



A Parent's Guide to Common Core

3rd – 6th Grade

Why are Academic Standards Important?

Academic standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. They help set clear and consistent expectations for students, parents, and teachers; build your child's knowledge and skills; and help set high goals for all students. Of course, high standards are not the only thing needed for our children's success. But standards provide an important first step — a clear roadmap for learning for teachers, parents, and students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. Standards help parents and teachers know when students need extra assistance or when they need to be challenged even more. They also will help your child develop critical thinking skills that will prepare him or her for college and career.

What Does Common Core Look Like In the Classroom?

- Higher order questioning that will challenge students to think at a deeper level.
- Structured student discussions that lead to productive group work that will put knowledge into action.
- Focused daily learning targets or student outcomes that establish the purpose for learning.
- Daily checks of learning and understanding.
- Collaboration within small groups to foster student engagement in learning.
- Connections to real life events and applications.
- Use of graphic organizers, tables, charts, etc. to support learning.

What Does Common Core Look Like In Math Modules?

- Fluency
- Concept Development
- Application

What Does Common Core Look Like In ELA Modules?

- Informational Texts
- Close Reading
- Discussing and Writing about Text Using Evidence
- Academic Vocabulary



