

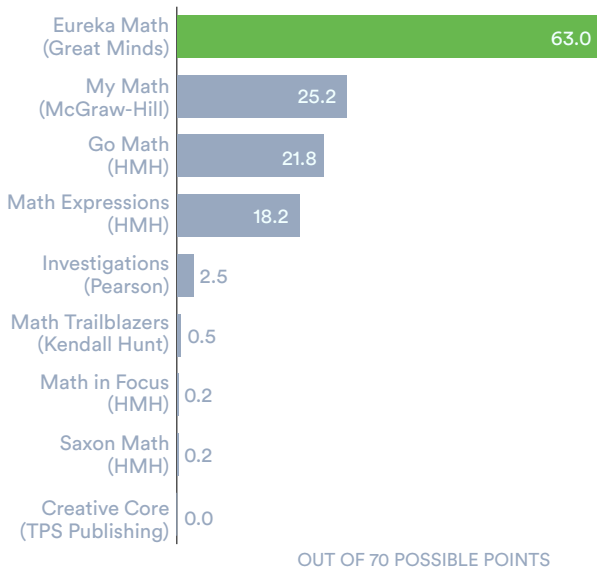
# Eureka Math Still Top-Rated Curriculum—By Far

February 2016

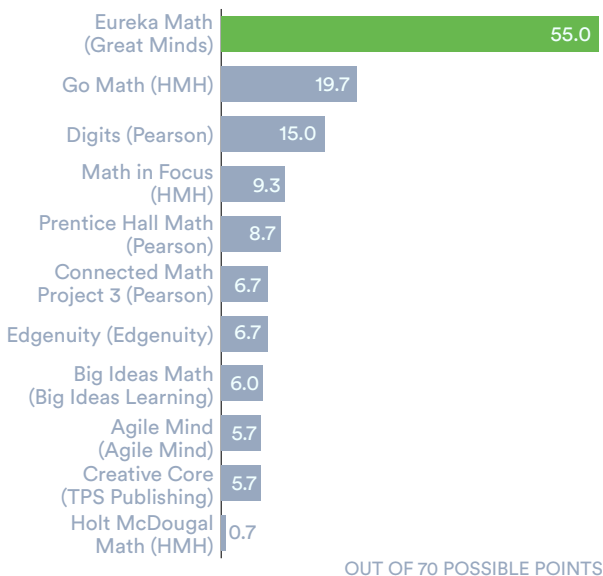
The latest K–8 reviews from EdReports.org, the independent nonprofit specifically established to vet K–12 curricula, found that *Eureka Math* remains the clear leader for its focus/coherence, rigor, and usability. EdReports.org released its initial K–8 reviews in March 2015. But after pushback from the textbook establishment, it modified its criteria for determining if a curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards and then re-reviewed low-scoring textbooks. In its October 2015 review, some gained ground, others didn't, and all remained far behind *Eureka Math*. In February 2016, EdReports.org released reviews of four additional series. Out of 70 possible points per grade, Eureka's curricula for elementary grades averages 63.0 points, while the next nearest competitor averages just 38.3. The spread is even wider in middle school, where *Eureka Math* scores 55.0 points on average, with the nearest competitors scoring less than half that—24.7. See below for more scores.

## INITIAL REVIEW

Elementary School (average score by grade)

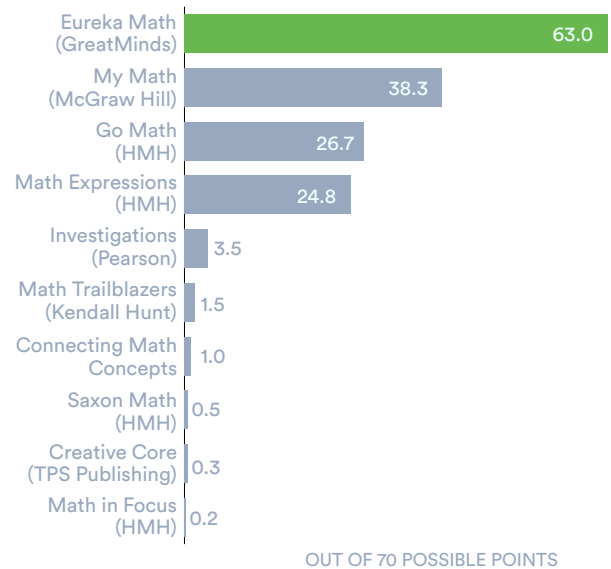


Middle School (average score by grade)

