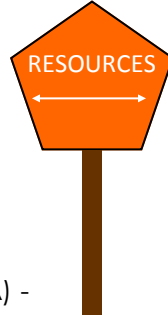


## General Parent Resources

- ◇ Common Core State Standards– [www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc](http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc)
- ◇ Common Core Video– [www.commoncoreworks.org/page/378](http://www.commoncoreworks.org/page/378)
- ◇ K-8 California's Common Core Standards Parent Handbook– [www.smmusd.org/edservices/commoncore/pdf/ccsparenthandbook.pdf](http://www.smmusd.org/edservices/commoncore/pdf/ccsparenthandbook.pdf)
- ◇ Parent Roadmaps to Common Core Standards (Council of Great City Schools') - <http://www.cgcs.org/Page/328>
- ◇ Parents' Guides to Student Success (National PTA) - <http://www.pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583&navItemNumber=3363>



## Common Core Grade Level Resources

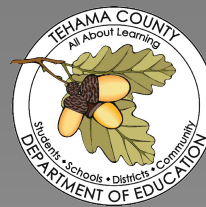
- ◇ A Look At Kindergarten Through Grade Six In California Public Schools– [www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/cf/grlevelcurriculum.asp](http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/cf/grlevelcurriculum.asp)
- ◇ Learn Zillion—High Quality Lessons For Review By Students All Aligned To CCSS– [www.learnzillion.com](http://www.learnzillion.com)

## Common Core Assessment

- ◇ Smarter Balanced Practice Tests– [www.smarterbalanced.org/pilot-test/](http://www.smarterbalanced.org/pilot-test/)
- ◇ Smarter Balanced *Fact vs Fiction* - <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ta/tg/sa/smarterbalresources.asp>

## Parent/Student Home Resources

- ◇ Family Math Activities– [http://www.orecity.k12.or.us/staff/curriculum\\_resources/mathematics/family\\_math\\_activities](http://www.orecity.k12.or.us/staff/curriculum_resources/mathematics/family_math_activities)
- ◇ Everyday Mathematics- <http://everydaymath.uchicago.eduparents/>
- ◇ Reading Resources- <http://www2.ed.gov/parents/read/resources/edpicks.jhtml>



# Sixth Grade



## COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS FOR CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS

### PARENT ROADMAP →

Designed to prepare all students to graduate from high school ready for post secondary education and careers.

Prepared by:  
**Tehama County Department of Education  
Educational Support Services**

Richard DuVarney  
Tehama County Superintendent of Schools  
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(Adapted with permission from the *National PTA*)



### **This Parent Roadmap Includes:**

- An introduction to Common Core State Standards (CCSS).
- An overview of what your child will be learning in English language arts/literacy and mathematics.
- Tips for talking to your child's teacher about his or her academic progress.
- Ideas and activities to help your child extend learning at home.
- Additional resources.






### **What are the Common Core State Standards (CCSS)?**

California has joined a national research-based movement to adopt common standards and assessments for English language arts/literacy and mathematics. Common standards allow for collaboration among states on best practices and professional development. Common learning goals provide a clear vision of what educators, students and parents in all states should aim for. These learning goals help ensure that students meet college and work expectations, are prepared to succeed in a global economy and society, and are provided with rigorous standards. The CCSS include standards for English language arts/literacy and mathematics for each grade level or subject course for K-12. In English language arts/literacy, CCSS are organized by the College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards. These broad standards along with the grade specific ELA standards (reading, writing, speaking and listening, and language) define the skills and understandings students must demonstrate to achieve literacy in all areas. In mathematics, content standards are organized by grade level or subject course (K-12), and include Standards for the Mathematical Practices. These behaviors and practices deepen students understanding of mathematics and enhance their problem solving abilities.



### **Early Childhood Education Program:**

TCDE's Early Childhood Education Department is focused on preparing our students for success in school. We provide quality programs for children 0-5.

-  • Family Child Care Home Education Network provides subsidized care for children 0-3 in family child care settings. Participants must meet income guidelines.
-  • School Readiness serves children 0-5 in Los Molinos, Gerber, and Corning with a home visiting program that includes playgroups and family education. There are no income qualifications for this program.
-  • State Preschool enrolls 4 year olds from income eligible families. Our State Preschools are located on elementary campuses throughout the county. We accept 3 year olds, as space allows.
-  • Local Child Care Planning Council plans for child care by assessing the community needs. Its members include community representatives as well as child care consumers.
-  • California Preschool Instructional Network provides professional development for early childhood educators.

