

**Common Core State Standards—English Language Arts  
Shifts for Students and Parents**

**ELA Shift #1: Read as much non-fiction as fiction**

Students must...	Parents can...
Read more non-fiction	Supply more non-fiction
Know the ways non-fiction can be put together	Read non-fiction texts aloud or with your child
Enjoy and discuss the details of non-fiction	Have fun with non-fiction with and around your child

**ELA Shift #2: Learn about the world by reading**

Students must...	Parents can...
Learn about Science and Social Studies through reading	Supply series of texts on topics of interest
Handle “primary source” documents	Find books that explain
Learn more by reading through texts—“read like an investigator”	Discuss non-fiction texts and the ideas presented within

**ELA Shift #3: Read more complex material carefully**

Students must...	Parents can...
Re-read (multiple times)	Provide more challenging text and provide texts they want to read and can read comfortably
Read material at comfort level, but also work with more challenging text	Know what is grade level appropriate
Unpack the text	Read challenging material with your child
Handle frustration and keep pushing (persevere)	Show that challenging material is worth unpacking

**ELA Shift #4: Discuss reading using evidence**

Students must...	Parents can...
Find evidence to support arguments	Talk about text
Form judgments and become scholars	Demand evidence in every day discussions/disagreements
Discuss what the author is “up to”	Read aloud, or, read the same material and discuss with evidence

**ELA Shift #5 Writing from sources**

Students must...	Parents can...
Make arguments in writing using evidence	Encourage writing at home
Compare multiple texts in writing	Write ‘books’ together and use evidence/details
Write well	Look at student writing exemplars in CCSS Appendix A

**ELA Shift #6: Academic Vocabulary**

Students must...	Parents can...
Learn the words that they will need to use in college and careers	Read often and constantly with your child  Let your child see you reading
Use academic language that is content specific (for Science, Social Studies, Math...)	Share the vocabulary and type of reading that is required for your career

**Mathematics Shift #1: Deeper learning, fewer concepts**

Students must...	Parents can...
Spend more time on fewer concepts	Know what the priority work is for the grade level
Represent math in multiple ways	Ask, "Can you show me that in another way?"
Apply strategies, not just get answers	Focus on how the child is tackling the problem over what the answer is

**Mathematics Shift #2: Focus on strong number sense problem solving**

Students must...	Parents can...
Be able to apply strategies and use core math facts quickly	Ask the child's teacher what core math facts should be practiced at home Ask students which strategies they are using
Compose and decompose numbers	Help children break apart and put together numbers to make problem solving easier

**Mathematics Shift #3: Focus on communication of thinking and language rich classroom:**

Students must...	Parents can...
Understand why the math works—explain and justify	Ask questions to find out whether the child really knows why the answer is correct
Talk about why the math works—explain and justify	Ask children to explain how they solved the problem and why they chose the strategies they used
Prove that they know why and how the math works—explain and justify	Ask children to show how they know they have the correct solution Talk about alternative strategies
Use academic vocabulary to explain their reasoning and critique that of others	Expect children to use the language of math Talk about math

**Mathematics Shift #4: Perseverance and grappling with mathematics**

Students must...	Parents can...
See mistakes as learning opportunities	Help their children use their mistakes as windows into their thinking
Understand that there is usually more than one way to solve a problem	Celebrate and value alternative responses Ask, "Is there another way to solve this?"
Spend more time solving a single problem in a deep way	Expect fewer problems but more writing and explaining in homework

**Mathematics Shift #5: Real world application of mathematics**

Students must...	Parents can...
Apply math in real world situations	Ask children to do the math that comes up in daily life Show children the math they work with either in your career or at home Give context to the mathematical situation
Know which math to use for which situation	Ask the child which operation is needed — addition, subtraction, multiplication, division — and how he/she knows

## Supporting the 8 Mathematical Practices Through Questioning

8 Mathematical Practices	Teachers ask...
1. Makes sense of problems and persevere in solving them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the problem asking?</li> <li>• How will you use that information?</li> <li>• What other information do you need?</li> <li>• Why did you choose that operation?</li> <li>• What is another way to solve that problem?</li> <li>• What did you do first? Why?</li> <li>• What can you do if you don't know how to solve a problem?</li> <li>• Have you solved a problem similar to this one?</li> <li>• When did you realize your first method would not work for this problem?</li> <li>• How do you know your answer makes sense?</li> </ul>
2. Reason abstractly and quantitatively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is a situation that could be represented by this equation?</li> <li>• What operation did you use to represent the situation?</li> <li>• Why does that operation represent the situation?</li> <li>• What properties did you use to find the answer?</li> <li>• How do you know your answer is reasonable?</li> </ul>
3. Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will that method always work?</li> <li>• How do you know?</li> <li>• What do you think about what she said?</li> <li>• Who can tell us about a different method?</li> <li>• What do you think will happen if ...?</li> <li>• When would that not be true?</li> <li>• Why do you agree/disagree with what he said?</li> <li>• What do you want to ask her about that method?</li> <li>• How does that drawing support your work?</li> </ul>
4. Model with mathematics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is that a good model for this problem?</li> <li>• How can you use a simpler problem to help you find the answer?</li> <li>• What conclusions can you make from your model?</li> <li>• How would you change your model if...?</li> </ul>
5. Use appropriate tools strategically.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What could you use to help you solve the problem?</li> <li>• What strategy could you use to make that calculation easier?</li> <li>• How would estimation help you solve that problem?</li> <li>• Why did you decide to use...?</li> </ul>
6. Attend to precision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you know your answer is reasonable?</li> <li>• How can you use math vocabulary in your explanation?</li> <li>• How do you know those answers are equivalent?</li> <li>• What does that mean?</li> </ul>
7. Look for and make use of structure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How did you discover that pattern?</li> <li>• What other patterns can you find?</li> <li>• What rule did you use to make this group?</li> <li>• Why can you use that property in this problem?</li> <li>• How is that like...?</li> </ul>
8. Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you remember about...?</li> <li>• What happens when...?</li> <li>• What if you...instead of ...?</li> <li>• What might be a shortcut for ...?</li> </ul>

