



The Common Core Standards for Parents

A Focus upon the Shifts From the Illinois Learning Standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics to the Common Core Standards

Why Common Core Standards?

- The Common Core State Standards provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents know what they need to do to help them. The standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete successfully in the global economy.
- See <http://www.corestandards.org/>

Why Common Core Standards Across All States?

- We need standards to ensure that all students, no matter where they live, are prepared for success in postsecondary education and the workforce. Common standards will help ensure that students are receiving a high quality education consistently, from school to school and state to state. Common standards will provide a greater opportunity to share experiences and best practices within and across states that will improve our ability to best serve the needs of students.
- See <http://www.corestandards.org/>

How is this Different For My Child?

Shifts for Students Demanded by the Core

6 *Shifts* in ELA/Literacy

Read as much non fiction as fiction
Learn about the world by reading
Read more challenging material closely
Discuss reading using evidence
Write non-fiction using evidence
Increase academic vocabulary

6 *Shifts* in Mathematics

Focus: learn more about fewer, key topics
Build skills within and across grades
Develop speed and accuracy
Really know it, Really do it
Use it in the real world
Think fast AND solve problems

English Language Arts:

ELA/Literacy Shift 1:

Read as much non fiction as fiction

Students must...	Parents can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read more non-fiction• Know the ways non-fiction can be put together• Enjoy and discuss the details of non-fiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supply more non-fiction text• Read non fiction texts aloud or with your child• Have fun with non-fiction in front of them

ELA/Literacy Shift 2:

Learn about the world by reading

Students must...

- Get smart in Science and Social Studies **through reading**
- Handle “primary source” documents
- Get smarter *through* texts

Parents can...

- Supply series of texts on topics of interest
- **Find books that explain**
- Discuss non-fiction texts and the ideas within

Based Upon Research:

The more we read the more we can read!

- By age 3, children from affluent families have heard 30 million more words than children from parents living in poverty. (Hart and Risley, 1995).
- Children who have larger vocabularies and greater understanding of spoken language do better in school (Whitehurst and Lonigan).
- If children aren't reading on grade level by third grade, are four times more likely to leave high school without a diploma (Hernandez, 2011).

More Complex Text Required at Every Grade

ELA/Literacy Shift 3: Read more complex material carefully

Students must...	Parents can
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Re-read• Read material at comfort level AND work with more challenging stuff• Unpack text• Handle frustration and keep pushing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide more challenging texts AND provide texts they WANT to read and can read comfortably• Know what is grade level appropriate• Read challenging stuff <i>with</i> them• Show that challenging stuff is worth unpacking

Some Examples of Challenging Texts

Support their Reading.

Read Challenging Texts Aloud.

Grades	Example of Complexity: Nonfiction	Example of Complexity: Fiction
K-1	A Tree is a Plant Read Aloud: Fire, Fire!	Are you My Mother? Read Aloud: The Owl & the Pussycat
2-3	Martin Luther King and the March on Washington Read Aloud: What the World Eats	Fire Cat Read Aloud: Charlotte's Web
4-5	Hurricanes: Earth's Mightiest Storms The Kids' Guide to Money	Bud not Buddy The Secret Garden
6-8	Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass A Night to Remember	Little Women The People Could Fly
9-10	Hope, Despair, Memory Letter from Birmingham Jail	Things Fall Apart In the Time of Butterflies
11-12	Take the Tortillas Out of Your Poetry Mother Tongue Black Boy	The Canterbury Tales Dreaming in Cuban Crime & Punishment

State a Claim and Support With Evidence

ELA/Literacy Shift 4:

Discuss reading using evidence

Students Must...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find evidence to support their arguments• Form judgments• become scholars• Discuss what the author is “up to”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Talk about text• Demand evidence in every day discussions/ disagreements• Read aloud or read the same book and discuss with evidence

Writing Across All Content Areas

ELA/Literacy Shift 5: Writing from Sources

Students Must...	Parents can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Make arguments in writing using evidence• Compare multiple texts in writing• Write well	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage writing at home• Write “books” together and use evidence/ details• Look at Appendix A: http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf

Build Vocabulary

ELA/Literacy Shift 6: Academic Vocabulary

Students Must...

