


sharemylesson
www.sharemylesson.com

Supporting New Teachers



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; 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



The first few years in a classroom are often extraordinarily challenging for teachers. Share My Lesson can be a great help in successfully navigating the beginning of your teaching career.

Share My Lesson can help prepare new teachers in many ways:

Arranging Your Classroom

The classroom is the environment in which you and your students work, so it should be both functional and welcoming.

The basic keys to good room arrangement:

- High traffic areas are free of congestion, and there is enough room around desks to be able to get to each student.
- Students are always visible to the teacher.
- Storage space and necessary materials are readily accessible.
- Students can easily see instructional displays and presentations; and potential distractions are minimized.

Visit Share My Lesson for tips on how to set

up your classroom, and to find displays and posters you can use in your classroom.

Establishing Procedures and Rules

Before the year begins, effective classroom managers carefully consider how they want their classroom to function and the way they want their students to behave.

Personal style will influence the ways in which these guidelines are established. Some teachers will design a teaching/ learning environment with which they are comfortable, and then teach the system to the class. Others will have a general idea, but develop the specific plan with their class. In either case, what's most important is that the students understand the rules and procedures and consequences fully.

Any management system should provide for:

- Students' sense of fairness and well-being;
- A positive learning environment; and
- Assurance that school and district rules and policies will not be jeopardized.



Understandably, most teachers want to be characterized as effective managers, but how is this accomplished? Well-managed classrooms don't just happen, they are designed. Rules and procedures should be established on the first day and reinforced during the first three weeks of school.



Rules govern behavior in a general sense and should be few in number. For example: *Be prompt. Be prepared. Be polite. Be productive.*

Procedures, on the other hand, will govern instructional activities. They may be numerous at times, depending on the complexity of the activity, and are likely to change during the school year as instruction changes.

Even after the school year has begun, it is wise to reconsider classroom management systems. The following questions might prompt some tweaking in your system:

- Were procedures concerning students' personal needs well-defined?
- Was appropriate and inappropriate student behavior clearly determined?
- Have class routines and procedures for instructional activities been firmly established?
- Is the reinforcement system reasonable?

Share My Lesson provides ideas on how to effectively establish classroom rules and procedures, and articulate expectations for student behavior, including ways to bring students into the process. For

our classroom management collection, visit <http://tinyurl.com/SMLclassroommanagement>.

Creating a Positive Learning Environment

Effective teachers generally approach each year with certain common practices; this helps to create an environment in which learning can take place and serves to maintain that environment throughout the school year.

Successful classroom managers often:

- Develop rules/procedures carefully and in detail.
- Systematically teach expected student behavior.
- Encourage high levels of student accountability.
- Maintain good management systems.
- Organize instruction for student task-engagement and success.

Creating a positive learning environment is obviously a key ingredient to a successful classroom, and Share My Lesson can help with this vital component. Resources include icebreakers for use at the beginning of the year, strategies for highlighting student successes, anti-bullying toolkits and information on how to help students cope with traumatic events.

For our anti-bullying collection, visit <http://tinyurl.com/SMLbullying>. For our coping with trauma collection, visit <http://tinyurl.com/SMLtrauma>.

Working with Parents

The benefits of building strong school-family partnerships to students are many, including higher academic achievement, increased



motivation for learning, improved behavior and attitude, and better attendance. The foundation for such partnerships begins with effective communication.

Opportunities for opening the channels of communication include parent conferences, curriculum nights, parent-teacher organizations, student work sent home for parent review and comment, home visits, phone calls, e-mail, and school or classroom websites.

When communicating with parents, it is important to:

- Focus on classroom learning activities, the child's accomplishments and how the parents can help at home with their child's learning.
- Employ active listening techniques: Give parents your undivided attention; paraphrase to verify what you hear; ask questions to clarify what you don't understand; and acknowledge parents' feelings.
- Maintain confidentiality.



- Respect cultural differences and be mindful of nonverbal communication.

Share My Lesson includes resources that will help anyone who works with students build and sustain effective relationships with parents. For our collection of resources designed to help educators work with parents, visit <http://tinyurl.com/SMLparentpartnerships>.

Implementing 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.

There are six **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.

Key Instructional Shifts:

- **Focus strongly where the standards focus.**
- **Coherence: thinking across grades and linking to major topics**
- **Rigor: conceptual understanding, procedural skill and fluency, and application should be addressed with *equal intensity***

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.

