



Common Core Instructional Shift One

What does it look like?

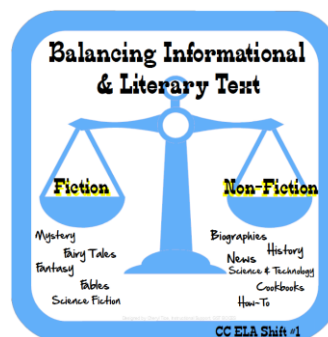
ELA

The first instructional shift for ELA is the balance of informational and literary texts. This shift seems a simple one on the surface, but in reality, is one of the more difficult shifts to make. It requires an increased amount of informational text in the classroom that has ever been asked of us before to prepare students for college and career readiness. This shift helps to support the others. When students are reading more informational texts, it is usually more complex as well as allows students to build on background/content knowledge more than narrative work.

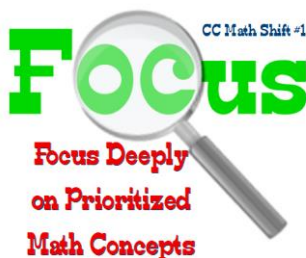
In grades K-4 there is a true balance of informational and literary texts. This balance will help students at the primary level build on more content knowledge rather than reading primarily literary text. The basis of the K-2 NYLA curriculum is to build on students' content knowledge to help broaden their worldly vocabulary and prepare them to be better readers.

As we move up into the middle school, a little more emphasis is placed on informational text. Expeditionary Learning, the vendor for grades 3-8 use social studies and science texts as a basis for module study. Literature is also read, but it works in combination with the informational text.

By high school, students are reading only 30 percent literary and 70 percent informational text throughout their school day. Without this progression of increasing informational text, students would not be ready for the demands of college and career. Odell Education has created a series for New York called, The Core Proficiencies. This series are what the future modules for high school will be built around. For now, these are a great resource for teachers implementing this shift of informational and literary text. The graphic organizers can be adapted for any text and really move students to independency in their high school years so they are college and career ready. This shift requires more than just the efforts of the English teacher. Other content areas must build upon informational text to support this shift as well as student understanding of their content.



MATH



The shift of focus is the greatest gift for math from the Common Core Learning Standards. Teachers no longer have a curriculum that is a "mile wide and an inch deep." The standards allow for a more narrow focus to develop students' conceptual understanding of a topic rather than a hit or miss machine gun tactic of the old standards.

Focus has been the priority of the vendor for the math program, Common Core Inc. They are creating the K-12 curriculum that will focus on the standards that matter most so that teachers can maximize their instructional time.

Implementation Resources

ELA

[Shift One: Engage NY Video with Commissioner King](#)

[Short Video on Using Literary Nonfiction in the Classroom](#)

[PK-5 Text Brace](#)

[6-12 Text Brace](#)

[Common Misconceptions About Literary and Informational Texts](#)

[NY ELA Curriculum](#)

MATH

[EngageNY Video on Focus](#)

[Focus in Math for K-8 Topics that Matter Most](#)

[HS Publisher's Criteria for CCSS in Mathematics](#)

[Video, "Don't Leave Out the Math"](#)

[NY Common Core Inc Math Curriculum](#)



Try This!

ELA	MATH
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-It Prioritizing: Students use post-its to write important information on a section of the text. Teacher places designated areas or chart paper with the sections of the text labeled. Students place their post-its in the appropriate area. They share their answers about the importance of a text and compare. It begins building on knowledge, discussion, and comparison about a text. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage students to compare previous standards to the new Common Core. Have them highlight in green what they can do now, pink for what they don't know how to do, and blue for what they may be able to do. Students will see the expectations of these new standards rather than it be a mystery. • Take a look at your current resources and start removing unnecessary materials and only use materials that focus on your priority standards.
<p>What can I do if I don't teach ELA?</p> <p>Select informational text in your content area appropriate for your grade level to help students increase their experience with informational text and build knowledge in your content area.</p>	<p>What can I do if I don't teach math?</p> <p>Ask grade level/HS level teachers what math they are teaching to their students and ask how you can support that math. A conversation may be all it takes to give ideas that will build students' confidence with learning in math when they see it classrooms outside of math.</p>

Math Resources for Parents

<http://commoncore.org/maps/math/video-gallery> . These are short videos that explain some of the key math models used in K-5 math.

<http://www.engageny.org/video-library> . These are similar to the videos above. Use the search box to filter for just math videos.

<http://www.engageny.org/educational-activities-for-parents-and-students>. These are educational sites suggested by our NYS Education Department. They are aimed at helping students work online to deepen their mathematical skills.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>. The Khan Academy is a vast, free, non-profit online academy funded by large donors such as Sal Khan, Google, and the Gates Foundation. Select "learn" then "arithmetic" to get to elementary math concepts. There are lots of other subjects as well.

<http://learnzillion.com/>. Teachers or parents can set up accounts, view lessons, complete practice, and receive feedback. LearnZillion also received major funding from the Gates Foundation to get started, but it is not a non-profit and will expand to a fee-based tool once they are well established. It is free for now though, so enjoy! There are lots of subjects offered here as well.

<http://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources> This link has a variety of resources.

Contact Us

RTTT Network Teams

Linda Perry

607.739.3581, ext 3307