3(A) The program may not teach word recognition, when teaching students to read in English, through visual memory, guessing, the shape of a word, or the use of pictures or context clues to decode words instead of explicitly teaching words that cannot be sounded out and that do not follow the rules of phonics.

- **Note:** Grade 3 materials comply with this rule.
- In grades K-2, materials use phonics to teach decoding explicitly in whole group lessons.
- Grades K-2 materials provide a routine for teaching high-frequency words. The routine utilizes prompts for students to practice reading the words and remembering the letters. The routine does not discriminate regular from irregular words. Materials do not provide guidance for decoding these words and are limited to saying, writing, and using the high-frequency words in a sentence.
- Kinder materials use picture clues as a problem-solving strategy when readers come to a word they do not know. Grade 1 materials direct teachers to tell students, "High-frequency words are words we learn by remembering the letters in the words rather than saying the sounds." Grade 2 materials use prediction and guessing as a decoding strategy.