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## The Common Core State Standards



# What is **Share My Lesson**?

Share My Lesson is a place where anyone who works with students inside or outside of schools can come together to share their very best resources. Developed by educators, this free platform gives access to high-quality resources and provides an online community where educators and parents can collaborate with, encourage and inspire each other.

**Share My Lesson**  
is for ...

- ☁️ A **new teacher** working to develop lesson plans and find great materials.
- ☁️ A **food service worker** who wants to share all his or her best resources on nutrition.
- ☁️ An **experienced teacher** who has successful lessons to share with colleagues.
- ☁️ An **early childhood educator** with a great activity for very young students.
- ☁️ A **classroom paraprofessional** with ideas on how to work with individual students and small groups.
- ☁️ A **new hall monitor** who needs student discipline strategies.
- ☁️ A **professor of teacher education** working with student teachers.
- ☁️ A **parent** looking for meaningful educational activities for children at home.

**Share My Lesson**  
is for you!

To join **Share My Lesson**, sign up online at [www.sharemylesson.com](http://www.sharemylesson.com); registration is quick, free and easy. Then watch our how-to videos on locating resources and uploading *your* materials to the site.

**[www.sharemylesson.com](http://www.sharemylesson.com)**



## **What are the Common Core State Standards?**

The Common Core State Standards define the knowledge and skills necessary to graduate from high school ready for college and career. The standards establish *what* students need to know, understand and be able to do. They don't define *how* teachers should teach.

## **Do the Common Core Standards Only Address English Language Arts (ELA) and Math?**

No! The ELA and literacy standards address reading and writing across the curriculum. They provide direction for teachers of history, social studies, science and technical subjects to infuse reading and writing as tools through which students acquire and show mastery of content. The literacy standards complement, but don't replace, content area standards.

The math standards are filled with expectations that students will apply math to real-world situations; the opportunities to touch other areas of study are abundant.

## What are the Key Instructional Shifts that Educators Should Focus on to Successfully Implement the Common Core Standards?

### In Mathematics:

Most of the math standards provide a clear vision of what we want students *to learn* in mathematics. A lesser number of the standards are thoughtfully sequenced and focused on the most important *ideas* in mathematics. The standards provide a logical order of instruction, an emphasis on helping students connect new ideas or numbers to what they already know, introduce key ideas to help students organize what they are learning, and provide a foundation for later learning. The standards don't focus on "harder" problems; instead, they focus on a deeper understanding of the math. To be successful, students must listen, participate, be able to reason, make models, be aware of what they are doing, be able to communicate how the math makes sense, and persevere.

### Focus strongly where the standards focus

Putting behind the old mile-wide, inch-deep



curriculum, teachers can now significantly deepen student learning in the math classroom by focusing on the key areas identified as being the most important and requiring the most work for each grade level.

### **Coherence: thinking across grades and linking to major topics**

Mathematical learning is carefully connected *within and across* grades—each standard is treated as an extension of previous learning rather than the next in a series of disconnected topics.

### **Rigor: conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and application should be addressed with *equal intensity***

*Conceptual understanding:* Students are expected to access concepts from multiple perspectives and demonstrate deep conceptual understanding of core math concepts. Students are able to see math as more than a set of mnemonics or discrete procedures—more than just “getting the right answer.”

*Procedural skill and fluency:* Students are expected to have speed and accuracy in calculation so that they can understand and manipulate more complex concepts.

*Application:* Students are expected to use math flexibly for application in context. Teachers in content areas outside of math, particularly science, ensure students are using math at all grade levels to make meaning of, and to access, content.

### ***What are the Mathematical Practices?***

Just as the content standards define what students should know and be able to do, the Standards for Mathematical Practice define habits of mind and processes that teachers must help students develop as they become mathematically proficient.

The eight mathematical practices are:

1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.
4. Model with mathematics.
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.
6. Attend to precision.
7. Look for and make use of structure.
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.

### **In English Language Arts/Literacy:**

The English language arts standards have a balanced focus on reading and responding to literary and informational texts across the grades. The expectation is that readers use the text as their source, and support their response to text by using evidence from the text. In addition, the reading standards for grades K-5 include standards targeting reading foundational skills. The standards focus on three types of writing: argument (opinion in K-5), informative/explanatory, and narrative. There is an intentional, increased emphasis on speaking and listening; regular, purposeful, academic talk among students; and peer collaboration. The language standards focus on conventions of standard English, use of language varieties and vocabulary. In addition, the standards highlight the use of technology and digital tools, and include language standards for grades K-12.

### **Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction and informational texts**

The English language arts standards have a balanced focus on reading literary and informational texts—building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction plays an essential role in literacy and in the standards.



In grades K-5, the standards require a 50-50 balance between informational and literary reading. Informational reading primarily includes content-rich nonfiction in history/social studies, science and the arts; the K-5 standards strongly recommend that students build coherent general knowledge both within each year and across years. In grades 6-12, ELA classes place much greater attention on literary nonfiction than has been the case in the past. In grades 6-12, the standards for literacy in history/social studies, science and technical subjects ensure that students can independently build knowledge in these disciplines through reading and writing.

The standards do require substantial attention to literature throughout K-12, as half of the required work in K-5 and the core of the work of 6-12 ELA teachers.

