Common Core State Standards

- are a result of a national movement to adopt common standards and assessments for English and Mathematics.

- provide educators, parents, and students with clear, focused learning objectives.

- are benchmarked against international standards and top-performing countries, which will help our students succeed in a global economy and society.

- are a new set of expectations designed to ensure all students achieve college, career, and workplace readiness.
Development / Adoption of the Standards

The Standards were developed in a collaborative effort between state departments of education, teachers, experts in a wide array of fields, and professional organizations. They have been adopted by 46 of the states.

Timeline for Implementation

Implementation of the Common Core Standards will occur in stages beginning this year, with full implementation scheduled for the 2014-15 school year.

How Instruction will Change

The Standards cover fewer topics, offer clearer guidance to educators, and aim for higher levels of learning.

Instruction will shift in both English language arts and math as students:

- probe more deeply into subject matter
- engage in higher-level reasoning
- apply their knowledge to real-world scenarios and problem solving.
Instructional Shifts for English and Literacy:

- **Building knowledge through non-fiction** more than through fiction, with particular emphasis on history and science. Teachers will rely less upon literature (though it will be taught), and more upon “informational text.”

- **Reading and writing grounded in evidence** from text. Students will learn to read like detectives and write like reporters, citing evidence and factual information.

- **Regular practice with complex text and its academic vocabulary** (such as the unique vocabulary used in the sciences).

3rd Grade Reading Sample Test Question Prior to Common Core State Standards

This story mainly tells -

A. how fish are different from people
B. how many kinds of fish there are
C. where fish can be found
D. how fish swim
### 3rd Grade Reading Sample Test Question with Common Core State Standards

**Read all parts of the question before responding**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part A</th>
<th>Part B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What is one main idea of “How Animals Live?”</strong></td>
<td><strong>Which detail from the article best supports the answer to Part A?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. There are many types of animals on the planet.</td>
<td>a. “Animals get oxygen from air or water.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Animals need water to live.</td>
<td>b. “Animals can be grouped by their traits.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. There are many ways to sort different animals.</td>
<td>c. “Worms are invertebrates.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Animals begin their life cycles in different forms.</td>
<td>d. “All animals grow and change over time.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>e. “Almost all animals need water, food, oxygen, and shelter to live.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Instructional Shifts for Mathematics

- **Focus:** Instruction will focus more intently where the standards focus.

- **Coherence:** Major topics will be linked across grade levels, so skills are layered upon one another as the student progresses through school.

- **Rigor:** Students will be taught to be fluent in math concepts so that they can achieve deeper levels of understanding, allowing them to apply their learning to real-world scenarios.
A ketchup packet contains 3/16 ounce of ketchup. How many packets can be made using 24 ounces of ketchup?

4.5  9  72  128
A.  B.  C.  D.

If an object has constant speed, then the speed can be computed by the change in distance divided by the change in time.

Information about objects A, B, C and D are shown. Objects C and D both have constant speed.

Based on the information given, place the object names in order from greatest speed to least speed.
How Schools and Districts are Transitioning

- Administrators and teachers ...
  - are attending trainings on the new English language arts and math shifts and standards.
  - are analyzing components already in place and are developing a needs assessment to further implement the standards.
- Schools are communicating to parents the specific grade level standards through informational handouts and conversations.
- Districts are partnering with other community and educational agencies to develop resources, share knowledge, and support one another through this transition.

How Parents & Community Can Support Student Success

- Learn more about the Common Core State Standards and your school’s or district’s transition plan.
- Talk to the teachers regularly about your child and how he or she is doing. Ask your child’s teacher for suggestions on how to support school work at home.
- Educate other parents and community members about the transition to the Common Core State Standards.
- Establish a daily reading routine and include informational/nonfiction text along with fiction. Engage in discussions about the text.
- Encourage children in the early grades to learn their basic math facts. This basic foundation remains necessary before students can build their problem-solving skills.

- Encourage your child to write at home.

- Support your schools and district by becoming knowledgeable about the district’s needs, school’s needs, and students’ needs.

- Celebrate with the students, schools, and districts on their accomplishments.

- Encourage and support early learning (preschool and before) with children in your life.