

Activity 7

Connecticut Core Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy



Grades K–5

Systems of Professional Learning

Connecticut Core Standards Systems of Professional Learning

The material in this guide was developed by Public Consulting Group in collaboration with staff from the Connecticut State Department of Education and the RESC Alliance. The development team would like to specifically thank Ellen Cohn, Charlene Tate Nichols, and Jennifer Webb from the Connecticut State Department of Education; Leslie Abbatiello from ACES; and Robb Geier, Elizabeth O'Toole, and Cheryl Liebling from Public Consulting Group.

The Systems of Professional Learning project includes a series of professional learning experiences for Connecticut Core Standards District Coaches in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Humanities, Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM), and Student/Educator Support Staff (SESS).

Participants will have continued support for the implementation of the new standards through virtual networking opportunities and online resources to support the training of educators throughout the state of Connecticut.

Instrumental in the design and development of the Systems of Professional Learning materials from PCG were: Sharon DeCarlo, Debra Berlin, Jennifer McGregor, Michelle Wade, Nora Kelley, Diane Stump, and Melissa Pierce.

Published 2014. Available online at <http://ctcorestandards.org/>



Activity 7

Activity 7: Reflect, Pair, Share

DESCRIPTION

Independently, coaches will review notes and activities from today, reflecting on videos, texts, activities, and discussions. Each coach shares his/her list with a partner and they agree on 3–4 items to share with the table. Partners then share their list with the whole table, and the table agrees on three or four items to share with the entire workshop group.

DIRECTIONS

1. Reflect on your notes, anchor charts, and discussions from today.
2. Create a list of take-aways that have implications for curriculum, instruction, and learning in your school. Record your notes on the chart on the next page.
3. Discuss your list with a partner at your table. Decide upon 3–4 take-aways that you both agree are important. Record those on the chart on the next page.
4. At your table, choose one person to lead a discussion about the partners' lists. Decide upon 3–4 items that you all agree are important. Be prepared to share with the whole group.
5. Share your items with the whole group.

My Take-Aways from Module 1

What I learned (or revisited) today	How it informed or changed my thinking	How it can impact teaching and learning in my school
<p><i>Example: Importance of content-rich nonfiction. Students can be learning about content from text, not teacher.</i></p>	<p><i>Example: I need to reconsider some of the texts I use for read alouds to be sure that they are nonfiction, and will help students build knowledge on important topics.</i></p>	<p><i>Do we have enough content-rich nonfiction of appropriate complexity for each grade level?</i></p>

My Partner and I Agree on These 3–4 Items

What we learned (or revisited) today	How it informed or changed our thinking	How it can impact teaching and learning in our schools

At Our Table, We Agree on These 3–4 Items:

What we learned (or revisited) today	How it informed or changed our thinking	How it can impact teaching and learning in our schools

References

- ACT. (2006). Reading between the lines: What the ACT reveals about college readiness in reading. Available from http://www.act.org/research/policymakers/pdf/reading_summary.pdf
- Alberti, S. (December 2012/January 2013). Making the shifts. *Educational Leadership*, 70(4), 24-27.
- America Achieves (2012). EQiP Resources. Retrieved from <http://commoncore.americaachieves.org/>
- Aspen Institute. Education & Society Program (2012). *Tools for teachers: Implementing key shifts in the Common Core State Standards*.
- Beck, I. L., McKeown, M. G. & Kucan, L. (2013). *Bringing words to life: Robust vocabulary instruction*. 2nd Edition. NY: Guilford Press.
- Blackburn, B. R. (2014). *Five Myths about Rigor and the Common Core*, by Little Switzerland, NC: MiddleWeb.com. Copyright 2014 by Barbara R. Blackburn. Reprinted with permission. Retrieved from <http://www.middleweb.com/12318/five-myths-rigor-common-core/> (website link: barbarablackburnonline.com)
- Brown, S., & Kappes, L (2012). *Implementing the Common Core State Standards: A primer on close reading of text*. Available from <http://www.aspeninstitute.org/publications/tools-teachers-implementing-key-shifts-common-core-state-standards//>
- Cappiello, M. A., & Dawes, E. T. (2013). *Teaching with text sets*. Huntington Beach, CA: Shell Education.
- CCSSO & NGA. (2010). Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects. Washington, DC. Author, p. 5. Available from <http://www.corestandards.org/>
- Common Core shifts: a 2-page summary. Available from <http://www.achievethecore.org/>
- Complete College America (2011). Time is the enemy. Available from http://www.completecollege.org/docs/Time_is_the_Enemy.pdf
- Dounay Zinth, J., & Christie, K. (2012, January). *12 for 2012: Issues to move education forward in 2012*. Denver, CO: Education Commission of the States.
- Fisher, D., Frey, N., & Lapp, D. (2012). *Text complexity: Raising rigor in reading*. Newark, DE: International Reading Association.
- Gates Foundation (2012). Strategy scorecard: 2012 College ready strategy review. Bellevue, WA: Gates Foundation.
- Guide to Creating Questions for Close Analytic Reading. Available from <http://www.achievethecore.org/steal-these-tools/text-dependent-questions/>.

