



**SCHOLASTIC
OFFICE OF
EDUCATIONAL
ASSISTANCE**

WiggleWorks-español

Product Overview

WiggleWorks-español combines leveled books, technology, and teaching materials to help Spanish-speaking children build essential reading skills in the Spanish language. Teachers can tailor the program to benefit students who are at different levels of language and reading proficiencies. The program is designed to help students build a strong foundation in their first language as they acquire or transition to English. *WiggleWorks-español* features:

- Interactive lessons for developing critical word-level skills including sound/letter discrimination and spelling
- Interactive books with scaffolded reading support and corresponding printed books for teacher-led instruction, independent reading, and rereading for fluency
- Spanish-English Teaching Plans for each title that include lessons for helping children transfer their newly acquired skills to English

Instructional Content

Research-based *WiggleWorks-español*, which aligns with any Spanish-language, bilingual, or English-language reading program, provides students with opportunities to develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students also develop computer skills as they use the software. The multiple-genre collection features books written by Latino authors, such as Alma Flor Ada, Ximena de la Piedra, and Margarita Gonzales-Jensen, as well as sensitively translated English titles.

Phonemic Awareness

- In the Tablero Magnético (Magnet Board) software activity area, children click on letters to hear them pronounced.
- Children hear, identify, and work with rhymes in songs and word games.

Phonics

- Tablero Magnético activities help children hyphenate words and understand syllables, decode word structures, and master spelling and accent rules.
- As a narrator reads aloud, students can see the text highlighted word-by-word.
- In teacher-directed lessons, children identify letters and create word lists.

Vocabulary

- Teachers introduce and teach vocabulary words associated with the book.
- In the Mis Palabras (My Words) software area, children can collect words from the story for a variety of reasons, print out lists, and use them in writing.

Fluency

- Students listen to modeled reading on the computer and on audiocassettes.
- Children can record and playback their own reading and writing.
- Children reread electronic and corresponding printed books multiple times.
- Students can hear their own writing read back to them by the computer in two Spanish-speaking voices and a variety of English-speaking voices.

WiggleWorks-español: Product Overview

Comprehension

- Lessons provide teachers with prompts for previewing the book and connecting text to students' prior knowledge.
- Children learn multiple comprehension strategies, such as retelling, using picture clues, recognizing sequence, summarizing, and determining cause/effect.

Writing

- Students can access Punto de Partido (Story Starter) ideas and Palabras del Relato (Story Words) to help them write responses to the books.
- In the Mi Libro (My Book) section, children write and illustrate their own versions of the books they have read.

Instructional Design

Designed for students in Grades K-3, **WiggleWorks-español** can be flexibly used by individual students working independently on the computer, during small-group gatherings, and in whole-class instruction with an overhead and a projection plate. Students alternate between independently reading rich, leveled literature and immersing themselves in the same stories at the computer or listening station. The **WiggleWorks-español** software is divided into five sections:

- En Voz Alta (Read Aloud). Students read the book along with the narrator, listening to original music and sound effects.
- Leer (Read). Students independently read and record the story.
- Escribir (Write). Children respond to the story through words and pictures.
- Mi Libro (My Book). Students create their own version of the story.
- Tablero Magnético (Magnet Board). Children practice and explore word structures and phonetic patterns.

Assessments

Continuous assessment instruments capture essential data on each student's work and progress, as well as provide reports teachers can use to inform instruction. The Work Record tracks the stages, levels, and books in which individual children have worked. The Student Log records individual student's work in each activity area, and it displays children's progress and time spent in each area. In Student Work, teachers can view children's saved work in each activity area. The work can be copied into the Portfolio for that child.

The Teacher's Assessment Guide contains a variety of assessment tools and strategies that help teachers monitor students' progress and placement in the program:

- Observation strategies and tools, to be used systematically throughout the day in a variety of settings, help teachers assess oral language facility; attitudes and interests; and specific behaviors related to print, reading, writing, and book handling.
- Running Records equip teachers with a process to tabulate students' reading accuracy and development of reading strategies.
- Reading Chart helps teachers to periodically evaluate children's degree of comprehension of the story and the strategies they use to draw meaning from it.
- Questionnaires for child/teacher and parent/teacher interviews supply an additional means of assessing student ability and informing instruction.

Each Teaching Plan for every book presents questions to help teachers informally evaluate students' reading and writing abilities and skills.

Motivation and Engagement

WiggleWorks-español's interactive technology provides scaffolded reading experiences that encourage readers to think about, question, or simply enjoy stories. Children's knowledge of and ability to construct written language increases naturally as stories are shared in a supportive setting. Children learn essential skills through intriguing activities, such as manipulating letters on the Tablero Magnético.

Intervention Strategies

WiggleWorks, which was created in consultation with the Center for Applied Special Technology, contains access tools for children with special needs. These include:

- Teclado de Pantalla (Screen Keyboard) benefits children who have visuo-motor difficulties.
- Large text, a large cursor, and talking buttons, which say their functions aloud when the mouse is held over them, help children with visual impairments.
- Children can hear their work read back to them in Spanish or English.
- Custom color option allows choice of background, text, and highlighting colors.
- En Voz Alta options include narration and text highlighting at two speeds.

WiggleWorks-español contains literature in three levels of difficulty, as well as built-in and customizable software instructional supports.

Home-School Connection

Students can copy to disk or print out their own readings, stories, and word lists related to the books read and share them with their families. **WiggleWorks-español** provides multiple copies of each book for students' repeated readings at home. Each book's Teaching Plan suggests "Take the Book Home" activities.

Professional Development

WiggleWorks-español professional development opportunities enable teachers to effectively implement the program and teach reading and writing skills:

- In the staff development video, Getting Started with WiggleWorks, teachers hear directly from expert educators who designed the **WiggleWorks** program. The video also brings teachers into classrooms that are actively and successfully using the program with children.
- The User's Guide provides clear instructions about how to use the software to maximize children's learning experiences, customize software options, and monitor children's progress.
- Spanish/English Teaching Plans present teaching strategies for each leveled book, support for teaching with technology, and activities that connect the books' themes to social studies, science, and other curricula. Teaching Plans supply strategies to help students transfer skills to English, as well as lists of level-appropriate titles in English for children to read and further their learning of the language.
- The Teacher's Assessment Guide elaborates on how to use the **WiggleWorks-español** assessment tools and strategies to inform instruction.