Resources for Schools

The Arkansas Department of Education is pleased to offer the following resources as free options for Arkansas educators. Use of these resources is completely optional.

1. Arkansas Traveler portal is available to any Arkansas teacher at: **www.library.arkansas.gov/traveler**

Arkansas Traveler Student Resources –Elementary & Middle School

Early World of Learning (World Book)
Kids Search (EBSCO) searches of Middle Search Plus, Primary Search, Newspaper Source, TOPICSearch, EBSCO Animals, & Funk & Wagnall's New World Encyclopedia together
Middle Search (EBSCO)
Primary Search (EBSCO)
Searchasaurus (EBSCO) access to Middle Search Plus, Primary Search, Encyclopedia of Animals, a general dictionary and encyclopedia in a single search
TOPICsearch (EBSCO)
World Book Kids
World Book Student
NoveList K-8--A fiction database that contains enhanced subject access for over 70,000 fiction titles aimed at the elementary and middle school students with full-text reviews

Arkansas Traveler Student Resources - Junior High and Up

African-American Experience (ABC-Clio)

American Indian Experience (ABC-Clio)

Latino-American Experience (ABC-Clio)

Discovering Collection (Gale)

MAS Ultra School Edition (EBSCO) magazines and reference materials

Middle Search (EBSCO)

Student Research Center (EBSCO) simultaneous searching of Middle Search Plus,

MAS Ultra School Edition, Newspaper Source, TOPICSearch and Health Source – Consumer Edition

TOPICsearch (EBSCO)

World Book Advanced

NoveList K-8--A fiction database that contains enhanced subject access for over 70,000 fiction titles aimed at the elementary and middle school students with full-text reviews

English Language Learning Reference Center multi-purpose information resource for middle/high school students new to the English language, covers Science, History, Civics, Life Skills and Literature – and is written in an age appropriate interest level, using vocabulary and simplified structure helpful to non-native speakers

eBook Collections – 159 titles plus an additional 21 sets of multi-volume reference books

2. Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture, a free, authoritative source of information about the rich history, geography, and culture of Arkansas.

3. Arkansas History Hub, lesson plans and tools for teaching Arkansas History.

Britannica Resources for Implementing CCSS

(These are not on the Traveler Portal and must be accessed directly from their Web sites.)

This set of resources may require a password for home use. Most school librarians have this information. If your school does not, please email Edsupport@eb.com to get it.	4. Image Quest: Over 2 million rights-cleared images, downloadable and automatically cited. 5. SmartMath: Adaptive Math Practice for grades K-8 with 81 math topics to choose from in an engaging game-like interface with a built in rewards system. 6. Pathways Science: 100 Online Lessons, each covering a commonly held misconception, interactive approach to the Scientific Method, supports NGSS, valuable STEM resource, printable teacher materials. 7. 21st Century Explorer: Differentiated instruction for middle and high school students reading below grade level using age appropriate materials. 8. Britannica Online Encyclopedia: Thousands of articles, downloadable videos, online lessons correlated to CCSS, STEM resources, journal and magazine articles.

9. SAS Curriculum Pathways: Multimedia online lessons for grades 6-12 in math, science, social studies, Spanish and English language arts, aligned to CCSS and Arkansas Frameworks.

10. Arkansas Digital Sandbox connects technology and curriculum in a safe and secure social networking environment. It is a way to collaborate, store, and share multi-media in a closed, social learning network. All students and educators in Arkansas have an Arkansas Digital Sandbox Account.

11. Arkansas Moodle, professional development targeted to the big shifts in Common Core, asynchronous online courses with virtual learning groups. Specific courses to be announced.

12. Arkansas IDEAS, equitable access to high-quality, online professional development for all licensed educators in Arkansas
    a. Catalog of over 800 free online PD courses for 2012-13

b. [Common Core Arkansas](), Common Core Institutes and sessions, including videos and supporting materials.
c. [PBS Teacherline](), a wide array of professional development online courses for PreK-12 educators

13. [Arkansas iTunes U](), a library of educational content for educators and students

14. [PENDA](), an engaging way to learn science and math for grades 4-10. It will be set up in a similar way as Arkansas Digital Sandbox. Email [jbalzano@pendalearning.com]() to get a free training account and directions on how to set up your class to use it.

