor	◒ Fair	◒ Fair	◒ Fair
Age-appropriate, high-interest texts and elements	✔ Great	✔ Great	◒ Fair	◒ Fair	◒ Fair	✔ Great
Engaging and motivating	✔ Great	✔ Great	⊗ Poor	◒ Fair	◒ Fair	✔ Great

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PowerUp covers a wide range of skills, from foundational reading skills typically covered in early elementary school to more advanced comprehension and analytical skills taught in early high school, enabling educators to support the diverse needs of struggling readers in ONE program. Through data-driven branching, students make progress along their personalized learning path and are offered scaffolded activities, guided practice, or explicit instruction when it is needed.

PowerUp has 180 placement profiles, with three instructional strands (Word Study, Grammar, Comprehension) that students progress through based on their individual performance. This allows PowerUp to support more students than other interventions on the market, helping students that are several grade levels behind as well as those who are nearly proficient.

Lexia's patented Assessment Without Testing®

This embedded assessment tool (in both Core5 and PowerUp) provides real-time progress monitoring data without ever having to stop to administer a test. Assessment Without Testing helps educators understand students' current skill levels at a glance, while the programs create data-driven action plans for educators to deliver the right instruction at the right time.

3

Funding for literacy interventions and programs predicated on meeting ESSA standards as "evidence-based."

Your Program Requirement:

Edtech programs need to meet the highest levels of evidence criteria to qualify for federal funds, including Title I and Comprehensive Support and Improvement grants. In addition, programs should be evidence-based to advance educational equity—ARP ESSER includes a maintenance of equity provision to address the disparities in educational outcomes for students from underserved populations.

How does your elementary program stack up?

EVIDENCE for ESSA	Study Comparison	
Elementary Level	**Rating**	**Effect Size**
Core5	Strong and Promising	.23 and .28
Competitor 1*	Strong	.13
Competitor 2*	Promising	.00
Competitor 3*	Strong	.11
Competitor 4*	Promising	.18
Competitor 5*	No significant positive outcomes	

Other competitors did not have eligible studies for review.

Contact a representative for more details

Lexia solutions have been evaluated by more than 20 externally reviewed research studies to meet the standards of evidence under ESSA, and Core5 received a "Strong" rating from the independent review organization, Evidence for ESSA. Core5 was 64% more effective than comparable programs as measured by standardized assessment growth. After using Core5 regularly throughout the school year, students were twice as likely to be proficient readers than their peers who had not used the program. This can be measured by end-of-year performance on standardized reading assessments—up to 90% of students who reached benchmark in Core5 achieved proficiency on standardized reading assessments.

To meet equity provisions, Core5 is proven to help all students learn regardless of their race/ethnicity, socio-economic or Emergent Bilingual (also known as English Learner) status, type of school attended, or level of risk for reading difficulties.

Lexia has the largest impact on student reading outcomes

Very few edtech providers have programs that have earned "Strong" ratings at BOTH the elementary and secondary level. Of those, the estimates suggest that Core5 and PowerUp have the largest impact on student reading outcomes, as measured by the average effect sizes.

How does your secondary program stack up?

EVIDENCE *for* ESSA	Study Comparison	
Secondary Level	**Rating**	**Effect Size**
PowerUp	Strong	.36
Competitor 1*	Strong	.08
Competitor 2*	Strong	.29
Competitor 3*	No eligible studies	
Competitor 4*	No eligible studies	
Competitor 5*	No significant positive outcomes	

Other competitors did not have eligible studies for review.

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Also earning a "Strong" rating from Evidence for ESSA, PowerUp is backed by multiple studies, including a peer-reviewed research study. At the secondary level, results show that PowerUp is more than 5X as effective as the average middle school reading intervention. Completing PowerUp is correlated to achieving proficiency on standardized literacy assessments: 90% of students who completed PowerUp met the proficient level on FAST aReading, while 99% of students who completed PowerUp met the proficient level on MAP.

In addition to meeting ESSA's standards for Strong Evidence across multiple studies, PowerUp also meets ESSER's equity provision. PowerUp is effective for all students—it has been proven to help all students learn, regardless of their race/ethnicity and Emergent Bilingual (also known as English Learner) or special education status.

> " PowerUp is an outstanding program that will help drive your literacy instruction with greater ease and specificity than you would expect. It plays an important role in preparing our students for college and careers.
>
> **—Mason Roulston, eighth-grade teacher** "

Student assessments are vital to inform instruction, but testing anxiety and lack of agency can negatively impact student's social and emotional well-being.

