

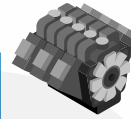
# WHAT ARE STANDARDS?

Standards define **WHAT** a student should be able to know and do along their educational journey.

Standards vary from state to state. There are standards for each grade level and for each subject area. Any program or single experience can be enhanced by incorporating standards, and your programs may even already correspond to a few!

Read on to learn how standards work and how to identify which ones might fit with your programs.

Teachers drive students on their journey using standards as signs and mile-markers along the way.



The engine is our standards-based lesson. Inside a lesson are many nuts and bolts like activities, materials, and evaluations. All parts must be functioning properly for a successful journey.

## Kindergarten Visual Art (C.6)

Share and talk about the art they are creating.

Standards have codes to remind you what they are. Each subject has its own coding method. For example **W.4.3** is a 4th grade English Language Arts standard for **WRITING (W)** and **R.11** is an arts education standard for **RESPONDING (R)**.

## 2nd Grade Math (2-OA1)

Use addition and subtraction within 100.

"We can share and talk about art we create!"

It is helpful for students to see standards in "I can" statements to recognize their learning.

## 8th Grade Music (P.11)

Perform contrasting pieces of music.

## 12th Grade Government

"Evaluate roles political parties play..."

**How do I USE standards in my program?**

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# TRAVEL TIMELINE FOR USING STANDARDS

## DECIDE DESTINATION

Determine the goal of your project, program, or unit.



## LOOK UP DIRECTIONS

Find the steps and standards that match your destination.



## CHOOSE A VEHICLE

Choose or design a unit with lessons that will progress students towards your destination.



## PLAN YOUR SCHEDULE

Decide the times and length of your project, program, or unit.



## PACK YOUR BAG

Gather supplies and appropriate amount of materials that will be needed along the journey as well as the destination.



## START YOUR JOURNEY

Drive! Go! Set Sail! Put your instruction into action. **Document** student progress as you go along (journal, sketchbook, souvenirs, photos, videos).



## REFLECT ON YOUR ADVENTURE

Use the proof and documentation of your teaching travels to reflect on how to improve. Share your work with others so they too can take a similar journey.



# HOW STANDARDS CONNECT

Your journey with standards can be utilized two different ways:  
STANDARDS ACROSS GRADE LEVELS & STANDARDS ACROSS SUBJECT AREAS

## STANDARDS ACROSS GRADE LEVELS

Some standards include sub-topics with the opportunity to diverge onto a scenic, back road or single-lane highway. These back roads, also called **STRANDS**, also progress through the grade levels.

Observe the topic of  
*Imagination* progressing  
through the grade levels

**Theatre 5th Grade (C.1)**  
Identify physical qualities that  
might reveal a character's inner  
traits in the imagined world of a  
drama/theatre work.

**Theatre 4th Grade (C.1)**  
Articulate the visual details  
of imagined worlds and  
improvised stories that support  
the given circumstances in a  
drama/theatre work.

**Theatre 3rd Grade (C.1)**  
Create roles, imagined worlds,  
and improvised stories in a  
drama/theatre work.

Observe how this road, or  
**STRAND**, progresses through  
the grade levels as students  
build their knowledge and  
abilities.

# HOW STANDARDS CONNECT

## STANDARDS ACROSS SUBJECT AREAS

Some standards from different courses of study converge on similar topics and big ideas. These cross-curricular connections create opportunities for Arts Integration!

### Communication Highway

*This is a unifying concept aka a "BIG IDEA"*

#### 4th Grade Dance (C.4)

Create a dance study that expresses and communicates a main idea and discuss the reasons for the movement choices.

#### 4th Grade Visual Arts (R.11)

Analyze components in visual imagery that convey meaning and messages.

#### 4th Grade English Language Arts Reading (RI.4.2)

Determine the main idea of a text and explain how it is supported by key details; summarize the text.

#### How do I FIND Standards that correspond to my education programs?

Browse the complete Alabama Course of Study Standards at the link below to find standards that fit with your programs. Remember, you can always ask an educator friend to check your work.

<https://alex.state.al.us/browseStand.php>

Observe how these standards in multiple subject areas converge onto the **BIG IDEA** of **Communication** as students focus on **messages** and **main idea**.