### **Reading and writing grounded in evidence from text**

The *reading* standards focus on students' ability to read carefully and grasp information, arguments, ideas and details based on text evidence, as well as be able to answer a range of text-dependent questions whose answers require inferences based on that careful reading of the text.



The *writing* standards place a premium on writing to sources by using evidence from texts to present careful analyses, well-defended claims and clear information. The standards also require the cultivation of narrative writing throughout the grades, and in later grades emphasize argumentative (opinion in K-5), informative/explanatory and narrative texts.

### **Regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary**

The standards highlight the growing complexity of the kind of text students must read to be ready for the demands of college- and career-level reading, and they build a staircase of text complexity to enable students to be ready to meet those demands by the end of high school. Closely related to text complexity—and inextricably connected to reading comprehension—is the standards' increased focus on academic vocabulary.

## **How Can Share My Lesson Help With the Common Core?**

Share My Lesson is a great way to see how educators across the country are infusing the Common Core State Standards across disciplines.

Share My Lesson has a dedicated section for the Common Core where you can:

-  Look for aligned resources by specific standard.
-  Read up on how and why the Common Core State Standards came about, and the shifts in practice that they require.
-  Browse the best Common Core content from around the web.



## Common Core State Standards Information Center

### Welcome to the Share My Lesson Information Center for the Common Core State Standards.

As well as a wealth of facts and statistics about the standards, you'll also be able to find aligned curricula and lesson plans, the latest news on the Common Core and relevant videos and links. In addition, you can access expert advice and opinions in our Common Core Forum, where you can ask or answer questions on the standards.

The Common Core State Standards will require big transitions and changes to the professional lives of educators and we want to help. In the meantime, feel free to upload your resources and let us know which of the standards they are aligned to. You can let us know which specific standard the resource relates to in the description field; be sure to tag the resource as well using the drop-down menu. For more information, see [this video](#).

#### CCSS Math



Read up on the CCSS for Math and find relevant resources here.

[Common Core State Standards for Math \(K-8\)](#)

#### CCSS for ELA



CCSS resources for English Language Arts.

[Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts \(Grade 6-12\)](#)

#### More about CCSS



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Keep up-to-date with the latest Common Core news and reaction.

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#### CCSS Forum



Join the conversation about the Common Core and what it means for America's classrooms.

[CCSS Forum](#)

 Chat with other educators about the benefits and challenges of implementing the standards.

 Keep up to date with the latest Common Core news and commentary.



## How to Find Common Core Resources

One way to find aligned resources is to use the site's navigation. Go to Share My Lesson's "teaching resources" page, choose a grade level, then choose a subject and topic area.

Or, you can do a search. Type in what you are looking for. Then click the column marked "Common Core."

Use the left-hand navigation to narrow the results by grade level, subtopic or type of resource as needed.

A third way to look for aligned resources is through the Common Core Information Center. There, you can read the actual text of the standards and find applicable resources, including instructional strategies showing what teaching the standard might look like in the classroom.



Don't forget to look for the Common Core icon on resources, which shows that they are aligned with the standards!



**Share My Lesson**  
was developed by the American  
Federation of Teachers and  
TES Connect, the largest network  
of educators in the world.



*A Union of Professionals*

### **About the American Federation of Teachers**

The American Federation of Teachers is a 1.5 million-member union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; and high-quality public education, healthcare and public services for our students, their families and our communities. We are committed to furthering these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining, political activism and the work our members do.

The AFT works tirelessly to press for the tools, time and trust educators need to build strong public schools for all children, boost teacher quality, create rigorous academic standards aligned with a strong and deep curriculum, invest in wraparound services that help overcome barriers to student success, and ensure teachers and school support personnel have a voice in improving their schools.

[www.aft.org](http://www.aft.org)



### **About TES Connect**

TES is an extraordinary story, encompassing one of the fastest growing digital communities of any profession globally, as well as a 100-year heritage at the center of teaching and the education community. Today, with more than 2 million registered online users in 197 countries, it is the largest online network of teachers in the world.

More than 2 million resources are downloaded from the TES Connect website every week, and it is home to more than 500,000 individually crafted teaching resources developed by teachers for teachers. This massive collection helps to inspire and inform teachers when they are preparing their lessons. It is no surprise that 3.5 resources are downloaded every second from TES.

[www.tesconnect.com](http://www.tesconnect.com)



## Why Join?

With **Share My Lesson**, you can ...

- ☁ Use a single website to access more than 260,000 free resources on topics ranging from managing student behavior to supporting students with special needs.
- ☁ Search by grade, subject, topic and format of resource.
- ☁ See how other educators have rated and reviewed resources.
- ☁ Search for materials specifically designed to help implement the Common Core State Standards.
- ☁ Access additional high-quality resources from our content partners, including the Teaching Channel, Colorín Colorado, Student Achievement Partners, Civic Voices, PTA, GLSEN, Bully Project, Peace First, Teaching Tolerance, National Constitution Center, RFK Center and BTU's 21st Century Lessons.
- ☁ Have a trusted place to share what has worked with students.
- ☁ Gather advice and inspiration from your colleagues.

Join now at  
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