Key Instructional Shifts:

- **Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction and informational texts**
- **Reading and writing grounded in evidence from text**
- **Regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary**

Developing a Professional Network

Getting Feedback

One extraordinary way that Share My Lesson can facilitate collaboration is through the exchange of feedback. Load your lesson plans and other resources onto the site, and teachers across the nation can leave comments about what they found useful and what could be improved (or give the link to colleagues and ask them to let you know what they think).

Building Community

Have a question or want to discuss an issue you have been having or an idea you would like to try out? Share My Lesson has forums where you can exchange ideas about pedagogy, share best practices or ask for advice from your peers.



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 information center 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 they require.
- 🔗 Browse the best Common Core content from around the web.
- 🔗 Chat with other educators about benefits and challenges of implanting 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



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



[History of CCSS](#)

[The American Federation of Teachers and the Common Core](#)

[CCSS Adopters](#)

[CCSS FAQs](#)

Around the web



The best of Common Core content from around the web

[Blogs to watch](#)

[Webinars to watch](#)

CCSS News



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

[CCSS and ELA raise](#)

[Latest News](#)

[An interview with David Coleman](#)

CCSS Forum



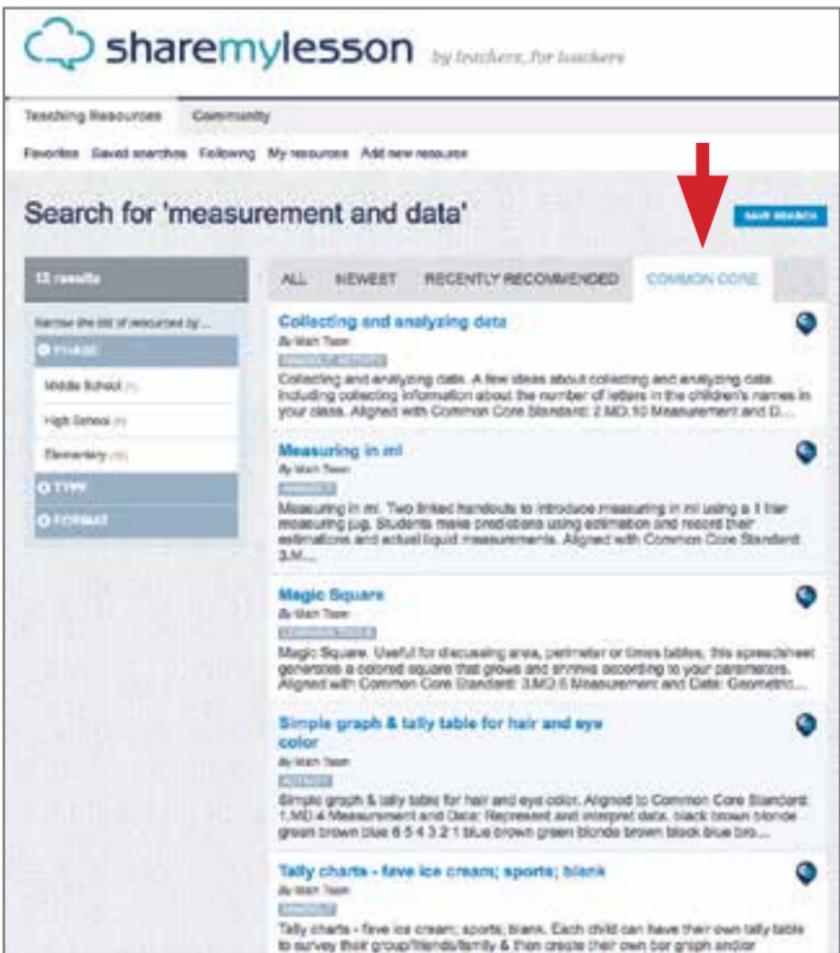
Join the conversation about the Common Core and what it means for America's classroom.

[CCSS Forum](#)

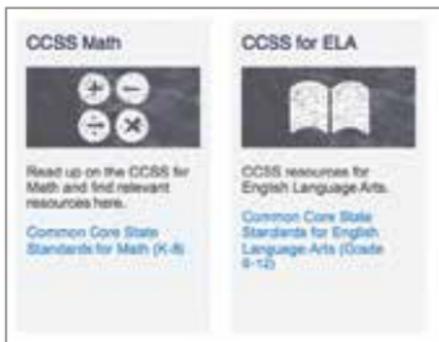
level, then choose a subject and topic area.

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.



Whichever way you choose, just look for the Common Core icon, which indicates a resource is aligned to the standards.



Share My Lesson
was developed by the American Federation of Teachers and TES Connect, the largest network of teachers 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



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



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
www.sharemylesson.com