#### **NEWS RELEASE**

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# Benchmark Education and Curriculum Associates Form Partnership in Florida

Innovative collaboration aims to enhance integration of assessment data with curriculum instruction.

**NEW ROCHELLE, NY, Feb. 16, 2021**—Educational publishers Benchmark Education Company (BEC) and Curriculum Associates (CA) have announced a partnership in Florida. The two companies will integrate adaptive assessment data from CA's *i-Ready* platform to BEC's *Florida Benchmark Advance* ©2022 English Language Arts program for Grades K–5.

Under this partnership, the diagnostic data provided by *i-Ready* will seamlessly identify specific resources in *Florida Benchmark Advance* ©2022 that will directly address areas of student need, thus providing an extended path for instruction and remediation to the districts. "We are thrilled about the partnership between Benchmark Education and Curriculum Associates, and the enormous opportunities it presents to maximize the potential for every student," said Carrie Smith, SVP and Publisher of Benchmark Education.

Among its goals, the partnership aims to support students, teachers, and administrators as they navigate distance and hybrid learning settings by cohesively unifying adaptive assessment, instruction, and application to address unfinished learning caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and put students back on the path to mastery.

"Benchmark Education has a long history of providing quality core curricula to schools, and this partnership will make it easier for Florida educators who use Benchmark products to target instruction based on student assessment outcomes from *i-Ready*," said Rob Waldron, CEO of Curriculum Associates.

*Florida Benchmark Advance* ©2022 is a K–5 English Language Arts program built to address the B.E.S.T. Standards; prioritize equity, access, and cultural responsiveness; and reflect the latest research, including the Science of Reading. It features daily and systematic phonics instruction, small-group intervention, and an abundance of high-quality literature from diverse authors. The program is available in both print and online formats, including its state-of-the-art online assessment platform that provides data to complement the *i-Ready* assessment data.

## Availability

The integration of *Florida Benchmark Advance* ©2022 with *i-Ready* will be made available to all current and future school districts who use both programs. For more information or to place an order, visit <u>www.benchmarkeducation.com</u> or contact your local BEC sales consultant.

#### **About Benchmark Education Company**

Benchmark Education Company is a leading publisher of core, supplemental, and intervention literacy and language resources in English and Spanish, both print and digital, as well as worldclass professional development. Since its founding in 1998, BEC has been a nimble and innovative content creator on the cutting edge of pedagogy and technology. The digital content of its online and hybrid learning programs delivers all the rigor of its print counterpart and is designed for remote and blended learning contexts.

BEC's powerful and research-validated programs give diverse learners, including English Learners, precisely the support they need to accelerate achievement. Its mission is to connect children to the world through text, building knowledge and perspectives. BEC's content-rich and culturally relevant texts feature explicit instruction in close reading and analysis, socialemotional learning, multiple perspectives, and authentic literature, reflecting the complexity and dimensions of the world.

BEC is committed to providing thorough support for responsive teaching, with targeted and sustained professional development, a full range of customizable literacy solutions, exceptional quality, deep and effective support for distance learning, and dedicated customer service.

## **About Curriculum Associates**

Founded in 1969, Curriculum Associates, LLC designs research-based print and online instructional materials, screens and assessments, and data management tools. The company's products and outstanding customer service provide teachers and administrators with the resources necessary for teaching diverse student populations and fostering learning for all students.

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