### **SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area)**

The Tehama County SELPA, a consortium of the 14 schools districts in Tehama County, provides leadership, support, and technical assistance to teachers and families in Tehama County. These programs and services are identified through the IEP process and are specially designed to promote student achievement in the Least Restrictive Environment. Services provided include:

- Leadership of countywide special education staff development to accelerate achievement for all students and eliminate the achievement gap
- Maintenance of a lending library for materials, curriculum, and assistive technology for county schools to support special education students
- Leadership surrounding state and federal mandates regarding special education
- Assistance for all districts in anticipating and responding to current and future challenges and trends in special education
- Collaboration with parents, businesses, and community partners to increase their participation in schools and build public confidence and trust in public education
- Maximization of resources to improve the quality, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness of school districts and the County Office

### **Student Support Services**

Student Support Services provide training, technical assistance, and direct services to schools, parents, students, and community agencies to support physical and emotional health and safety for all Tehama County students. Staff provide leadership and expertise in the areas of school safety and crisis planning, bullying and violence prevention, substance use and teen pregnancy prevention, mental health, mentoring, nutrition, foster and homeless youth services, and truancy/drop-out prevention.



**Tehama County Department of Education (TCDE)** is dedicated to supporting schools and districts as they work to improve student achievement and meet the needs of all learners. Please visit our website at [www.tehamaschools.org](http://www.tehamaschools.org) for a complete listing of department offerings. The following programs offer resources that may be especially valuable for parents.

**Educational Support Services:**

TCDE Educational Support Services provides administrators and teachers quality assistance in building knowledge and skills around the district and school culture, goal setting and implementation, and instructional practices. The goal of ESS is to build the capacity of educators to improve student achievement for all. Our services include:



- Professional development workshops
- Administrator and teacher learning community facilitation
- English/language arts and Mathematics instructional coaching
- District/school plan facilitation
- Community educational events
- Educational resources for loan

**SERRF After School Program:**

The Safe Education and Recreation for Rural Families Program (SERRF) is an after school program which provides a safe, healthy and enriching environment for K-8 school children to participate in:



- Homework Assistance/Tutoring
- Academic Enrichment/Recreation
- Social Skills Development
- Prevention Activities
- Youth Development
- Character Education
- High Education
- Career Exploration

**College OPTIONS:**

College OPTIONS provides free programs and services to strengthen the college-going culture in Tehama County, by increasing opportunities for students to pursue postsecondary education, and ensuring that all students and their families can make informed decisions about their education and their future.



- Educational Planning Services
  - o Advisors in public schools
  - o Career Assessment Information
  - o Information on preparing for college entrance exams and college admissions application assistance
- Financial Aid Services
  - o Scholarship information and programs
  - o Help with financial aid applications
- Regional Efforts
  - o Programs and college awareness events for students of all ages and their families
  - o College campus visits
  - o Professional development for educators

**Why Are Academic Standards Important?**

The Common Core State Standards are important because they help ensure that all students, no matter which state they live in, are prepared for success in college and the workforce. They help set clear, consistent, and high expectations for students, parents, and teachers, build your child's knowledge and skills, and help set high goals for all students. Having clearly defined goals helps families and teachers work together to ensure that students succeed. Standards help parents and teachers know when students need extra assistance or when they need to be challenged. Standards also will help students develop critical thinking skills that prepare them for the world beyond high school.



***Today's students are moving beyond the basics and embracing the 4C's—"super skills" for the 21st century!***



**Communication**  
Sharing thoughts, questions, ideas, and solutions



**Collaboration**  
Working together to reach a goal — putting talent, expertise, and smarts to work



**Critical Thinking**  
Looking at problems in a new way, linking learning across subjects & disciplines



**Creativity**  
Trying new approaches to get things done equals innovation & invention

## College & Career Preparation

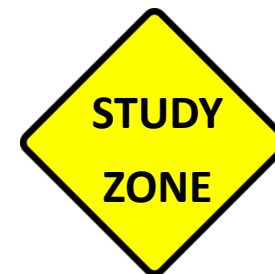
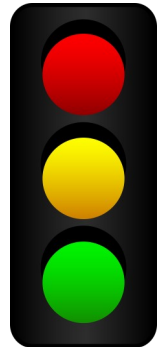
The first column represents overarching cross-disciplinary literacy expectations also known as the ELA Anchor Standards. The second column, Mathematical Practice Standards, explains the important math processes and proficiencies students should develop to prepare for success.

ELA Anchor Standards	Mathematical Practice Standards
<p>1. Reading</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Ideas and Details</li> <li>Craft and Structure</li> <li>Integration of Knowledge and Ideas</li> <li>Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity</li> </ul> <p>2. Writing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Text Types and Purposes</li> <li>Production of Distribution of Writing</li> <li>Research to Build and Present Knowledge</li> <li>Range of Writing</li> </ul> <p>3. Speaking and Listening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comprehension and Collaboration</li> <li>Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas</li> </ul> <p>4. Language</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conventions of Standard English</li> <li>Knowledge of Language</li> <li>Vocabulary Acquisition and Use</li> </ul>	<p>1. Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.</p> <p>2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.</p> <p>3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.</p> <p>4. Model with mathematics.</p> <p>5. Use appropriate tools strategically.</p> <p>6. Attend to precision.</p> <p>7. Look for and make use of structure.</p> <p>8. Look for and express regularity in and repeated reasoning.</p>



## How Can Parents Help at Home?

- Ask your child to calculate the unit rates of items purchased from the grocery store. For example, if 2 pounds of flour cost \$3.00, how much does flour cost per pound?
- Have your child determine the amount of ingredients needed when cooking. For example, if a recipe calls for 8 cups of rice to serve 4 people, how many cups of rice do you need to serve 6 people?
- Encourage your child to stick with it whenever a problem seems difficult. This will help your child see that everyone can learn math.
- Praise your child when he or she makes an effort and share in the excitement when he or she solves a problem or understands something for the first time.



## Tips for Talking With Teachers!



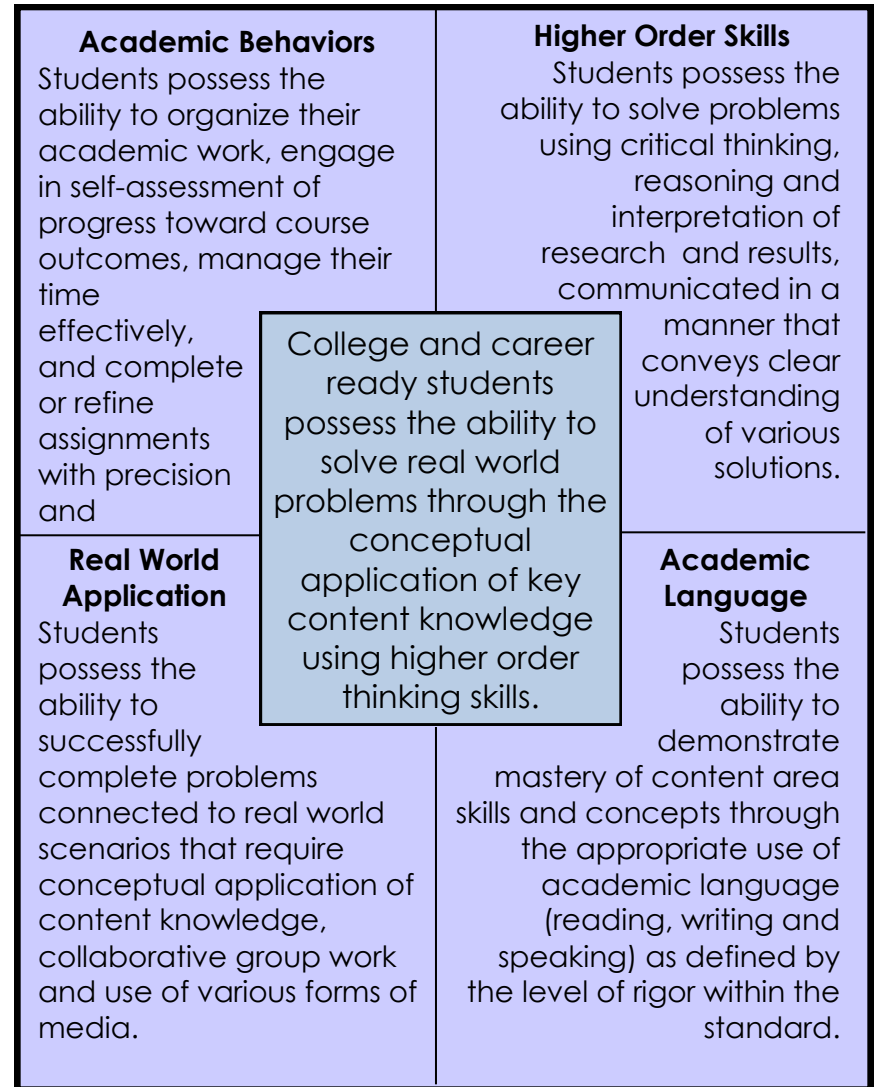
Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher. You are still an important part of your child's education. Ask to see samples of your child's work and discuss his/her progress with the teacher using questions like:

- ◇ Is my child at the level where he/she should be at this point in the school year?
- ◇ How is math progress measured? Can we look at some of his/her work together?
- ◇ Which area of math is my child excelling in?
- ◇ What do you think is giving my child the most trouble? How can I help? Do you have any additional activities that would support my child?
- ◇ Can you show me how you solved this problem in class?
- ◇ Which math topics are coming up? What can I do to help get them ready for upcoming work?
- ◇ What is your preferred method of communication (email, phone, notes home)?
- ◇ How can I keep track of his/her completed assignments? Do you communicate grades online?

**Future Graduate Lane**

## Four Attributes of

## College & Career Ready Students



Highlights of

## English Language Arts

Students in sixth grade focus on active engagement with the text. They are required to read a range of challenging books, articles, and texts, and will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of the material by answering questions and contributing to class discussions. They must analyze, identify, define, explain, integrate, evaluate, compare, contrast, and cite supportive evidence. In writing, students will continue to work on their



use of language, sentence structure, and organization of ideas. They will also be expected to integrate information from different sources and respond to challenging content through written interpretation and analysis.

### Samples of the Work Your Student Will Be Doing

- ◇ Determining the theme of a text and how it is conveyed.
- ◇ Providing detailed summaries of texts.
- ◇ Describing how a particular story or play unfolds and how characters respond to plot development.
- ◇ Comparing and contrasting various texts, including poems, stories, and historical novels.
- ◇ Using a range of reading strategies to determine the meaning of unknown words as they are used in text.
- ◇ Conducting short research projects to answer a question, drawing on several sources.
- ◇ Producing clear and coherent writing appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience, supporting any claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
- ◇ Participating in class discussions about various texts and topics.



## Math Progressions



Here is an example of how students will develop mathematical skills across grade levels as they continue to challenge themselves throughout each year.

### **Fifth Grade**

Add and subtract fractions with different denominator (bottom numbers). Multiply a fraction by a whole number or another fraction. Divide fractions by whole numbers and whole numbers by fractions to solve word problems .

### **Sixth Grade**

Divide fractions by fractions using models and equations to represent the problem. Solve word problems involving division of fractions by fractions .

### **Seventh Grade**

Add, subtract, multiply, and divide rational numbers in any form, including whole numbers, fractions, and decimals). Solve multi-step problems involving positive and negative rational numbers.

### Sample of What Students Will Be Asked To Do

Ann has  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs of peanuts for the party. She wants to put them in small bags each containing  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. How many small bags of peanuts will she have?



Students use their knowledge of fractions to see that there are 7 halves in  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lbs, so there will be 7 bags of peanuts.

Students can also find how many halves are in  $3\frac{1}{2}$  by applying the traditional procedure of dividing  $3\frac{1}{2}$  by  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

$$3\frac{1}{2} = \frac{7}{2}$$

$$\frac{7}{2} \div \frac{1}{2} = \frac{7}{2} \times \frac{2}{1} = 7$$

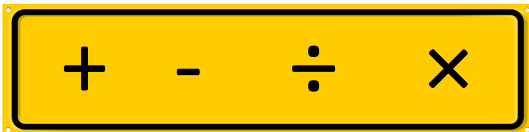
# Mathematics

In Grade 6, your child will learn the concept of rates and ratios and use these tools to solve word problems. Students will work quickly and accurately dividing multi-digit whole numbers and adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing multi-digit decimals. Students will extend their previous work with dividing fractions to understand the concept of rational numbers, which includes negative numbers. Students will also learn how to write and solve equations using symbols, such as  $20 + x = 35$ , and apply these skills in solving multi-step word problems. Students will develop an understanding of statistical thinking.



