

Introducing the Common Core to Parents and Community Members

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS



ENGLISH
LANGUAGE ARTS



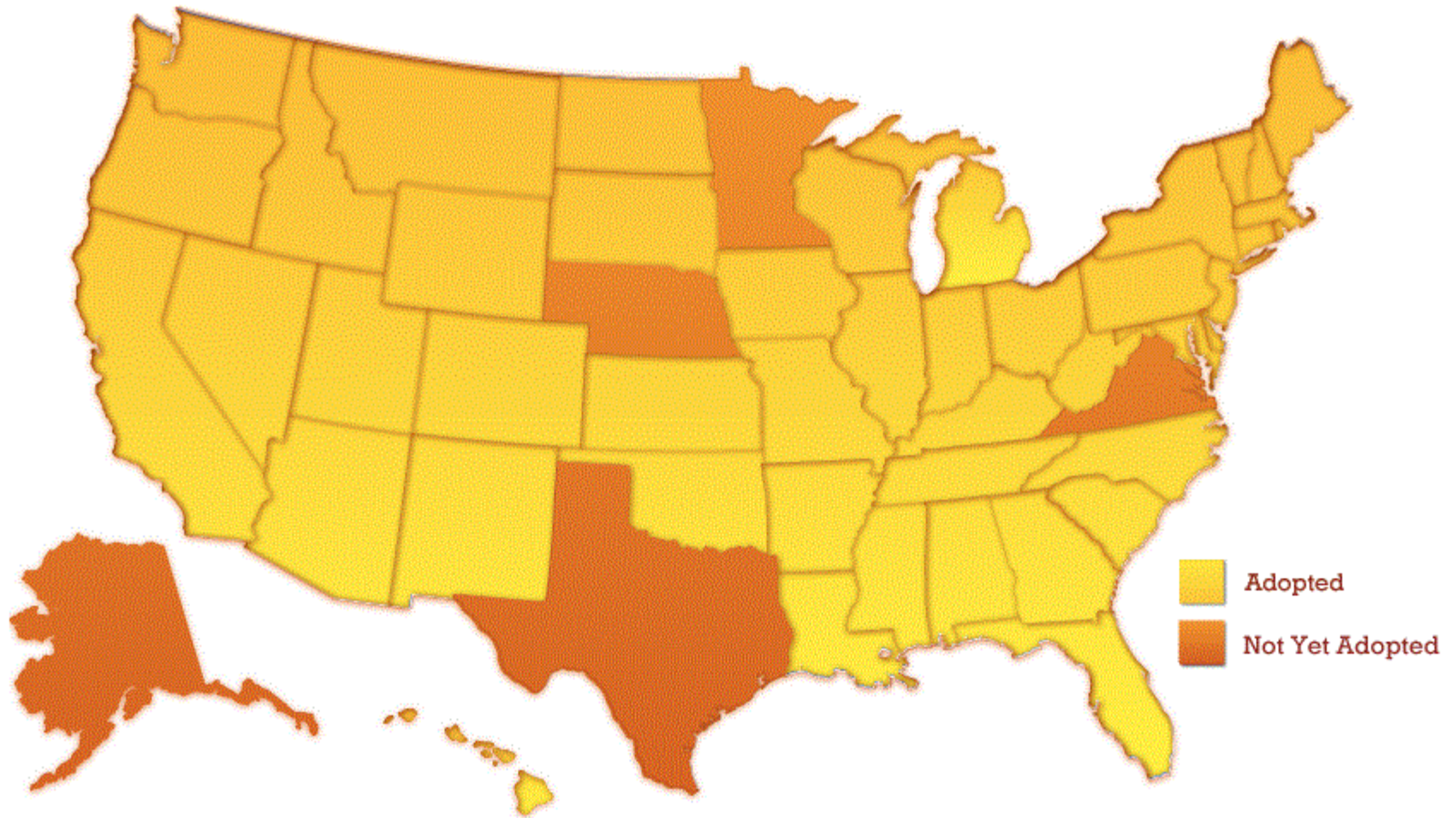
MATHEMATICS



Three-Minute Video Explaining the Common Core State Standards

<http://vimeo.com/51933492>

Common Core Across the Nation



What are the Common Core State Standards?

The Common Core State Standards set grade-by-grade learning expectations for students in grades K-12 for Mathematics and for English Language Arts and Literacy.

While states have had standards for more than 15 years, this set of standards is more focused on preparing students for success in college and career. They set clear, consistent and high learning goals.

Common Core: It Takes All of Us!

- Parents
- Community members
- Colleges and universities
- Technical training programs

What Should I Expect with CCSS?

More time to **focus** on preparing students for college and career readiness.

The Shifts in ELA/Literacy

1. **Building knowledge** through content-rich nonfiction
2. Reading, writing and speaking grounded in **evidence from text**, both literary and informational
3. Regular practice with **complex text** and its **academic language**

How can you help your child in literacy?

- Ask your child specific questions about what they read.
- Encourage children to read, then write and speak about, nonfiction text such as newspapers, magazines, and biographies.
- Encourage children to research topics of interest and read series that relate to a central topic.
- Have your child follow step by step instructions or a set of directions in order to accomplish a task, such as building a sandcastle or operating a game.

The Shifts in Mathematics

- 1. Focus:** Focus strongly where the standards focus
- 2. Coherence:** **Think** across grades, and **link** to major topics
- 3. Rigor:** In major topics, pursue **conceptual understanding**, procedural skill and **fluency**, and **application** with equal intensity

How can you help your child in math?

- Help children practice their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts.
- Encourage children not to give up while solving problems, to build stamina and develop their critical thinking skills. Don't give them the answers - ask them to think of different ways they can solve problems.
- Have children illustrate the math they were thinking in their head and discuss it out loud.
- Have children apply their math knowledge to a real-world scenario at home, such as doubling a recipe or calculating the area of a room.

Additional Resources

Council of the Great City Schools Parent Roadmaps:

- Math

<http://www.cgcs.org//site/Default.aspx?PageID=244>

- ELA / Literacy

<http://www.cgcs.org/Page/328>

- National Parent Teachers Association (PTA)

<http://pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>

- Achieve the Core

www.achievethecore.org

- Common Core State Standards Text Exemplars

http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf