

# Common Core Standards & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade State Tests

What do they mean for our students?  
How do they affect things in the classroom?  
What does this mean for the State Tests this year?

Presented by Ms. Ho & Ms. Papraniku

The implementation of the Common Core Standards has shifted the way we approach teaching and learning in ELA and Math.

In ELA, students are expected to:

- Read a balance of **informational and literary texts**
- Have rich and rigorous conversations in which arguments are grounded in **text evidence**
- Write with evidence to **inform or make an argument**
- Write a **well-organized essay** (with paragraphs, valid reasons, and linking words)

In Math, students are expected to:

- Focus on topics mentioned in the standards (esp. **Number & Operations and Fractions** units)
- Have both foundational knowledge and conceptual understanding
- Have **speed** and **accuracy** with simple calculations (multiplication facts)
- Work on more **multi-step word problems** with **explanations** (explain how and why)

Format of State Tests:

<b>ELA:</b> Tues 4/1 - Thurs 4/3 (about 70 min each) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Day 1: 30 MC</li><li>• Day 2: 7 MC, 3 SR, 1 extended response</li><li>• Day 3: 5 SR, 1 extended response</li></ul>	<b>Math:</b> Wed 4/30-Fri 5/2 (Day 1-2=1hr; Day 3=1.5hr) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Day 1: 24 MC</li><li>• Day 2: 25 MC</li><li>• Day 3: 6 SR, 4 extended response</li></ul>
---	---

What can you do at home?

- Use Acuity website for test practice.
- Buy a "Common Core" aligned ELA/math workbook for additional practice.
- Whenever children are working, ask them "why" and "how" questions (i.e., have them back up their thinking using text evidence).
- Use Depth of Knowledge (Level 3 and Level 4) type questions as prompts.
- Check the books they are reading. Are they on grade level? Are they completing responses?
- Practice math word problems and have them explain "how" and "why" they approached the problem.

Resources:

- [corestandards.org](http://corestandards.org)
- [illustrativemathematics.org](http://illustrativemathematics.org)
- [engageNY.org](http://engageNY.org)
- Download the iPhone app: Common Core Standards