

## DIGITAL CURRICULUM SOLUTION

*“A big problem for us is the number of students in high school credit recovery programs who are at below proficient reading levels. Digital curriculum that helps them process and understand core curriculum courses is filling a need for our district.”*

*Dr. Rodney Shotwell  
Superintendent  
Rockingham County Schools  
North Carolina*

## ➤ Meet the Adolescent Literacy Challenge

*“Almost 7,000 students drop out of high school every school day. One of the most commonly cited reasons for this is that students simply do not have the literacy skills to keep up with the high school curriculum, which has become increasingly complex.”*

*— Reading Next—A Vision for Action and Research  
in Middle and High School Literacy\**

### Address Varied Needs of Struggling Readers with Online Learning

A startling number of high school students are struggling readers. And for too many students reading below grade level, the literacy barrier proves an insurmountable obstacle to learning and success. Building on more than 10 years of experience in online learning, and in collaboration with leading experts in the field of adolescent literacy, Apex Learning offers solutions to help schools meet the varied needs of struggling readers.

### Build Proficiency in Reading Comprehension and Writing

Addressing the needs of both below-basic and below-proficient readers, English Foundations courses are designed to provide structured remediation for students ages 13 and older. Scaffolded instruction focuses on the development of reading comprehension skills and strategies, as well as writing and composition. Extensive practice and formative feedback build student confidence. Age-appropriate content fosters engagement. Text and skill levels increase as students progress through the courses, raising proficiency to a high school level.

### Support Success in Required High School Courses

Literacy Advantage courses integrate extensive scaffolding to enable below-proficient readers to comprehend grade-level academic content and progress in standards-based high school math, science, English, and social studies courses. Controlled vocabulary and syntax, the option to listen instructional text read aloud in English (and in Spanish for math courses), and support for new vocabulary bolster comprehension of grade-level content. At the same time, explicit instruction in reading comprehension and vocabulary strategies helps students develop their literacy skills.

\*A Report to Carnegie Corporation of New York (Published by the Alliance for Excellent Education)