15. [ExploreLearning Gizmos]() – highly, interactive online simulations that help students develop a true understanding of mathematical topics and the "how" and "whys" behind them. With Gizmos, students don't just read or listen and watch, they learn by manipulating key variables and working with multiple visual representations. Gizmos, designed to supplement your existing curriculum, are correlated to state curriculum standards, the Common Core standards, and over 300 textbooks, making them easy to integrate into your instructional program. ==They are now available free to all **Algebra I** teachers in Arkansas.== To receive your account, send your name, school and district to [Arkansas@explorelearning.com]().

Dear Arkansas Educator:

Recently, several new resources have been made available for the public:

- Item prototypes for English language arts/literacy and mathematics
- Revised **Model Content Frameworks, English Language Arts/Literacy, Grades 3-11**
- Revised **Model Content Frameworks, Mathematics, Grades 3-11**
- **Supplemental Information for Appendix A of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy: New Research on Text Complexity**
- Revised **Publishers' Criteria for ELA/Literacy, Grades K-2**
- Revised **Publishers' Criteria for ELA/Literacy, Grades 3-12**
- New **K-8 Publishers' Criteria for Mathematics**
- Revised **Arkansas Big Shifts for ELA/Literacy**

On August 20, PARCC released a small sample of item prototypes and revised **Model Content Frameworks** for the public. The news release statement can be accessed on the PARCC Website at [http://www.parcconline.org/initial-set-test-items-and-task-prototypes-released](). The direct link to the item prototypes is [http://www.parcconline.org/samples/item-task-prototypes](). The revised **Model Content Frameworks for ELA/Literacy**

and the revised **Model Content Frameworks for Mathematics** include online versions with capability to search key words and phrases (ELA/Literacy) as well as links to referenced CCSS standards. The revised MCF for Mathematics also includes "a revised high school section that provides assessment guidance for Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II and Mathematics I, Math II, Math III." Both **Model Content Frameworks** may be accessed on the PARCC Website at http://www.parcconline.org/parcc-model-content-frameworks.

On the Common Core State Standards Website, under Resources (http://corestandards.org/resources), four new documents have been added to assist ELA/literacy and mathematics educators in the transition to CCSS. A new ELA/Literacy document for determining text complexity, **Supplemental Information for Appendix A of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy: New Research on Text Complexity,** provides the latest information and research to assist educators in placing texts within appropriate grade bands. The direct link to the document is http://corestandards.org/assets/E0813_Appendix_A_New_Research_on_Text_Complexity.pdf . The **Publishers' Criteria for ELA/Literacy, Grades K-2** and the **Publishers' Criteria for ELA/Literacy, Grades 3-12** were revised this spring. The direct link to the revised **Publishers' Criteria, Grades K-2** is http://corestandards.org/assets/Publishers_Criteria_for_K-2.pdf; the direct link to the revised **Publishers' Criteria, Grades 3-12** is http://corestandards.org/assets/Publishers_Criteria_for_3-12.pdf. In July, the **K-8 Publishers' Criteria for Mathematics** was made available and can be directly accessed at http://corestandards.org/assets/Math_Publishers_Criteria_K-8_Summer%202012_FINAL.pdf.

The ADE has revised the Big Shifts in ELA/Literacy to correspond with changes in the revised Model Content Frameworks and Publishers' Criteria for ELA/Literacy. The revised Big Shifts in ELA/Literacy is available at http://ccssarkansas.pbworks.com/w/file/58478003/Big%20Shifts%209-4-12--Dana.docx.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PATHWAYS SCIENCE TEACHER ACCOUNTS

Unlike the other Britannica programs, Pathways Science has a special teacher logon to access the teacher resources. The Pathways Science teacher accounts provide access to teacher tips and resources, plus it allows teachers to save different sessions, in case they want to spread a module over a couple class periods. Please share these instructions with all Arkansas science teachers.