- Learn the words that they can use in college and career
- Get smarter at using the **“language of power”**

Parents Can...

- **Read often** and constantly with babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and children
- Read multiple books about the same topic
- Let your kids see you reading

Talk to your children; Read to your children; Listen to your children; Sing with your children; Make up silly rhymes and word games with your children

Mathematics :The Common Core Standards Require Students to Go In depth With Their Understandings.

Mathematics Shift 1:

Focus: learn more about less

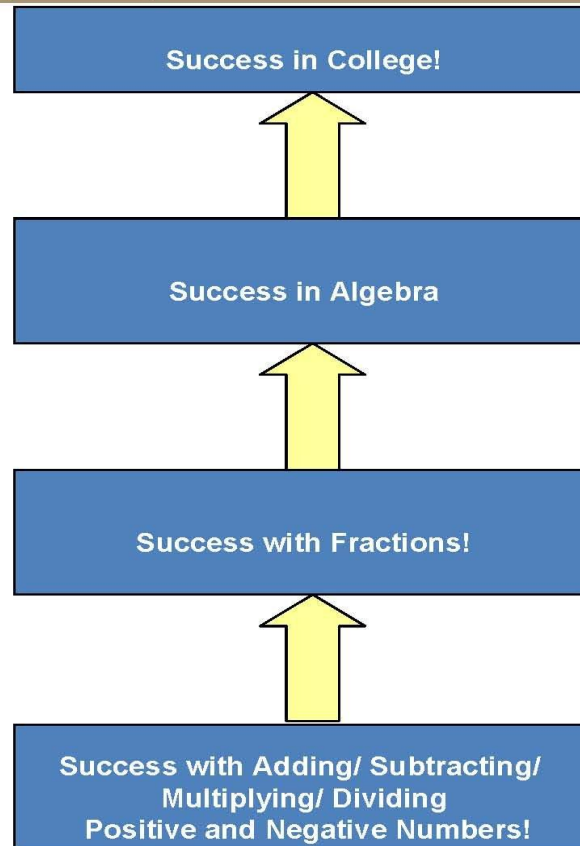
Students Must...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spend more time on fewer concepts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know what the priority work is for your child for their grade level• Spend time with your child on priority work• Ask your child's teacher about their progress on priority work

Mathematics Shift 2: Skills Across Grades

Students Must...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep building on learning year after year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be aware of what your child struggled with last year and how that will affect learning this year • Advocate for your child and ensure that support is given for “gap” skills – negative numbers, fractions, etc

The Stages of Mastery for Mathematics

The National Mathematics Advisory Panel's Final Report (2008)



Final Report of the National Mathematics Advisory Panel, 2008

Mental Math First, Rather Than Paper and Pencil Facts First!

Mathematics Shift 3: Speed and Accuracy

Students Must...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Spend time practicing – lots of problems on the same idea	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Push children to know/memorize basic math facts•Know all of the fluencies your child should have and prioritize learning of the ones they don't

Notice the Strengths of Building Upon Base 10= Building Decades

Key Fluencies

Grade	Required Fluency
K	Add/subtract within 5
1	Add/subtract within 10
2	Add/subtract within 20 Add/subtract within 100 (pencil and paper)
3	Multiply/divide within 100 Add/subtract within 1000
4	Add/subtract within 1,000,000
5	Multi-digit multiplication
6	Multi-digit division Multi-digit decimal operations
7	Solve $px + q = r$, $p(x + q) = r$
8	Solve simple 2×2 systems by inspection

Students Must Explain Why Math Works.

Mathematics Shift 4: Know it/ Do it!

Students Must...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNDERSTAND why the math works. MAKE the math work.• TALK about why the math works• PROVE that they know why and how the math works	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notice whether your child REALLY knows why the answer is what it is• Advocate for the TIME your child needs to learn key math• Provide TIME for your child to work hard with math at home• Get smarter in the math your child needs to know

Practices and Conceptual Understanding!