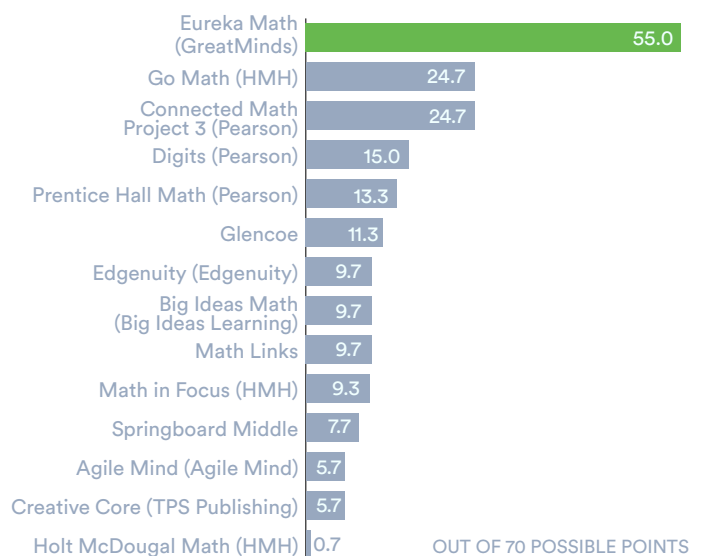


## RE-REVIEW AND NEW REVIEWS

Elementary School (average score by grade)



Middle School (average score by grade)



Total points based on reviews of curricula in kindergarten through 8th grade in all three categories: focus/coherence, rigor, and usability.

## BACKGROUND AND METHODOLOGY

EdReports.org is an independent nonprofit that provides free, web-based reviews of instructional materials focused on their alignment to the Common Core State Standards and other indicators of high quality according to educators, including usability, teacher support, and differentiation. Its *Consumer Reports*-style reviews help teachers, principals, and district and state officials charged with purchasing materials make more informed choices. Long term, EdReports.org's goal is to elevate the overall level of rigor and quality of instructional materials by helping more informed consumers—teachers and parents—demand better materials from those who supply the market.

In March 2015, EdReports.org released its first set of reviews of 20 K–8 math curricula (those that had at least 10% market share or had been recommended for use by at least two states).

Review teams were comprised of outstanding classroom educators and mathematics experts who have demonstrated a deep understanding of the new, more challenging state standards adopted by virtually every state. They represent every grade level and average more than 15 years of classroom teaching experience.

Reviewers addressed two key questions:

**First, is the instructional material aligned to the standards?** Gateway 1 concentrates on two design elements of the standards: focus and coherence. Is appropriate grade-level work addressed in the curriculum? Does the material make strong connections between the mathematical content as opposed to teaching skills or concepts in isolation? For Gateway 2, the reviewers considered the rigor of the materials and evaluated connections to the mathematical practices.

**Second, how usable is the material?** How well does it support teachers in reaching all students, including differentiated instruction for diverse learners, good student assessment practices, and effective use of technology? Only materials that met or partially met [*at least 12 of 14 points*] expectations for Gateway 1 were reviewed for Gateway 2, and only materials that met expectations for Gateways 1 and 2 were reviewed for usability (Gateway 3).

### Re-Reviews (October 2015)

After input from the field, EdReports.org loosened the criteria. The change meant that the organization also allowed materials that partially met expectations for focus and coherence with *at least 8 of 14 possible points* (Gateway 1) to be evaluated for mathematical practice and rigor (Gateway 2).

Using the new criteria, EdReports.org re-reviewed about four dozen curricula that did not get through Gateway 1 in the first set of reviews. It also added more evidence about all programs to help districts and states make more informed purchasing decisions.

### New Reviews (February 2016)

Edreports.org released new reviews of four additional K-8 math series (15 grade-level reports) — three for middle grades, one for elementary grades.