

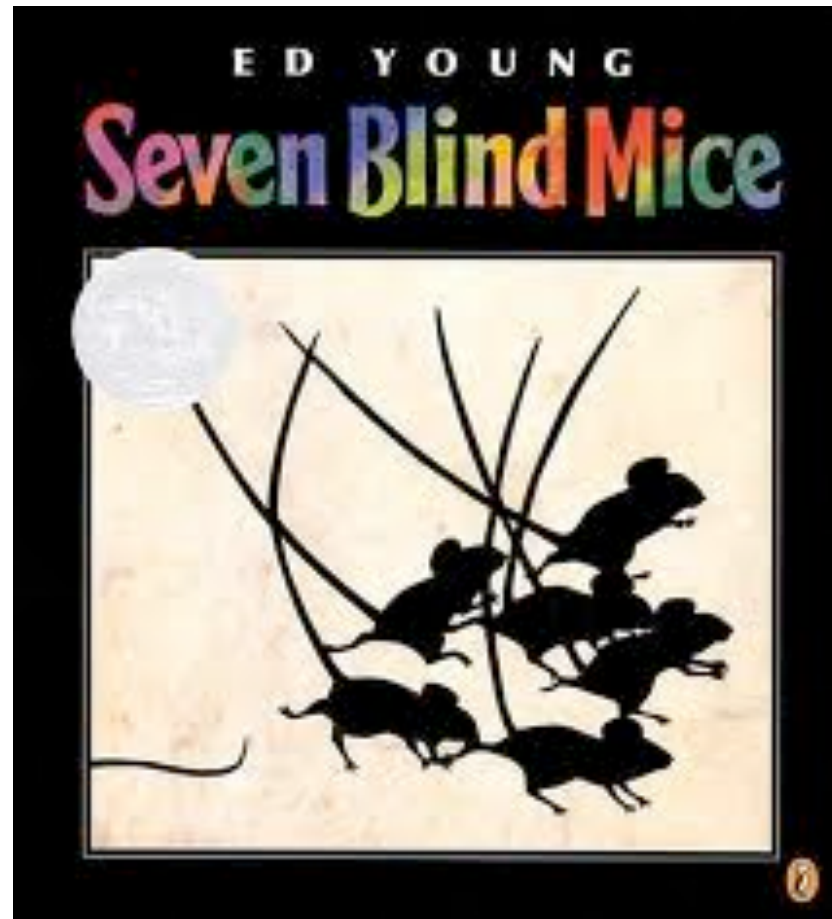
Update on the Common Core Standards: What are the Issues?

OCTOBER 3, 2011

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INTERNATIONAL READING ASSOCIATION

Learning about the CC Standards in fall 2011
is kind of like...



Background on CCSS

- National standards movement began in the 1990's
- Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) and NGA Center for Best Practices
- CCSS are NOT national standards
- “The Common Core State Standards are part of a state-led effort to give all students the skills and knowledge they need to succeed. The federal government was not involved in the development of the standards. Individual states choose whether or not to adopt these standards.” (www.corestandards.org)

Role of Federal Government

- College and Career Readiness Standards released in draft form September 2009
- Feedback from states, organizations, and public
- English Language Arts and Mathematics Common Core Standards published June 2010
- Race to the Top required adoption of a common set of standards
- States can add up to 15% of own standards

Adoption and Implementation

- 44 states, DC, and the Virgin Islands have adopted as of Oct. 3, 2011. See states here: <http://www.corestandards.org/in-the-states>
- Center on Education Policy report on school district implementation as of September, 2011. See the report here: <http://www.cep-dc.org/>

The English Language Arts K-12 Common Core State Standards

- Reading
 - Literature
 - Informational Text
 - Foundational Skills (K-5 only)
- Writing
- Speaking and Listening
- Language
 - Conventions
 - Vocabulary
- Literacy in History/Social Studies 6-12
- Literacy in Science and Technical Subjects 6-12

