



Lincoln Learns the Core...

The Common Core State Standards define what all students should understand and be able to do by the end of each grade level. What does a child who meets each of the English and Language Arts standards within each grade level and who is college and career ready look like?

- They are able to demonstrate independence. Students can, with little support, understand and evaluate a range of text types. They can independently identify key points, request clarification, and ask relevant questions. More broadly, students become self-directed learners who are able to effectively seek out and utilize resources around them.
- They build strong content knowledge. Students establish a base of knowledge by engaging in works that are of quality and substance. They become proficient in new areas through research and study. They read purposefully and listen attentively to gain general and specific knowledge. They refine and share their knowledge through writing and speaking.
- They respond to audience, task, purpose, and discipline. Students adapt their communication in relation to audience, task, purpose and discipline. They set and adjust purpose for writing, speaking, listening, and language use based on the task. They also know that different disciplines call for different types of evidence (e.g. documentary evidence in history, experimental evidence in science).
- They comprehend as well as critique. Students are engaged and open-minded, but attentive readers and listeners. They work diligently to understand exactly what an author or speaker is saying, but with a questioning mind – always considering claims and reasoning.
- They value evidence. Students cite specific evidence when offering an oral or written report of a text. They use relevant evidence when supporting their own points in writing and speaking, making their reasoning clear to the reader or listener. In addition, they constructively evaluate others' use of evidence.
- They use technology and digital media strategically and capably. Students use technology thoughtfully to enhance their reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language use. They search on-line to get useful information efficiently which they then integrate with what they've learned off-line. They are familiar with technology's strengths and weaknesses and can identify which tools best suit their needs.
- They come to understand others perspectives and cultures. Students understand and appreciate that the world we live in today is made up of people from a variety of cultures, who represent a wide range of experiences and perspectives, and with whom they will need to learn and work together. Students actively seek to understand other perspectives through reading and listening, and they are able to communicate effectively with people of varied backgrounds.