

English Language Arts:

The standards describe expertise students will develop in reading, writing, speaking/ listening, and language.

Grades K-5 Students build on their knowledge of key Foundational Skills including phonics, word recognition, vocabulary, fluency and comprehension.

Grades 6-12 Language Arts standards include: literacy, history/social studies, science, and technical subjects. The standards describe how students use and strengthen these skills particularly reading and writing in all disciplines at their grade level.

**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*

Common Core State Standards are:

- Aligned with college and work expectations
- Clear, understandable, and consistent
- Rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order thinking skills
- Built on strengths and lessons of current state standards
- Informed by other top-performing countries, so that *all* students are prepared to succeed in a global economy and society
- Evidence-based

Source:

<http://www.corestandards.org/about-the-standards/>



Mathematics:

The standards include mathematical practice (how students apply and extend math principles) and mathematical content (what students know about math).

K-5 establishes foundation of using and understanding whole numbers, fractions and decimals

6-8 preparation for geometry, algebra and probability and statistics

High School emphasis on applying math to solve problems arising in everyday life, society, and the workplace.

**Focus deeply on ideas stated within the standards*

**Coherence: Think across grades and link major topics within grades*

**Rigor*

*Fluency (speed and accuracy)
Application
Understanding*

Helpful Common Core Websites:

** <http://www.cgcs.org/Page/244>

www.pta.org/common-core-state-standards.asp

www.commoncore.org

www.educationnorthwest.org

www.achieve.org

www.sde.ct.gov

How will the CCSS be assessed?

Smarter Balanced is working with educators and parents to develop assessments that will replace CMTs in literacy and mathematics in the 2014-15 school year.

Key Features:

*Measures student achievement and growth in literacy/mathematics in grades 3-8 and high school.

*Includes accommodations for students with disabilities and English Language Learners so that all students can demonstrate what they know.

*Administered online with questions and performance tasks that measure critical thinking and problem solving skills.

*Expectations of student performance linked to international benchmarks.

*Provides clear, easy-to-understand reports on student performance for teachers, parents and schools.

Source: <http://www.SmarterBalanced.org>

What can parents do to help their children achieve at these higher levels?

Stay in touch with your children's teacher and monitor your children's school performance. Waiting until the end of a semester or school year to find out about problems will be too late to help. Let your children know school work is important to you and that you expect them to do their best.

Support your children as assignments become more difficult to read and challenging to write. Provide the time and location and resources needed to study at home.

Reading a variety of books increases vocabulary, comprehension, general knowledge of the world, and love of learning. Provide regular, structured time for reading. Fill your home with opportunities to read. Show them that you are a reader, too.

Brookfield Public Schools *Adopts and Applies* Common Core State Standards



Something big is happening in education! Forty states including Connecticut have adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). These new standards in Language Arts and Math are important for your student's future success!

Why COMMON Standards?

- *Same standards everywhere
- *Modeled on success
- *College and career ready
- *Real life is really important
- *College should not begin with remediation
- *Increased access to resources
- *21st century skills for 21st century jobs