



JOHN MUIR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Introduction to the Common Core State Standards

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Common Core State Standards

- ❖ Students in California join children nationwide in learning under a new set of rigorous academic standards
- ❖ The new standards are a result of a states-led effort to increase rigor and build agreement on what students should know and be able to do as they advance from kindergarten through high school
- ❖ The purpose is to graduate students who are better prepared for college and the modern workplace
- ❖ The Standards are for:
 - ❖ English/language arts **and** literacy in history/social science, science and the technical subjects
 - ❖ Mathematics



Shifts in English Language Arts/Literacy

- ⊕ Read as much non-fiction as fiction
- ⊕ Learn about the world by reading
- ⊕ Read more challenging material closely
- ⊕ Discuss reading using evidence
- ⊕ Write non-fiction using evidence
- ⊕ Increase academic vocabulary





Shifts in Mathematics

- ⊕ Focus: learn more about fewer key topics
- ⊕ Build skills within and across grade levels
- ⊕ Develop speed and accuracy
- ⊕ Really know it, really do it!
- ⊕ Use it in the real world
- ⊕ Think fast AND solve problems





SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium

- Test will be for grades 3-8 and grade 11 (*Other tests are under consideration*)
- Computer Adaptive Assessment
 - 40-65 questions per content area
 - Advantages
 - Test personalized
 - Students more engaged
 - Less cheating
 - Less questions





SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium

- ❖ Item and Task Types
 - Selected-response items
 - Constructed-response items
 - Technology-enhanced items
 - 1 Performance Task

- ❖ Summative Results expected two weeks
 - ❑ Show current achievement and growth
 - ❑ Comparable from state-to-state

- ❖ smarterbalanced.org



What You Can Do To Help Your Child - ELA

- ⊕ Read non-fiction texts aloud or with your child
- ⊕ Supply series of texts on topics of interest
- ⊕ Discuss non-fiction texts and the ideas within them
- ⊕ Provide more challenging texts
- ⊕ Know what is grade level appropriate
- ⊕ Read challenging material *with* them
- ⊕ Talk about what they are reading
- ⊕ Ask for *evidence* in every day discussions or disagreements
- ⊕ Encourage writing at home



What You Can Do To Help Your Child - Math

- ✦ Encourage children to know/memorize basic math facts
- ✦ Know what the *Priority Work* is for your child for their grade level
- ✦ Spend time with your child on *Priority Work*
- ✦ Ask your child's teacher about their progress and ensure that support is given for "gap" skills
- ✦ Notice whether your child really knows why the answer is what it is
- ✦ Get smarter in the math your child needs to know
- ✦ Ask your child to DO the math that comes up in your daily life