

# Common Core State Standards: Shifts for Students and Parents

A guide on how parents can better help their children with the ELA and Math Shifts



Adapted from [engageny.org](http://engageny.org)

# Shift # 1: Students and Parents Should Know the ELA/Literacy and Math Shifts

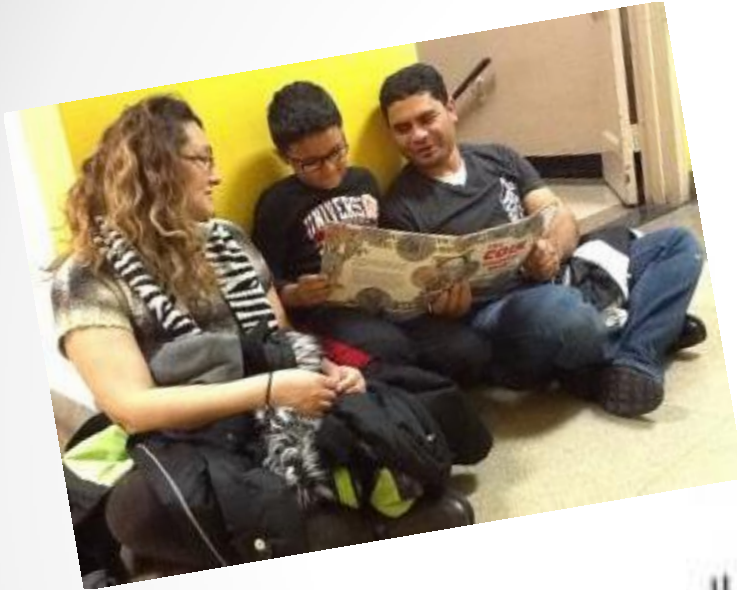
## ELA and Literacy Shifts

- Read fiction and non-fiction
- Learn about the world by reading
- Read challenging material closely
- Discuss reading using evidence
- Write non-fiction using evidence
- Increase academic vocabulary

## Math Shifts

- Focus: learn more about fewer concepts
- Build skills within and across grades
- Develop speed and accuracy in skills
- Know it well and do it well
- Use it in the real world
- Think fast AND solve problems

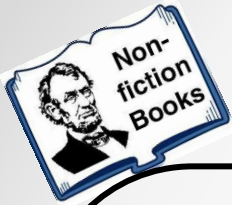
# A closer look at the ELA and Literacy Shifts



The MORE  
that you read,  
the MORE things  
you will know  
The MORE that you  
Learn,  
the MORE places you'll go.



# Shift # 1: Read fiction and non-fiction



## Students Must...

- Read **MORE** non-fiction
- Have understanding of how non-fiction is written
- Appreciate and enjoy discussions about non-fiction texts

## Parents are encouraged to...

- Provide students with non-fiction texts
- Read non-fiction literature aloud with your child
- Enjoy non-fiction with your child

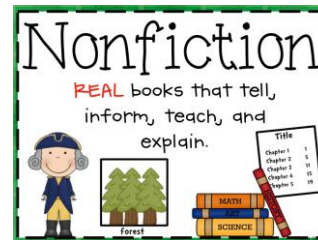
# Shift # 2: Learn about the world by reading

## Students **MUST**...

- **Learn more** about Social Studies and Science through reading
- Become familiar with “primary source” documents
- Gain knowledge **through** literature

## Parents are encouraged to...

- Provide texts on topics that your child finds interesting
- Provide books that explain
- **Discuss** non-fiction literature



# Shift #3: Read challenging material closely

## Students **MUST...**

- **Re-read** texts
- Read books at comfort level **AND** texts that are more challenging
- Read **AND** understand material
- Handle frustration, **DO NOT GIVE UP**, and keep pushing to achieve

## Parents are encouraged to...

- Supply child challenging texts **AND** texts that the child wants to read
- Be familiar with what is grade level appropriate
- Read challenging texts **with** your child

# Shift #4: Discuss reading using evidence

## Students MUST...

- Find evidence to support **arguments**
- Form **opinions** and **judgments**
- Become scholars
- Discuss what the author is thinking
- Make **predictions** and **inferences**



## Parents are encouraged to...

- Talk about texts
- Require evidence in discussions and debates
- Read aloud or read the same book as your child **and** discuss text-based evidence

