

Identifying Essential Standards

A school cannot create an effective site intervention if it has not clearly defined the essential learning outcomes of each grade, subject, and course of study. This exercise helps a team answer, "What is it we expect students to learn?"

Grade Level: _____ Subject: _____ Team Members: _____

Standard #	Standard/Description	Example/Rigor	Prior Skills Needed	Common Assessment	When Taught?

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Sample Essential Standards: Algebra 1

Standard #	Standard/Description	Example/Rigor	Prior Skills Needed	Common Assessment	When Taught?
2.0 10.0	Students understand and use the rules of exponents. Students multiply and divide monomials.	Simplify: $\frac{5x^3 y^7}{10xy^9}$	Multiplying monomials and polynomials (Chapter 4)	Chapter 4 CA	Feb.
11.0	Students apply basic factoring techniques to second- and simple third-degree polynomials. These techniques include finding a common factor for all terms in a polynomial, recognizing the difference of two squares, and recognizing perfect squares of binomials.	Factor completely: 1. $3a^2 - 24ab + 48b^2$ 2. $x^2 - 121$ 3. $9x^2 + 12x + 4$	Multiplying and dividing monomials and polynomials (Chapter 4 and Chapter 5: Sec 1-3)	Chapter 5 CA	Feb.
12.0	Students simplify fractions with polynomials in the numerator and denominator by factoring both and reducing them to the lowest terms.	Simplify: $\frac{x^2 - 4xy + 4y^2}{\sqrt{16} + \sqrt[3]{8}} \cdot \frac{3xy - 6y^2}{3xy - 6y^2}$	Factoring by finding the greatest common factor, difference of two squares, and trinomials (Chapter 5)	Chapter 6 CA	March
2.0	Students understand and use the operation of taking a root and raising to a fractional power.	Simplify: $\sqrt{16} + \sqrt[3]{8}$	Understanding rational and irrational numbers and prime factoring	Chapter 11: Sec 3-5 CA	March
14.0	Solve a quadratic equation by factoring or completing the square.	Solve by completing the square: $x^2 + 4x = 6$	Factor quadratics (Chapter 5) and simplifying radicals (Chapter 11)	Chapter 12: Sec 1-4 and Chapter 5 Sec 12 CA	Late March
21.0	Students graph quadratic functions and know that their roots are the x-intercepts.	Graph: $y = x^2 - 3x - 4$ and state the x-intercepts.	Solving quadratic equations by factoring, completing the square, and using quadratic formula (Chapter 12)	Chapter 8: Sec 8 and p. 389 CA	April

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Sample Essential Standards: U.S. History

Standard #	Standard/Description	Example/Rigor	Prior Skills Needed	Common Assessment	When Taught?
8.1.1	Describe the relationships between the moral/political ideas of the Great Awakening & the Enlightenment and the development of revolutionary fervor.	<i>Prompt</i> Describe how the movements GA/E led to the development of revolutionary fervor.	<i>Define & Understand</i> The Great Awakening Enlightenment	<i>Venn Diagram</i> Compare/contrast movements with written analysis.	1st Quarter: Sept. Resources: Chapter 2
8.1	Understand the major events preceding the American Revolution.		cause-and-effect relationships	<i>Timeline of Events</i> Illustrated & annotated	1st Quarter: Sept./Oct. Resources: Chapter 3
8.1.2	Analyze the philosophy of government expressed in the Declaration of Independence. (individual rights)	<i>Test Question</i> Which of the following is not an unalienable right?	7.6.5 Experience analyzing historical documents. (Magna Carta)	<i>Analysis of Primary Source Document</i> The Declaration of Independence Identification of key phrases "All men are created . . ." (unalienable rights)	1st Quarter: October Resources: Chapter 3
8.1.5	Understand the significance of religious freedom within the First Amendment and the importance of separation of church and state.	Why did the Supreme Court overturn <i>Tinker v. Des Moines</i> ?	Understand the various elements of the 1st Amendment.	<i>1st Amendment Case Study</i> Research case, prepare visual, & present	1st Semester Nov.
8.2.7	Describe the principles of federalism, dual sovereignty, separation of powers, checks and balances, purpose of majority rule, and ideas of American constitutionalism.	How does the legislative branch check the executive branch?	Understand the three branches of government as well as the idea of checks and balances.	Constitution test	2nd Quarter