## CCSS RESOURCES PAGE for Paraprofessionals

### ONLINE RESOURCES:

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- <http://blogs.egusd.net/specialed/> - EGUSD website dedicated to providing information about special education resources and updates. Subscribers receive email updates when new/information/resources have been posted.
- <http://blogs.egusd.net/ccss/> - EGUSD website dedicated to updating CCSS information and providing resources for the classroom. Subscribers receive email updates when new information/resources have been posted.
- <http://www.corestandards.org/the-standards> - “Home” of the CCSS. At the bottom of the home page you’ll find such valuable resources as **Appendix A** (“Big Picture” commentary discussing the thinking behind the standards. Lexile information is also available here.), **Appendix B** (grade-specific text samples that take into account the reader interest, quantitative, and qualitative information), and **Appendix C** (grade-specific writing exemplars with commentary following each student sample—note that the samples are not a “4” on a 4-point rubric—instead they represent what proficient grade-level writing looks like).
- <http://www.smarterbalanced.org/> - Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium’s website where you can see samples of performance items and learn more about the assessment components.
- <http://www.youtube.com/user/TheHuntInstitute> - Series of videos discussing the CCSS and teaching strategies to use; the featured two speakers were the primary authors of the ELA standards.
- <https://www.teachingchannel.org/videos/common-core-standards-ela> - Series of videos of teachers teaching to the Common Core standards.
- [Council of the Great City Schools](#) – Parent roadmaps in mathematics and English language arts provide guidance to parents about CCSS and how they can support their student’s learning in grades K-8. These roadmaps for each grade level also provide three-year snapshots showing how selected standards progress from year to year so that students will be college and career ready upon their graduation from high school.
- [engageNY](#) - This New York State Department of Education website provides a number of parent resources that highlight significant shifts in the standards and provides parents with both suggestions for how to help support their students at home and examples of tasks that students will now need to be able to do.
- [National Parent Teacher Association](#) - Resource guides by grade level to help parents better understand what the CCSS standards will mean for their student
- <http://commoncore.tcoe.org/Home/Home> - Tulare County Office of Department of Education site with excellent additional CCSS resources. Look for the “ELA Grade Level Bookmarks Collection” in the center of the page for many ELA treasures!

# EGUSD, Go Math, and CCSS: Resources for Students, Parents, and Guardians

- **EGUSD CCSS Blog** An online blog created and maintained by the Elk Grove Unified School District. This blog is useful to teachers and parents. It includes information about the CCSS, EGUSD created CCSS materials used in teacher trainings, and direct links to reliable CCSS information available on the World Wide Web. <http://blogs.egusd.net/ccss/>
- **Go Math – Think Central** This is a link that takes K-6 teachers, students, and parents directly to the Think Central/Go Math website's login screen. Parents and students should see child's classroom teacher in order to receive access. <https://www-k6.thinkcentral.com/ePC/login.do>
- **Informational Handouts** Informational flyers providing overviews and highlights of the CCSS, available in multiple languages. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/ccssinfoflyers.asp>
- **CCSS and Parents and Guardians** (DOC) □ This handout includes information about transitioning to the CCSS for parents and guardians. Available translations of the CCSS and Parents and Guardians handout (**Updated** 24-Jun-2013)  
<http://inet2.cde.ca.gov/cmd/translatedparentaldoc.aspx?docid=7941-7946,8211-8216>
- **K-8 California's Common Core Standards Parent Handbook** (DOC; 2MB) □ This handbook, created by the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association in consultation with the California State Parent Teacher Association (PTA), gives parents an introduction to California's CCSS and a summary of what students are expected to learn as they advance from kindergarten through grade eight. This document has been translated into 17 languages. [http://www.ccsesa.org/index/sp\\_CommonCoreStandards.cfm](http://www.ccsesa.org/index/sp_CommonCoreStandards.cfm)
- **Grade Level Curriculum** The grade-level curriculum documents are organized by individual grade levels and include information about the CCSS. There are also archived webinars for the kindergarten through grade six documents which highlight the curriculum across the featured grade level with special focus on the CCSS.  
<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/cf/grlevelcurriculum.asp>
- **CCSS and Special Education** CCSS resources and guidelines for the special education community. <http://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/se/cc/>
- **Parents' Guide to Student Success** A guide, available in English and Spanish, for the CCSS in grades K-8 and two for grades 9-12 (one for English language arts/literacy and one for mathematics) created by the National PTA. The guide includes key items that children should be learning in each grade and activities parents can do at home to support their child's learning. <http://pta.org/parents/content.cfm?ItemNumber=2583>
- **Council of Great City Schools Parent Roadmaps** The Council of Great City Schools has developed parent roadmaps for understanding the ELA and mathematics CCSS in kindergarten through eighth grade. For each grade and subject, the roadmaps explain to parents what children will be learning and how parents can support learning outside of the classroom. <http://www.cgcs.org/site/Default.aspx?PageID=244>
- **Shifts for Students and Parents** EngageNY has created a practical guide that provides steps that parents can take to improve their child's learning of the CCSS.  
<http://www.engageny.org/resource/shifts-for-students-and-parents/>