# Shift #5: Write non-fiction using evidence

## Students MUST...

- Make arguments in writing **using evidence**
- **Compare** multiples texts in writing
- Learn to write well



## Parents are encouraged to...

- Encourage writing at home
- Write **together** using evidence and details

- Review samples of writing:

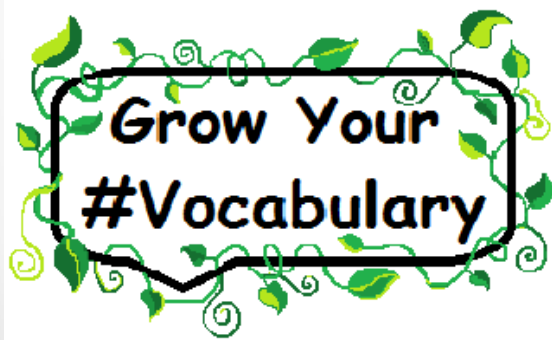
[http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix\\_C.pdf](http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_C.pdf)



# Shift #6: Increase academic vocabulary

## Students **MUST**...

- Learn words to be **college** and **career** ready
- Get smarter at using the “language of power”



## Parents are encouraged to...

- Read often and constantly with your child
- Read numerous books on the same topic
- Let your child **see you** reading
- Talk with your children, read to them, listen to them, sing with them, make up silly rhymes and word games

# A closer look at Math Shifts

**M**<sub>1</sub> **+** **A**<sub>1</sub> **=** **2** **H**

**M**akes **Y**OUR  
**L**IFE **a**DD **U**P!

# Shift #1: Focus: Learn more about fewer concepts

## Students MUST...

- Spend more time on less concepts



## Parents are encouraged to...

- Know what the essential work is for your child at his/her grade level
- Spend time with your child on quality work
- **Communicate** with your child's teacher to ensure mastery of skills

# Shift #2: Build skills within and across grades

## Students MUST...

- Keep learning and building on skills year after year

## Parents are encouraged to...

- Be cognitive of what your child struggled with last year and focus on those areas
- **Advocate** for your child

# Shift #3: Develop Speed and Accuracy Skills

## Students MUST...

- Spend time practicing problems on the same idea

## Parents are encouraged to...

- **Motivate/push** your child to know and memorize basic math facts
- Be familiar with fluencies that your child should have
- **Prioritize** learning of the fluencies that your child struggles with

# Shift #4: Know it well and do it well

## Students **MUST**...

- Make the math work **and** understand why it works
- Discuss why the math works
- **Prove** how and why the math works

## Parents are encouraged to...

- Notice if your child knows why the answer is what it is
- **Advocate** for the time and provide the time necessary for your child to learn the math

# Shift #5: Use it in the real world

## Students **MUST**...

- **Apply** math in **real world** situations
- Know which math skills to use for which situations

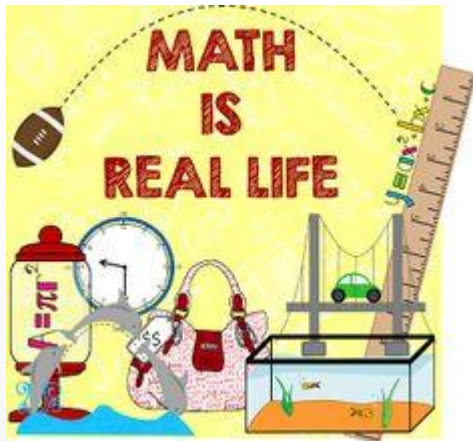
## Parents are encouraged to...

- Have your child do the math that comes up in your daily life

# Shift #6: Think fast and solve problems

## Students MUST...

- Be able to use core math facts quickly
- **Apply** math in the real world



## Parents are encouraged to...

- **Recognize** strengths and weaknesses in your child's math skills
- Ensure that your child is practicing and becoming proficient in skills that he/she struggles with
- Make sure that your child is thinking about math in real life



# Questions to ask your children:

How did you use math today? Can you show me an example?

Did you talk about anything you read in class today? Did you use evidence when you talked about what you read?



Tell me something that you learned in your reading. How did you learn it?

What math problems did you do today? How did you get your answer?

Did you learn any new words in class today? What do they mean? How do you spell them?