Your Program Requirement:

Educators need to be able to assess student progress in real time, no matter where learning takes place. Programs with embedded assessment tools, like Assessment Without Testing, streamline teachers' efforts with actionable data, without ever having to stop to administer a test. With less testing, along with a safe environment to try, fail, and retry, students can develop a growth mindset. Programs can further promote students' social and emotional well-being by supporting student agency and autonomy.

How does your elementary program stack up?

Feature Comparison	Core5	competitor 1*	competitor 2*	competitor 3*	competitor 4*	competitor 5*	competitor 6*	competitor 7*	competitor 8*	competitor 9*
Rigorous content	Great	Great	Great	Fair	Fair	Great	Fair	Great	Fair	Great
Quality of text selection and genres	Great	Fair	Great	Fair	Fair	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Great
Demonstrated efficacy	Great	Fair	Poor	Poor	Poor	Fair	Poor	Fair	Poor	Poor
Adaptive learning path	Great	Great	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Great	Fair	Great	Fair
Support for students learning English	Great	Fair	Fair	Poor	Poor	Great	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair
Integrated instruction	Great	Fair	Fair	Great	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Fair	Fair
Embedded assessment	Great	Great	Great	Fair	Great	Great	Fair	Fair	Great	Fair

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Core5 gives students autonomy over their path and pace through the program, along with awareness and ownership of performance and progress. The student dashboard shows their weekly usage targets, current usage, and skills gained, providing students at all ages and levels a sense of accomplishment and competence. As they continue through the program, students build the understanding that mistakes are simply opportunities to learn. This helps students engender a growth mindset that is essential to lifelong success.

The embedded Assessment Without Testing tool empowers educators by identifying student risk levels; prescribing instructional intensity; providing on-demand progress monitoring data; and creating action plans with offline or classroom-based "next steps," all without putting additional pressure on the teacher.

Assessment Without Testing can save teachers up to a MONTH of instructional time.

How does your secondary program stack up?

Feature Comparison	PowerUp	competitor 1*	competitor 2*	competitor 3*	competitor 4*	competitor 5*
Rigorous content	Great	Fair	Fair	Fair	Great	Fair
Designed to accelerate literacy for students in grades 6-12 reading below grade level	Great	Fair	Fair	Poor	Fair	Fair
Offers personalized learning paths	Great	Fair	Poor	Fair	Fair	Fair
Age-appropriate, high-interest texts and elements	Great	Great	Fair	Fair	Fair	Great
Engaging and motivating	Great	Great	Poor	Fair	Fair	Great

Contact a representative for more details

= Great   = Fair   = Poor

PowerUp respects the maturity of the adolescent learner with high-interest authentic texts and motivational elements. Alongside age-appropriate content, the program features game-based motivational elements that encourage self-monitoring while motivating students to do their best work.

Students develop agency by choosing the instructional domains they want to work in. They are encouraged to take ownership of their own learning while building time management skills in the program. This agency over learning paths, continuous feedback, meaningful progress, and challenging materials all contribute to the development of a growth mindset.

Teachers can see this growth in real time, knowing that PowerUp shows accurate student progress, unaffected by day-of-testing factors like anxiety or a late night studying. When students are ready for skill reinforcement or need a little extra help, educators—regardless of their area of expertise—are able to deliver the right instruction based on individual student needs.

> **Finding a program like PowerUp that allows students to achieve success within their own private comfort zone is very important.**
> **—Sydney Hartzell, English Language Arts Teacher**

A Parting Thought

Today, educators are tasked with advancing multiple critical instructional goals at once:

- Accelerating progress for students, regardless of current proficiency or demographic.

- Crafting individualized learning paths and programs that meet students where they are.

- Securing evidence-based and classroom-proven instructional tools.

- Determining individual student learning needs while promoting their social and emotional well-being, all without overloading teachers.

No matter the challenge, Lexia programs offer teachers and administrators a solution that ensures equitable learning opportunities for students, and transforms their learning for greater success. The unparalleled level of personalization and teacher empowerment present in Core5 and PowerUp make literacy skill acceleration possible for any student.

We encourage you to see for yourself. Join us for a personalized demonstration that will show you how Lexia can help you solve the challenges you face in your district. And if you still have questions, check out our FAQ. Let's make literacy a reality for every student.

Get your demo

" There are so many reasons why we love Lexia, but the most important one of all is the growth we see in our students. There's nothing more important than that.
—Michelle Rojas, Reading Coach "

Lexia®

Lexia is the Structured Literacy expert. For more than 35 years, the company has focused solely on literacy, and today provides a full spectrum of solutions for both students and teachers. With robust offerings for differentiated instruction, personalized learning, assessment, and professional learning, Lexia helps more learners read, write, and speak with confidence.

lexialearning.com