Mathematics Shift 5: Real World

Students Must...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply math in real world situations• Know which math to use for which situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask your child to DO the math that comes up in your daily life

The Common Core Standards Require Students to See the Numbers on a Number Line in Their Mind


Mathematics Shift 6: Think Fast/ Solve Problems

Students Must...	Parents Can...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be able to use core math facts FAST <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be able to apply math in the real world	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notice which side of this coin your child is smart at and where he/she needs to get smarter• Make sure your child is PRACTICING the math facts he/she struggles with• Make sure your child is thinking about Math in real life

Before the Common Core Standards, States Gave Traditional Algorithm Questions to Students, Much Like an ISAT Question...

NY State Test Item 5th Grade Math (2005)

12 Pierre is making an apple crumb pie using the items below.

APPLE CRUMB PIE 	
Crumb	Filling
$\frac{3}{4}$ cup flour	4 cups sliced apples
$\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar	$\frac{1}{3}$ cup sugar
$\frac{1}{4}$ cup butter	$\frac{1}{2}$ cup raisins

How much total sugar must Pierre use to make the pie crumb and filling?

F $\frac{7}{12}$ cup

G $\frac{2}{6}$ cup

H $\frac{3}{4}$ cup

J $\frac{2}{3}$ cup

The Type of Problem Our Students Will Be Expected to Solve:

Example Common Core Performance Task 5th Grade Math

Stuffed with Pizza

Tito and Luis are stuffed with pizza! Tito ate one-fourth of a cheese pizza. Tito ate three-eighths of a pepperoni pizza. Tito ate one-half of a mushroom pizza. Luis ate five-eighths of a cheese pizza. Luis ate the other half of the mushroom pizza. All the pizzas were the same size. Tito says he ate more pizza than Luis because Luis did not eat any pepperoni pizza. Luis says they each ate the same amount of pizza. Who is correct? Show all your mathematical thinking.

This is How Our Students Will Respond:

Example Annotated Student Work

Stuffed with Pizza

Tito and Luis are stuffed with pizza! Tito ate one-fourth of a cheese pizza. Tito ate three-eighths of a pepperoni pizza. Tito ate one-half of a mushroom pizza. Luis ate five-eighths of a cheese pizza. Luis ate the other half of the mushroom pizza. All the pizzas were the same size. Tito says he ate more pizza than Luis because Luis did not eat any pepperoni pizza. Luis says they each ate the same amount of pizza. Who is correct? Show all your mathematical thinking.

I will find who is correct, Tito or Luis.
I will make a diagram.

Key

T	TITO
L	Luis
C	cheese
P	Pepperoni
M	mushroom pizzas

C

$\frac{2}{8}$

P

$\frac{3}{8}$

M

$\frac{1}{2} = 1$

Tito ate

$$\frac{3}{8} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4} = ?$$

$$\frac{3}{8} + \frac{2}{8} + \frac{2}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$

Luis ate

$$\frac{5}{8} + \frac{1}{2} = ?$$

$$\frac{5}{8} + \frac{4}{8} = \frac{9}{8} = \frac{1\frac{1}{8}}$$

you have to find how to have 8 in the denominator so you add equivalent fractions

Answer: Luis was right because they both ate $1\frac{1}{8}$ pizza

The student is able to make sense and persevere in solving the problem. The student demonstrates correct reasoning of proportional parts of a whole, correctly assigns each boy pizza pieces, and finds the correct equivalent fractions to state a correct answer. The student verifies her/his answer with decimals and percents and brings prior knowledge of statistics to the solution.

The student models with mathematics. The area model/diagram of the pizzas is accurate, labeled, and a key defines Tito, Luis, and the types of pizzas. The student uses the diagram to record some of her/his extended thinking to percents and decimals.

A Summary of The Common Core Standards

- The Common Core State Standards have been built from the best and highest state standards in the country. They are evidence-based, aligned with college and work expectations, include rigorous content and skills, and are informed by other top performing countries. They were developed in consultation with teachers and parents from across the country so they are also realistic and practical for the classroom. Far from looking for the “lowest common denominator,” these standards are designed to ensure that all students, regardless of where they live, are learning what they need to know to graduate from high school ready for college or a career.