

# Let's get **R.E.A.L**

**When selecting the priority standards in math, refer to these time-tested effective criteria for prioritizing:**

**R**eadiness for the next level of learning (prerequisite concepts and skills students need to enter a new grade level or course of study)

**E**ndurance (lasting beyond one grade or course; concepts and skills needed in life)

**A**ssessment (state and national testing standards)

**L**everage (crossover application within the content area and to other content areas; i.e., interdisciplinary connections)

**Specific to prioritizing the Arkansas Mathematics Standards (AMS), also keep these key points in mind:**

- Understand that the AMS are organized according to “learning progression”- students must learn certain concepts and skills before they are ready to learn the next ones.
- Read the critical areas of focus and summary descriptions for the entire grade level or course first.
- Then read again the critical area of focus and related summary for the domain being prioritized.
- Look for individual standards that are the most **comprehensive or rigorous**, not those that are foundational.
- The priority standards (fence posts) should be the ones most likely to help students achieve the critical areas of focus.

**Refer repeatedly to these critical areas of focus and summaries as the criteria for selecting the Priority Standards within each domain, grade-level, and course.**