- Hiebert, E. H. (2012). Unique Words Require Unique Instruction. Available from <http://www.textproject.org/text-matters/>.
- http://nationsreportcard.gov/reading_2011/summary.asp
- http://parccmdfelaliteracyAugust2012_Final.pdf.
- <http://www.aspeninstitute.org/publications/implementing-common-core-state-standards-primer-close-reading-text/>.
- Introduction to the ELA/Literacy Shifts. Available from <http://www.achievethecore.org/steal-these-tools/professional-development-modules/introduction-to-the-ela-literacy-shifts>
- Kamil, M. L., Borma, G. D., Dole, J., Kral, C. C., Salinger, T., & Torgesen, J. (2008). *Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom and Intervention Practices: A Practice Guide (NCEE#2008-027)*. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of education. Retrieved from <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>
- Liebling, C., & Meltzer, J. (2011). Making a difference in student achievement using the Common Core State Standards for English language arts: What school and district leaders need to know. *A PCG Education White Paper*. Portsmouth, NH: Public Consulting Group.
- Loveless, T. (2011, February). How well as American students learning? *The 2010 Brown Center report on American Education*, 11(3). Washington, DC: Brown Center on Education Policy at Brookings.
- Model Content Frameworks – ELA/Literacy. <http://www.parcconline.org/mcf/ela/parcc-model-content-frameworks-browser>
- Mullis, I. V. S., Martin, M. O., Foy, P., & Drucker, K. T. (2012). *PIRLS 2011 International Results in Reading*. Chestnut Hill, MA: TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, Boston, College. Available from <http://timssandpirls.bc.edu/pirls2011/international-results-pirls.html>.
- Nagy, W., & Townsend, D. (2012). Words as tools: Learning Academic Vocabulary as Language Acquisition. *Reading Research Quarterly*, 47(1), 91-108.
- National Assessment of Educational Progress (2011). The Nation's Report Card. http://nationsreportcard.gov/reading_2011/
- National Governors Association Center for Best Practices & Council of Chief State School Officers (2012). Supplemental information for Appendix A of the Common Core State Standards for English language arts and literacy: New research on text complexity. Retrieved from <http://achievethecore.org/steal-these-tools/>
- National Governors Association Center for Best Practices & Council of Chief State School Officers (2010). *Common Core State Standard for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies*,

Science, and Technical Subjects. Washington, D.C.: Authors. Retrieved from <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/>; National Governors Association Center for Best Practices & Council of Chief State School Officers (2012). See Appendix B: Text Exemplars and Sample Performance Tasks. http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf

National Governors Association Center for Best Practices & Council of Chief State School Officers (2010). *Common Core State Standard for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects*. Washington, D.C.: Authors. See also Appendices A, B, and C. Retrieved from <http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/>

National Governors Association Center for Best Practices & Council of Chief State School Officers (2012). Supplemental information for Appendix A of the Common Core State Standards for English language arts and literacy: New research on text complexity. Retrieved from <http://achievethecore.org/steal-these-tools/>

OECD. (2010). PISA 2009 results: Executive Summary. Available from <http://www.oecd.org/pisa/pisaproducts/pisa2009/>.

Orter, W., Riley, R., Towne, L., Hightower, A.M., Lloyd, S.C., et al. (2012, January). *Preparing for change: A national perspective on Common Core State Standards implementation planning*. Seattle, WA: Education First and Bethesda, MD: Editorial Projects in Education, Inc.

Shanahan, T. (December, 2012/January, 2013). The Common Core ate my baby and other urban legends. *Educational Leadership*, 70(4), pp.10-16. Available from <http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/dec12/vol70/num04/The-Common-Core-Ate-My-Baby-And-Other-Urban-Legends.aspx>.

Student Achievement Partners. Available from www.achievethecore.org/downloads/EO702_Description_of_the_Common_Core_Shifts.pdf.

Student Achievement Partners. See professional development modules on the instructional shifts. Retrieved from <http://achievethecore.org/steal-these-tools/professional-development-modules/introduction-to-the-ela-literacy-shifts?>

Videos

“Mars - Supporting Evidence” (Price), <http://commoncore.americaachieves.org/module/20>

“The Wonders of Nature” (Liben), <http://commoncore.americaachieves.org/module/6>

“Graphic Non-Fiction: Harriet Tubman” (Sims), <http://commoncore.americaachieves.org/module/2>

Websites for Quantitative Text Analyzers

ATOS Analyzer – Renaissance Learning. Available from <http://www.renlearn.com/ar/overview/atos/>

Degrees of Reading Power – Questar. Available from <http://www.questarai.com>

Lexile Framework – MetaMetrix. Available from <http://www.lexile.com/analyzer/>

Coh-Metrix Easability Tool. Available from <http://141.225.42.101/cohmetrixgates/Hoes.aspx?Login=1>

Nelson, J., Perfetti, C., Liben, D., & Liben, M. (2012). Measures of text difficulty: Testing their predictive value for grade levels and student performance. Report Submitted to the Gates Foundation. Available from <http://achievethecore.org/text-complexity> for this paper and more information about text complexity.