

Did You Know?

Accommodations

Accommodations are practices and procedures that ensure that educators, as well as students and parents, have a valid measure of what students with disabilities know and can do. In addition, students with IEPs, 504 plans, and ESL plans may be provided with assessment accommodations. Accommodations do not reduce expectations for learning. Accommodations provided to a student during state assessments must also be provided during classroom instruction, classroom assessments, and district assessments. However, some instructional accommodations may not be appropriate for use on certain statewide assessments. It is critical that educators become familiar with state policies about the appropriate use of accommodations during assessments.

Handbooks

1. [2021 Accommodations Guidelines](#)
2. [2021 Accommodations Guidelines for ELs](#)
3. [2021 Read Aloud and Scribing Guidelines](#)

Forms

1. [2021 PSSA TDA Scribing Accommodation Form](#)
2. [2021 Unique Accommodation Form](#)
3. [2021 Confidentiality Agreement for Interpreters Form](#)

PA Core Standards Series

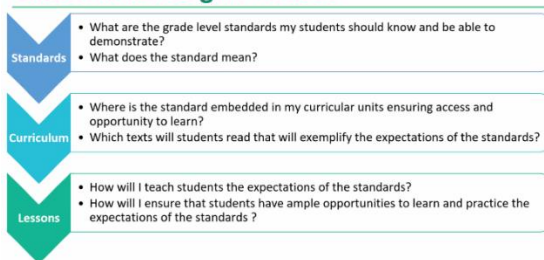
Unpacking/Deconstructing the Standards

What does it mean to unpack or deconstruct the standards?

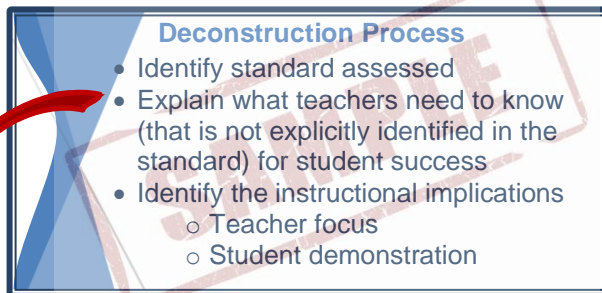
- What are the grade level standards my students should know and be able to demonstrate?
- What does the standard mean?
- What is the academic/domain-specific vocabulary and what does it mean for my grade level?
- What does the student do/consider?
- What does the teacher need to know, do/consider for students to demonstrate proficiency?

In a recent professional development session with Dr. Jeri Thompson, we discussed the backward design process in relation to instruction.

Backward Design Process



Center for Assessment



CC.1.3.6.B: Cite textual evidence...

What do teachers need to know about citing textual evidence for students to successfully analyze a poem at grade-level? What are the LEA's expectations for 4th grade vs. 6th grade?

Professional Development

The **ILA webinar** "Literacy Teaching in Turbulent Times" with Ernest Morrell, Nell Duke, and Jonah Edelman is available on YouTube: https://youtu.be/sq5Dr_G1U4A.

This is a thought-provoking and encouraging webinar.

Key practices that work:

- Relationships – student/teacher, student/student, teacher/family
- Let the students in on the secrets of literacy
- Opportunities for reading and writing
- Opportunities to share own perspectives
- Small group teaching (see [Nell Duke's YouTube Channel](#))



CHECK IT OUT!

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PA Schools for Tomorrow
Proactive Planning Past the Pandemic

PDE is excited to announce a [Distance Learning Series](#). The five-part series focuses on building and refining a comprehensive distance learning pathway in Local Education Agencies (LEA). Each webinar will highlight and release a distance learning tool for LEAs.

Follow the [flyer link](#) to register for the series as a team or register for individual presentations.

U.S. Department of Education Releases Parent and Family Digital Learning Guide

The guide can be viewed at: <https://tec.h.ed.gov/publication/s/digital-learning-guide/parent-family/>

Helpful Links...

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Guidance and Resources for School Communities](#)

General Education Resources

[PDE ELA](#)

[SAS ELA](#)

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