Teachers can create their own accounts, using a secret code for Arkansas teachers.

> Secret Arkansas Code   6A180EB7C8F03751   (do not share with students)

1) To setup an account, go to http://pathways.eb.com . If needed, enter your school's Britannica password.

2) Click "Teacher Login" in the upper right.
3) Click "Sign up" and enter the requested information.
4) Copy/paste or enter the 6A180EB7C8F03751 code into the "School Code" box, and click OK.
5) When you are logged in as a teacher, you will see your username in the upper right, and the Teacher Materials button is activated. As you go through the Pathways Science modules, you'll see a "Teacher" button with tips at each step in the inquiry process. You can click "Save" in the bottom right to save different sessions as you go through them.

Please contact Britannica Technical Support with any questions.

Email   Edsupport@eb.com

Phone (800) 621-3900 x7160

Britannica Technical Support can also automatically generate teacher accounts for Pathways Science if any districts or co-ops provide a spreadsheet list of teachers. Teacher lists can be emailed to Edsupport@eb.com with a request for Pathways Science teacher accounts.

Pathways Science is provided free of charge to all Arkansas schools, thanks to the Arkansas Department of Education. Free training webinars for Pathways Science are available at www.info.eb.com/webinar and archive recordings of webinars are available at the links below:

Teaching Literacy in Social Studies: (many things also apply to science)
http://newsletter.eb.com/arkansas/literacysocialstudies612britannica08292012.wmv

Transition to the Common Core with Britannica
http://newsletter.eb.com/arkansas/transcommoncorebritannica08302012.wmv

STEM resources

http://newsletter.eb.com/arkansas/stemresources612britannica08302012.wmv

1. As the state moves forward with the CCSS implementation, an increasing
need is seen for information to aid teachers in understanding how to
formatively assess. While there are official ADE resources on the
Arkansas IDEAS website, there are additional outside resources that
educators might find helpful.
Please view these two articles from www.teachthought.com

<http://www.teachthought.com>:
(1)
ł10 Assessments You Can Perform in 90 Seconds ̦
(http://www.teachthought.com/teaching/10-assessments-you-can-perform-in-90
-
seconds/
\ shortened link: http://goo.gl/16Vh78)
(2)
ł27 Simple Ways To Check for Understanding ̦
(http://www.teachthought.com/teaching/27-simple-ways-check-understanding/
\ shortened link: http://goo.gl/mka6BU)

2. The New Teacher Project (TNTP) has released a whitepaper, Fixing
Classroom Observations: How Common Core Will Change the Way We Look at
Teaching. ̦ The whitepaper, available at this link, (full link:
http://tntp.org/ideas-and-innovations/view/fixing-classroom-observations
\ shortened link: http://goo.gl/dAKjqz)
proposes an approach to classroom observations built around two
must-haves ̦ :
assessing what's being taught in addition to how it's being taught.
Putting a
greater emphasis on choices about lesson content and making it easy for
observers to determine whether a lesson is helping students master
grade-appropriate standards are both critical for making the shift to the
CCSS.

3. The fall edition of the Literacy Design Collaborative
(LDC) Letter, from www.LDC.org <http://www.LDC.org>, is now available
online at http://e2.ma/message/slnhd/894jv4.
In this letter educators will find information on LDC Exemplary Modules,
Template Task Collection, Rules of the Road, and other information/tips on
developing LDC modules.

4. The Council of Chief State School Officers has resolved the issues with
broken links in their previous newsletter.

Please try these links:
(1) Implementing the Common Core: State Spotlights ̦ is available at:
(full link:
http://www.ccsso.org/Documents/Implementing%20the%20Common%20Core%20State%
2

0Standards%20State%20Spotlights%20Final%20October%202013.pdf \ shortened
link http://goo.gl/YhyQ0f)

(2) ɫCommon Core State Standards: Implementation Tools and Resources˛ is
available at: (full link:
http://www.ccsso.org/Documents/2013/CCSSImplementation_Tools_Resources_10_
2
013.pdf.pdf \
shortened link: http://goo.gl/YPO13U)