ELA Appendices

- Appendix A: Research Supporting Key Elements of the Standards

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

- Appendix B: Text Exemplars and Sample Performance Tasks

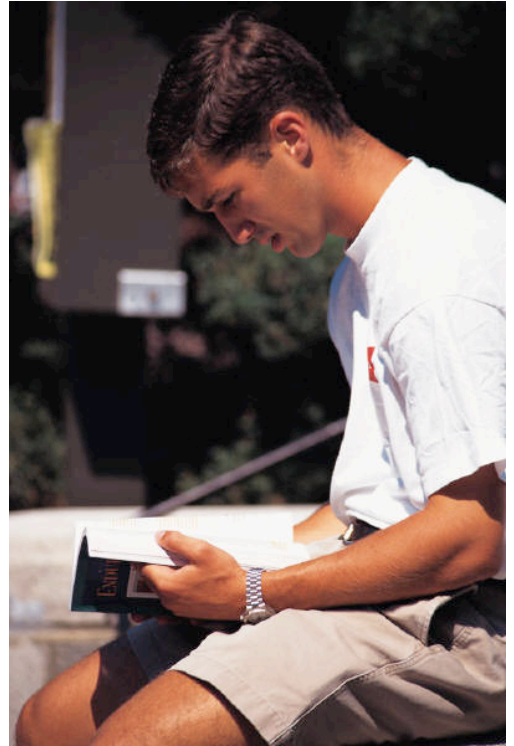
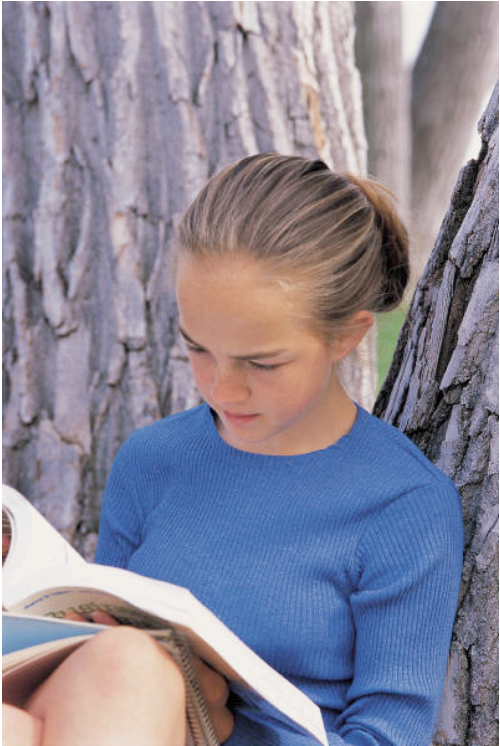
http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf

- Appendix C: Samples of Student Writing

http://corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf

Assessment Systems

- Federal grants to two consortia of states to design and field-test assessment systems for the Common Core Standards
- Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC)
 - 23 states and DC
 - \$186 million
- Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)
 - 29 states
 - \$ 176 million
- Assessment systems will be available 2014-2015 school year



Issue: Professional Development

- Unpacking the standards (example, KY)
- Curriculum alignment
- Rich instruction—Teaching the standards
- Classroom assessment—Assessing the standards
- Particular professional development in
 - Literacy skills and strategies
 - Content area literacy, especially argumentative and informational reading and writing
 - Meeting the needs of diverse learners
 - Text complexity
 - Embedded technology demands

Issue: Needs of Diverse Learners

- Beginning readers
- Below grade level readers
- ELL
- Students in poverty
- Response to Intervention (RtI)
- ACT study

<http://www.act.org/research/policymakers/reports/firstlook.html>

Text Complexity

- Text demands are higher
- College requires mostly independent reading of complex texts
- Workplace materials grade 12 or higher
- K-12 texts have gotten easier
- Too much scaffolding at K-12
- Problem with traditional readability formulas

Issue: Instruction & Assessment Resources

- Few CCSS resources to date
- Publishers repackaging existing resources
- *Publishers' Criteria for the Common Core Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy, Grades 3-12*
http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Publishers_Criteria_for_3-12.pdf
- Concept of formative assessment

Issue: Teacher Preparation

- Professional development for teacher prep faculty
- Preparing new teachers to teach standards
- Redesigning courses, observation forms, evaluations, etc.
- Need for state requirements for content literacy expertise across the curriculum

IRA Task Force on Core Standards

- Recommendations for IRA to address Common Core State Standards
- We welcome your input!
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More Information

- Common Core State Standards Initiative
www.corestandards.org
- Council of Chief State School Officers
www.ccsso.org
- CCSSO and Hunt Institute Video Vignettes

[http://www.ccsso.org/Resources/
Digital_Resources/
Common_Core_Implementation_Video_Series.html](http://www.ccsso.org/Resources/Digital_Resources/Common_Core_Implementation_Video_Series.html)

More Information

- PARCC Assessment Consortium
www.parcc.org
- SBAC Assessment Consortium
www.k12.wa.us/smarter
- Compare PARCC and SBAC
http://www.k12center.org/rsc/pdf/Assessments_for_the_Common_Core_Standards_July_2011_Update.pdf

- Lexile Framework for Reading and Text Complexity

<http://www.lexile.com/using-lexile/lexile-measures-and-the-ccssi/>

- National PTA Grade by Grade Guides for Parents on the Common Core Standards

http://www.pta.org/common_core_state_standards.asp