## Samples of the Work Your Student Will Be Doing

- ◇ Using reasoning about multiplication and division to solve ratio and rate problems about quantities. (For example, the ratio of wings to beaks in a flock of birds is 2 to 1 because for every 2 wings there is 1 beak.)
- ◇ Understanding that positive and negative numbers are located on opposite sides of 0 on a number line.
- ◇ Using pairs of numbers, including negative numbers, as coordinates for locating or placing a point on a graph.
- ◇ Writing and determining the value of expressions with whole-number exponents .
- ◇ Identifying and writing equivalent mathematical expressions by applying the properties of operations. (For example, recognizing that  $2(3+x)$  is the same as  $6+2x$ .)
- ◇ Representing and analyzing the relationships between independent and dependent variables.
- ◇ Solving problems involving area and volume.



# ELA Progressions



Here is an example of how students will develop literacy skills across grade levels as they read and write increasingly challenging works of literature and informational text.

### **Fifth Grade Reading**

Students determine the theme of a story, play, or poem from the details, including how characters respond to challenges. They can summarize the text and describe how the narrator's point of view influences how events are described.

### **Sixth Grade Reading**

Students determine the theme or central idea of a text and how it is conveyed through details. They can provide an objective summary of the text.

### **Seventh Grade Reading**

Students determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text. They can provide an objective summary.

### **Fifth Grade Writing**

Students provide a clear topic, develop it with details, group related information logically, use formatting, link ideas within and across categories, use precise subject-specific vocabulary, and conclude with a statement of explanation.

### **Sixth Grade Writing**

Students introduce a topic, develop it with relevant facts, definitions, quotations, and details, and provide a concluding statement. They organize the ideas and information using formatting, graphics, and multimedia. The writing maintains a formal style.

### **Seventh Grade Writing**

Students introduce a topic, preview what is to follow, develop the topic with relevant facts, definitions, quotations, and details, and provide a concluding statement supporting what has been explained. They organize the ideas and information using strategies. The writing style is formal and uses appropriate transitions to create cohesion.

## Samples of Texts Students Will Work With

Literature: *A Wrinkle in Time*; "Eleven"

Informational: *A Short Walk Through the Pyramids and Through the World of Art*

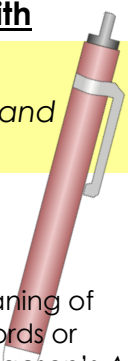
## What Students Will Be Asked To Do

### **Literature**

Explain how Sandra Cisneros's choice of words develops the point of view of the young speaker in her story "Eleven".

### **Informational**

Determine the meaning of domain-specific words or phrases in Phillip Isaacson's *A Short Walk through the Pyramids and Through the World of Art*.



## Tips for Talking with Teachers!

Don't be afraid to reach out to your child's teacher. You are still an important part of your child's education. Ask to see samples of your child's work and discuss his/her progress with the teacher using questions like:



- ◇ Is my child reading on grade level? Can my child read the content area textbooks independently?
- ◇ How is my child doing in writing? Can they connect their writing to topics in the content areas?
- ◇ What are my child's strengths and weaknesses in literacy?
- ◇ What can I do at home to make sure that my child is successful?



## How Can Parents Help at Home?

- ◇ Provide time and space away from distractions for your child to read independently.
- ◇ Ask your child what topics, events, or activities he or she likes. Look for books, magazines, or related materials online about these topics that would motivate your child to read.
- ◇ Provide opportunities for your child to write informative texts about topics that interest them using technology to publish writing that is clear and purposeful.
- ◇ Encourage your child to develop proficient listening and speaking skills by having them paraphrase information, discuss misleading ideas, or deliver oral directions.
- ◇ Make time for conversation at home. Discuss current events, shared interests, and future aspirations for education and career.
- ◇ Visit museums, zoos, theatres, historical sites, aquariums, and other educational places to help increase your child's exposure to new knowledge and vocabulary.

